



World missions

An MCS presentation
by Howard Culbertson

“Missions may be your thing.
It’s just not mine.”



How many missions-related Bible verses can you think of?

- What kind of priority is God putting on missions?
 - 8,000 verses in the New Testament
 - 32,000 verses in the whole Bible

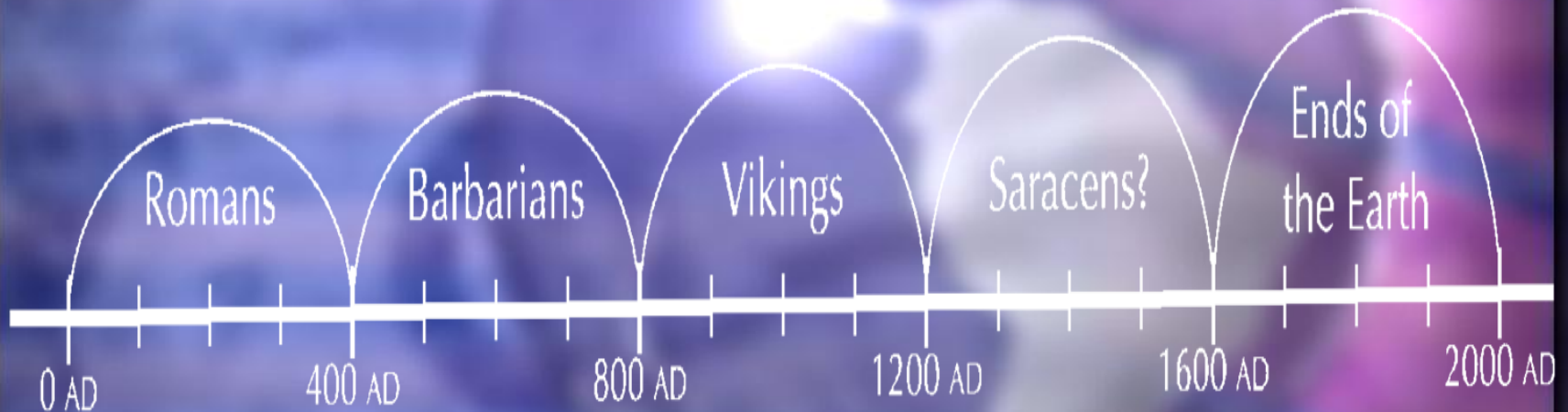


- “All peoples on earth will be blessed through you” – Genesis 12
- Twelve springs and seventy palm trees – Exodus 15
- Memory verse from hell – Matthew 24:14
- “You will be for me a kingdom of priests” – Exodus 19
- “There before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language” – Revelation 7

