

## **Matthew 28:18-20**

### **Evangelism and the Covenant**

#### Introduction:

Today we are living in a day where evangelistic techniques are canned approaches. We have all heard the various titles and strategies in our midst such as: "The Four Spiritual Laws" or the "Romans Road"; these techniques are so individualized that there is no such thinking about the Covenant of Grace. Billy Graham style crusades have completely erased the corporate emphasis of the Scripture. It is said that by the statistics of the Graham crusades that there is a small fraction of those who profess faith show up and preserve in a real church. "Individualist evangelism by its very nature, takes place for the most part outside of the church." (Gordon Keddie)

### **I. Covenantal Commission**

#### **A. Doctrines of the Bible are always within the context of the church**

1. The church is the 'pillar ground of truth" I Tim. 3:15
2. The church is a banquet hall – Isaiah 25:6
3. The church is the best expression of Covenant Theology

#### **B. Our Lord's Commission – Matthew 28:18-20**

1. Is nothing new – Gen. 12:3; Psa. 72:17
2. Notice the Covenantal language:
  - a. Covenantal call – "Go and make disciples"
  - b. Covenantal sign – "baptizing them"
  - c. Covenantal God – "Father, Son and Holy Spirit"
  - d. Covenantal life – "obeying everything I have commanded" Gal. 1:11,12
  - e. Covenantal head – "I command you"
  - f. Covenantal promise – "I am with you always, even to the end of the age"

#### **C. Double imputation**

1. Our sins punished by God the Father upon Jesus
2. Jesus righteousness imputed to us
3. Saving faith actually takes place outside ourselves – Heb. 12:1,23

### **II. Good news From a Covenantal Perspective**

#### **A. Evangelism core**

1. Not our goodness but His – (B.B. Kuper)
2. The gospel according to liberalism – Gal.1:6,7

#### **B. Evangelism's good news is not universalism**

1. "God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life" This plan did not work out so well for Esau and Judas – Mal. 1:2-3; Rom. 9:13
2. All eternity in hell cannot be called "a wonderful plan..."
3. Casting the deciding vote – (Conditionalism or Arminianism) Eph. 1:4

#### **C. Biblical Evangelism is Covenant Evangelism**

1. The preaching of the apostles in the book of Acts – Turn To: Acts 13:26-39; 22:39
2. The New Testament epistles written to not only Jews but more and more Gentiles. (Covenant of works and the Covenant of Grace) Rom. 1:18-20; Heb. 9:15

