

Michael Roberts
Perspective on Missions
Lesson 9
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While watching this week's video 'exploring a century of change protestant mission 1910-2010, I heard two interesting comments. The first is that "the Western church should partner with the other parts of the world where Christianity is currently on the rise." The second interesting comment is "the future of Christianity mission means people from every part of the world going to every part of the world." According to the author, the World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh in 1910 was a significant event for missions (Tennent, 284). Approximately five thousand people of both genders assembled to strategize to figure out the most effective strategies to evangelize the world. It is incredible how much had changed since the conference in 1910 when Christianity's direction was Westward. This essay reflects on the global growth of Christianity and the impact of the great century of missions.

It is incredible how much Christianity has shifted since the World missionary conference in 1910. Today, Christianity has no borders and is now in places around the world that would have been unimaginable to predict earlier. The world we live in is constantly changing. However, the one thing that remains constant is God's love for us and his redemption mission. The world is continually evolving, and therefore the church and how it approaches the task must also change; otherwise, Christianity will be left behind. In 1910 no one at the conference predicted that missions would emerge in places like Africa and Asia. It is essential to plan and anticipate where the trends impacting missions will occur with God's help.

Based on the video presentation and this week's reading, it seems like initially, the people at the forefront of missions miscalculated how the changing world would impact missions. The initial thought process was to invest in the wealthy or people in the upper parts of societies, and that investment would trickle down to the economically challenged. However, political unrest and disputes around the world have seemingly contributed to a shift of missions worldwide. Christianity has been emerging in unexpected areas of the planet quite surprisingly to the folks in the West. I was also amazed that Women were prominent in the mission field in the past mission field. However, the worldwide infrastructure to support missionaries' families abroad is no longer in business. Today and in the future, mission planning is critical and must become more creative.

One key point from the video presentation reflected on the present and future of missions. The video presenter stated that missionaries who were outreached by missionaries from the West are now becoming missionaries to the West. It is essential to assess the effectiveness of mission strategies continually. I like the idea of short-term missions' trips. I think this is an excellent way to get people engaged who may have specific skills like construction, medical, teachers, and other professionals. I also believe that partnering with non-government agencies in the target mission country is an excellent idea. According to the video and reading, the present and future view of effective mission planning will continue to require investing in the targeted communities. It is crucial to build a church and employ the local people or teach them how to build it. This approach can enable people to be more receptive to the message of Jesus from the messenger who also assisted with their earthy needs. Showing that you care and are willing to invest in communities can also be an effective mission strategy.

Discuss the missional calling of Israel to be the light of the world.