Jonah's story

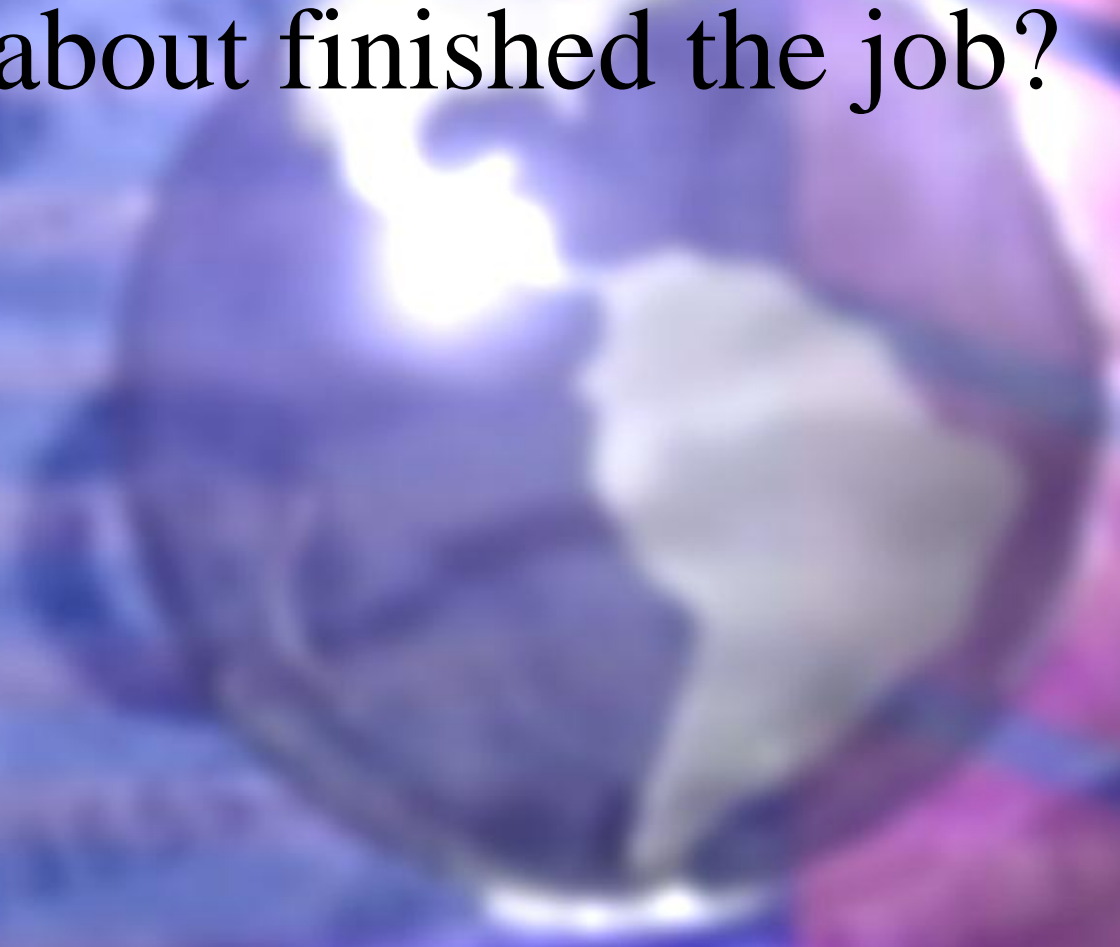


5 Epochs of Redemptive History

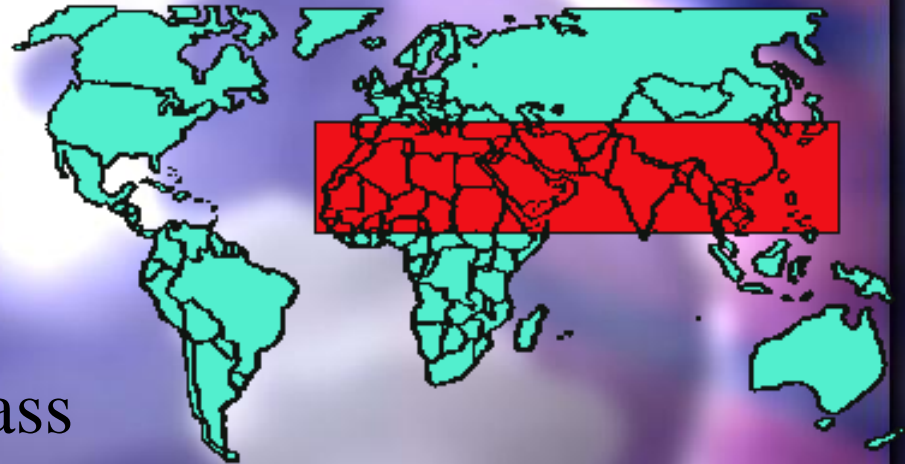


Concept developed by Ralph Winter

Where are we today? Haven't
we about finished the job?



The 10/40 Window



- 35% of global land mass
- 65% of world population
- 95% of those who have never heard the gospel
- 90% of world's poorest people

Shuwa Arabs



- 1.5 to 2 million Sunni Muslims living mainly in central Chad (Africa)
- One missionary family working with them
- Less than 10 known believers

Baloch

- 6 million
- Iran and Pakistan (Balochistan)
- About 100 scattered believers
- 6 missionary couples working among them
- No established Christian fellowship



Bengali



- Nearly 200,000,000 in Bangladesh and the Indian state of West Bengal
- One of largest Muslim people groups
- The largest, least-evangelized people group in the world.

