

Longview Baptist Temple
Adult Sunday School Lesson
February 10, 2008



“Give Me A Vision”

The Vision of the Role of the Church in Missions

AIM: To teach our members concerning the fact that Longview Baptist Temple is a local, independent Baptist church that is committed to fulfilling the command of Christ which is evangelism, discipleship, and church planting in the vast regions of the world.

SCRIPTURE: Mark 16:15

INTRODUCTION: The three basic commands of Jesus Christ is to 1) Preach – proclaiming the mighty acts of God for man’s salvation, 2) Preach the Gospel – emphasizing the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and 3) Teach or make disciples – those who are saved are to be disciples.

I. The world missions manual – The Acts of the Apostles

- a. Acts 1 & 2
 - i. The local churches and the believers within them are empowered for world missions. Acts 1:8
 - ii. Seventeen language groups heard the Gospel under the power of the Holy Spirit and three thousand were saved, baptized, and brought into the fellowship of the church at Jerusalem.
- b. Acts 3 & 4
 - i. The church at Jerusalem grows spiritually, numerically, and organizationally.
- c. Acts 8 – 10
 - i. Chapter 8 tells of taking the Gospel to Hamities – Ethiopian Eunuch.
 - ii. Chapter 9 tells of taking the Gospel to the Shemites – Saul, Paul, and the Jews.
 - iii. Chapter 10 tells of taking the Gospel to the Japhethites – Cornelius, the Romans.
- d. Acts 11 –14
 - i. The church at Antioch develops as God’s major world mission polity church. They became God’s “launching pad” for mission work into the Gentile Roman Empire.
 - ii. A church that was filled with quality Christians principally resultant of persecution. Acts 11:19.
 - iii. A church that preached the Gospel to the right people, Jews and Gentiles. Acts 11:20-21
 - iv. A church that gave money to sister churches who were in need. Not just receivers, but givers. Acts 11:27-30
 - v. A church that developed quality, spiritual, mature leaders for the mission field. Acts 13:1
 - vi. A church that heard the call of the Holy Spirit as well as missionaries, Paul and Barnabas, to reproduce itself in the regions beyond. A church in which spiritual men where in leadership and were capable of carrying out God’s command. Acts 13:2-4

II. Three generalizations about the church at Antioch that are relevant to world missions.

- a. Its missionaries planted indigenous churches.
- b. The churches had local leadership, government, and the people supported their leaders.
- c. Their missionaries did not try to change the political / economic systems. They did not try to bring social justice to the oppressed.
- d. The churches they established were instructed to care for the widows, orphans, and the hungry within their own churches.
- e. The missionaries and the church had a “fellowship relationship” with sister churches of like faith and order.

CONCLUSION: The Bible is clear concerning our churches responsibility to spreading the Gospel through establishing churches to be the Gospel center for those countries.