

Making Disciples, pt. 2 – More than Salvation

Quote: Tom Ascol and Jared Longshore in book *Strong and Courageous* – “Much of the worship in our modern churches is... performance driven. What happens on the stage is given far more thought, planning, and care than what happens in the congregation.”

Matthew 28:18-20 - 18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Call to Multiply

- Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”
- Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
 - Be Fruitful – Add members to your family
 - Multiply – Generational growth, adding members who add members who add members
- God’s Heart to Multiply His life Throughout Creation
 - Adam and Eve – created with His image and likeness... and then commissioned to be fruitful and multiply
 - Noah – be fruitful and multiply
 - Abraham – his descendants would fill the earth like sand on the seashore, like stars in the sky, a father of a multitude
 - Isaac – all the nations would be blessed through him
 - Jacob – a nation and a company of nations would come from him
 - The nation of Israel – God’s own special people, meant to be a blessing to the earth, broadcasting his glory to the nations, and throughout the generations
 - Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Filling the Earth with Glory

- Habakkuk 2:14 - For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.
 - 1. Create people in His own likeness, bearing His image
 - 2. Give those people a passion to be fruitful and multiply and cover the earth
 - 3. As they cover the earth, His glory goes with them
 - Mankind is “crowned with glory and honor” (Psalm 8:5)
 - We are “the image and glory of God” (1 Corinthians 11:17)
- This is Partly True Even Without the Gospel
 - The earth contains 7.8 billion creatures called humans, all made in the likeness of God, bearing His image, in their very DNA shouting His glory
 - Every minute, 250 new Image Bearers come into existence
 - Every day, millions of acts of love, mercy, and kindness are done, each one declaring the character and heart of God
 - Throughout the millennia, there have been countless acts of creativity and artistry, inventions, musical masterpieces, research projects, literary works, scientific discoveries, etc., each one

echoing back to the great Artist and Creator Himself, each one declaring the glory of God the Creator over the Enemy, who has no power to create but only destroy.

- This Glory is Dulled Due to Sin
 - We have in innate glory in us as people, but it's dulled from sin. For that glory to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea requires we come to Jesus.
 - 2 Corinthians 3:15-18 - 15 Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. 16 But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
 - Hebrews 2:10 – Talks about Jesus “bringing many sons to glory” through the Cross
- Habakkuk 2:14 - For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Paul Revere, an Example of Multiplication

- April 18, 1775 – Paul Revere's famous midnight ride
- There were dozens of other riders, some more bold than Revere, some who rode longer hours, travelled further away, talked to more people... but Revere is famous for all he accomplished. Why?
 - Revere went to key people with the message that the British were coming. Those key people went to other key people. And those went to still more.
 - Ultimately, Paul Revere succeeded in stirring up the whole countryside