Southern Shilha Berbers of Morocco

- Population: 3 million
- Muslim
- One of largest unreached groups
- No church meetings in native tongue
- Only handful of missionaries speak their language

Kazaks in China

- 1.1 million
- Nominally Muslim
- Very few have ever heard the Gospel
- Only a handful have come to Christ

Tajakant Bedouins of Algeria

- Remote
- Resources lacking
 - No Scripture
 - No Christian recordings
- No known believers



Muslims of Bosnia

- 1.3 Million Muslims
- Victims of war, injustice, ethnic cleansing
 - 200,000 dead
 - 100,000 were children
- Little or no hope
- High unemployment



The Lao of Laos

- 3 million Buddhists and animists
- Maybe 3% Christian
- Over 1 million have never heard the gospel for the first time



SNU connection: The Wolof



- 3 million – Very influential in Senegal
- Follow Muslim-African religions
- Only 10 to 40 known believers worldwide
- No known Wolof Christian fellowship anywhere in the world

Isaiah 54:3 - A promise to claim

“For you will spread
abroad to the right and
to the left, and your
descendants will
possess the peoples
and will people the
desolate cities.” (RSV)



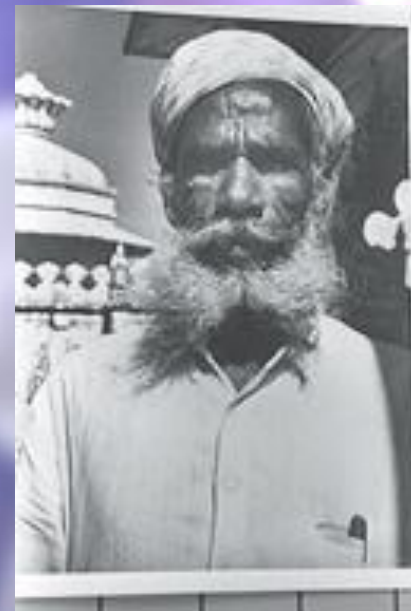
No valley is too isolated

...like the remote,
unevangelized
Kingdom of
Mustang on
Nepal's northern
border



No island is too distant

...like the yet-
unreached Maldivian
Islands in the Indian
Ocean



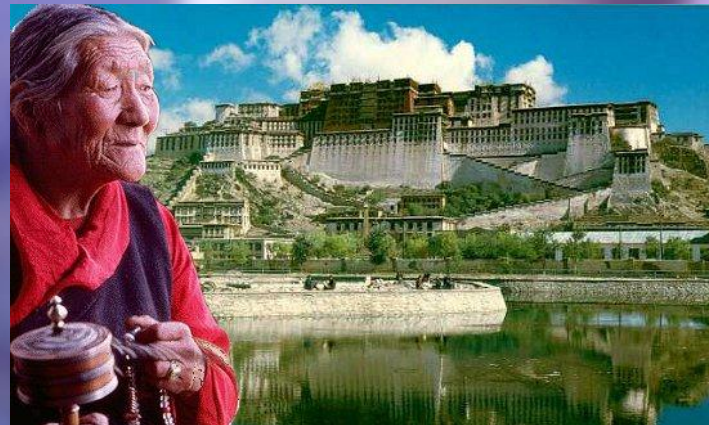
No forest is too dense

... like the Congo
jungles where the
Pygmy people live



No mountain is too inaccessible

... like the remote Tibetan plateau
of central Asia



No city is too fortified

... like Mecca where
no Christian is
allowed to set foot



No desert is too hostile

...like the Saharan
oases in Algeria
where the Mzab
Berber peoples live



So, what are you going to do?

- We must intentionally . . .
 - Pray – “Let my heart be broken with the things that break God’s heart” – Bob Pierce of World Vision
 - Give – building dams or irrigation ditches?
 - Mobilize
 - Go
 - Short-term
 - Long-term