

Linda Chen
Dr. Stanley John
TH502 - Theology in a Global Context
May 29, 2020

Chapter 9 of Timothy C. Tennent – Eschatology

Examination of this chapter reveals Jonathan Edwards' teachings regarding eschatology and the book of Revelation. He pictured revival and global evangelism would occur before the millennial. He believed prayer would be an important catalyst through which the Holy Spirit would flow and accomplish the salvation of nations. God gave a similar vision to a group of Chinese Christians called the Back to Jerusalem Movement (BTJM).¹ BTJM and Edwards both believe evangelism and salvation will happen in phases, first among the Muslims and then reaching to the Jews. The fulfillment of going into the entire world would hasten the Lord's return.²

As the church in China has undergone persecution, imprisonment, even martyrdom, these sufferings have prepared them for whatever types of hardships they may encounter when sending missionaries to Islamic countries. BTJM expects persecution and prepares their members on how to evangelize while imprisoned. Prayer is emphasized as Edwards impressed on the church. Chinese Christians believe the message of salvation which started in Jerusalem and went forth to other nations, will revert back full circle to Jerusalem.

The church has grown in large numbers in the time of Edwards and during the years BTJM have carried the vision of global evangelism. Tennent describes that the church has grown without salaried workers, monetary means, promotions or gimmicks,³ but we realize the blood of martyrs have paid a great price. Are we ready to discipline ourselves to prayer and commit to evangelization even in the face of persecution?

¹ Tennent 2007, 236.

² Matthew 24:14

³ Tennent 2007, 246.