

The Great Commission in the Old Testament Review
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Article Review

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Alliance Theological Seminary

September 19, 2021

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What is one concept that stood out to you in this article?

The concept that stood out is how the Great Commission was in full force even when it seemed like the main focus was the Hebrew people, and Israel. However, when looking deeper there was a plan to use these particular small group of people to be a blessing to the nations of the world. Looking at this deeply the most important concept is missions, how God in his sovereignty has appointed prophets to go out and evangelize some nations to come to repentance and serve him, for nations to know the true and living God. This concept was important to note, but still even with those ideas missions was still rejected. Take for example the case of Jonah who tried to run from Gods call to the people of Nineveh the article states that “Surprisingly enough to everyone, except to the prophet Jonah, the response to the message was overwhelming.....It is clear that the sympathies of the author of the book of Jonah are with those who favor extending the missionary message to others: and it is centrifugal, not centripetal” (International Journal of Frontier Missions, 1996). This is showing that regardless of whether or not Jonah agreed the message is clear and it is that missions were God’s intent for the nations. That at the centerpiece of that was the nation of Israel that God would use to bless all people.

What implications does this concept have for Missions?

The implication this concept has for Missions is a big one, it shows that God was actively trying to reach all nations and that the message was central. Using one nation to show and make known to the world that he was the true and living God, not because of works or fame of man, but rather by something special that he disposes to those he elects and it is called Grace. In this

concept of missions it is important to note that it is his work through the people whom he chooses, the most well-known example of this is King David, when David had decided that he was going to build a house for the lord, God had a different plan he instead chooses David's family or blood line to bring about Jesus Christ (International Journal of Frontier Missions, 1996). Showing that God was establishing the concept of missions long before it would become a recurring theme in the New Testament and the Church.

What needs to change in your life as a result?

What needs to change in my life as a result is the view of who gets to be saved and who doesn't. As a person born and raised in the church, I must admit that it's taken for the granted the message of missions and the fact that reaching the lost, has to be its main mission. So, like any human being in almost any religious setting we tend to have a preconceived notion needs to be saved, I need to just shut up and get over it. Go out there and do what Jesus says make disciples of all nations, drop the act of religiosity, adopt an attitude of Love with firmness, and most importantly let the Holy Spirit lead since it is his mission to draw all people unto him, its not about us but him, and is what needs change in my life.

References:

Kaiser W.C. Jr., (1996). The Great Commission in the Old Testament. *International Journal of Frontier Missions*. Vol 13:1, 1-7.