

Christ's Last Order 4108

I. Introduction

- A. Key word in an army is “order”
- B. Orders remain in force until officially canceled
- C. We are responsible for two things:
 - 1. To know the orders
 - 2. To do the orders
- D. Ignorance is no excuse

II. The Great Commission

- A. Matt. 28:18–20:
 - 1. We are to demonstrate and exercise authority of Christ
 - 2. Go to *all* nations (none omitted)
 - 3. Vs. 20—literally, “I am with you all the days”
Conditional on our obedience: He will be with us *if we go*
- B. Mark 16:14–20:
 - 1. Jesus sat down—His task was complete
 - 2. Inclusive order: *All* the world and *every* creature
 - 3. *Proclaim*, rather than explain, the Good News
- C. Acts 1:6–8:
We are to go to the end of the earth
- D. Emphatic phrases:
 - 1. “All the nations” and “to the end of the age”
 - 2. “All the world” and “every creature”
 - 3. “To the end of the earth”

III. Three Kinds Of Activity To Communicate The Gospel:

- A. Making disciples
- B. Proclaiming
- C. Witnessing:
 - 1. Demonstrating truth through life and words
 - 2. Example of Lydia

IV. Matt. 24:3, 14

- A. Threefold question—Verse 3:
 - 1. When is the destruction of the temple?
 - 2. What will be the sign of Christ's return?
 - 3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?
- B. Answer—Verse 14:
 - 1. Preaching of the Gospel in *all* the world to *all* the nations
 - 2. Church is responsible to obey

V. Pattern For Accomplishing Our Task

- A. Feeding of the multitudes—Matt. 14:13–21, 15:32–38, 6:5–10
- B. Five principles:
 - 1. Realize our responsibility
 - 2. Order and discipline are balanced and complemented by the supernatural

power of God

3. Multiplication depends upon passing on what we receive
4. Multiplication continues until needs are met with abundance
5. The greater the need and the fewer the resources, the greater the surplus will be

VI. Application

- A. Where much is given, much is required—Luke 12:48
- B. American Christians are uniquely privileged; therefore we have more than our numerical share of the responsibility to communicate the Gospel
- C. Relevant principles:
 1. Have the right attitudes
 2. See yourself totally involved
 3. Discern your God-given sphere individually and collectively (Gal. 2:7–9; 2 Cor. 10:14)
 4. See others as your representatives and responsibility

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