

Classic scripture passages

"If you take missions out of the Bible, you won't have anything left but the covers" — Nina Gunter

Genesis 12:1-3 (repeated in Gen. 18:18, 22:17-18, 26:24 and 28:12-14; see Acts 3:25)

Exodus 19:6 — God's people were to be a "kingdom of priests"

Joshua 4:24 — "so that all the peoples of the earth might know"

1 Kings 8:41-43, 59-60 (also in 2 Chronicles 6:32-33) — "so that all peoples of the earth may know your name" (Solomon's prayer at dedication of Temple)

1 Chronicles 16:31 "Let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, The Lord reigns!"

1 Chronicles 16:24 — "Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples"

Psalms 67 — "your salvation among all peoples"

Psalms 72:17, 19 — "All nations will be blessed through him . . . May the whole earth be filled with his glory"

Psalms 96 — "sing to the Lord, all the earth . . . Declare his glory among the nations"

Psalms 113:3 — "From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised" (see also Psalms 50, Isaiah 45:6, and Malachi 1:10-11)

Isaiah 56:7 — "my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations" (See Mark 11:17)

Matthew 6:9-10 — The Lord's prayer

Matthew 24:14 — the gospel will be preached in the whole world (see Mark 13:10)

Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15 - The Great Commission (which many say is a re-statement of God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12)

Luke 10:2 — "harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few"

John 21:4-14 — some Biblical commentators have said the 153 fish equals the number of all the tribes and nations which the ancients thought existed on earth

Acts 1:8; 2:5-12 13:47 (Isaiah 49:6) — witnesses in all the earth

Acts 13:47 — "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6; see Luke 2:32)

Romans 10:12-15 — "How can they hear?"

Romans 15:11 "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples." (Psalms 117:1)

Romans 16:26 — So that all nations might believe

Galatians 3:8 — "The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: All nations will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; See also Galatians 3:14)

Philippians 2:10 — Every knee shall bow

Revelation 7:9 — Every tribe, tongue, people and nation

For more: <http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/biblical.htm>

Historic missions slogans

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed" — Hudson Taylor

"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God" — William Carey, the father of modern missions

"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become." — Henry Martyn, missionary to India and Persia

"We are debtors to every man to give him the gospel in the same measure in which we have received it" — Phineas F. Bresee

"If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him." — C.T. Studd

"Any church that is not seriously involved in helping fulfill the Great Commission has forfeited its biblical right to exist." — Oswald J. Smith

"We talk of the Second Coming; half the world has never heard of the first." — Oswald J. Smith

"In our lifetime, wouldn't it be sad if we spent more time washing dishes or swatting flies or mowing the yard or watching television than praying for world missions?" — Dave Davidson

"Someone asked 'Will the heathen who have never heard the Gospel be saved?' It is more a question with me whether we — who have the Gospel and fail to give it to those who have not — can be saved." — Charles Spurgeon

"The gospel is only good news if it gets there in time" — Carl F. H. Henry

"Go, send, or disobey." — John Piper

"The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity, but its sending capacity." — Mike Stachura

"Missions is not the 'ministry of choice' for a few hyperactive Christians in the church. Missions is the purpose of the church." — Unknown

"If the Great Commission is true, our plans are not too big; they are too small." — Pat Morley

"A congregation that is not deeply and earnestly involved in the worldwide proclamation of the gospel does not understand the nature of salvation." — Ted Engstrom

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Faces from the “crowd of witnesses”

Patrick

March 17 shouldn't be about green beer and leprechauns! It's a story about a former slave going back to his captors as a missionary and winning them to Christ.



Boniface

Chopping down the sacred oak tree of the pagan Germanic tribes was “a master stroke of missionary strategy”

Francis of Assisi

In the middle of the Crusades' period, Francis visited the Sultan of Egypt and heard him say: “If I would meet more Christians like you, I would be tempted to become one.”



Ramon Lull

Wealthy Spanish nobleman who spent his family fortune to train missionaries for Muslim north Africa; he was reportedly killed by a mob in Tunisia

William Carey

A church leader said to him: “Young man, sit down. If God chooses to save the heathen, He will do so without your help or mine.”



Hudson Taylor

Passionately urged the church to “contextualize” its mission ministry in China and to go to the unreached inland areas

“Uncle” Cameron Townsend

Energized by a Guatemalan Indian who asked: “If your God is so smart, why doesn't He speak my language?”



Donald McGavran

“God wants His lost children found.”