

The Great Commission

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Friend of Jesus / Jesus gives the great commission; Holy Spirit; Ascension of Christ / Luke 24:50–53; Acts 1:9–12; Matthew 28:16–20

Last week I Preached about the last words of Jesus. But those were not is acutal last words. Those were his last words talking to His disciples in peace before the arrest, trial, and crucifixion. In this sermon, I talk about the actual last words of Jesus to his disciples before he left this world in bodily form for the last time after the ressurection. These famous last word are called the great commission.

- Skipping Ahead
 - Gethsemane
 - Arrest
 - Trial
 - Crucifixion
 - Death
 - Burial
 - Resurrection
 - Appearances

- Conversation with Peter

Luke's Story

- Disciples theology
 - correcting ideas.

Luke 24:46-49 ESV

and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

- Messiah was supposed to die.
- Truth must be preached.
 - Jerusalem First
- Promise of Pentecost

Acts 1:4–5 ESV

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

- Acts picks up
 - where Luke ended.
- Disciples theology
 - still off...

Acts 1:6–8 ESV

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- Restore Kingdom?
 - what kingdom?
 - Judah.
- Overthrow Romans??

- Don't worry about that.
- Focus on:
 1. Receiving Holy Spirit
 2. Being Witnesses
- Those two
 - still apply today.
- According to Luke:
 - those were last words.
- Final message
 - be equipped
 - tell everyone

Ascension

- Next thing to happen:

Acts 1:9-11 **ESV**

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up,

and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

- Jesus ascends.
- Promise of 2nd Coming.

Matthew’s View:

Matthew 28:16–17 **ESV**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted.

Different Appearings

1 Corinthians 15:3–8 **ESV**

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

- Upper Room
- Peter (fishing)
- 500 (this last visit in Galilee)
- James?
- Paul - (in vision)

[Matt 28:7, 10](#)

Matthew 28:10 **ESV**

Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

- Upper Room
 - Go to Galilee
 - mountain
 - 500 people
- Visit with all
 - for while
- Final last words:

Matthew 28:18–20 ESV

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Last words:
 - Great Commission.
- Final message:
 - God share gospel!

Mark's Story

- Similar

Mark 16:14–18 ESV

Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt

them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Names some appearances:

- Road to Emmaus
 - [Luke 24](#)
- Upper Room Appearing
 - [John 19](#)
- Final Words
 - (Galilee)
- Great Commission
 - promise of miracles

The duke of Wellington was once present where a party of Christian men were discussing the possibility of success in missionary effort among the heathen. They appealed to the duke to say whether in his judgment such efforts were likely to prove a success commensurate to the cost. The old soldier replied: “Gentlemen, what are your marching orders? Success is not the question for you to discuss. If I read your orders aright, they run thus, ‘Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.’ Gentlemen, obey your marching orders.”—Gospel Workers, 115.

Summary

- Last Words are important.
- Jesus last words were a command.
- They were “The Great Commission”.
- Will we fulfill our marching orders?

Appeal

- Be intentional about saving souls for Christ.

1. Meeting Today
2. Bible study instructor training.