

The Call to Missions

Acts 13:1-12

Main Point:

Jesus cannot be stopped from saving His people; therefore, respond to His missionary call with confidence and expectation.

1. Jesus calls His disciples to the work of missions.
2. This is because He has people to save throughout the world.
3. No amount of opposition can keep Him from doing this either.
4. Therefore, respond to His call with confidence and expectation.

Acts 9:15 ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. (NKJV)

Derek Thomas "God's sovereignty should not be employed as a means of denying our responsibility in evangelism and mission. God is at work here, but he works through the agency - the zeal and obedience - of the apostles. We must not utilize the reassurance of God's sovereignty to undermine what God is calling us *to do*."

Acts 18:9-10 ⁹ Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; ¹⁰ "for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." (NKJV)

Derek Thomas "No doubt Satan saw the importance of avoiding the conversion of the most important political figure on the island of Cyprus on their very first missionary journey. But Satan was soundly defeated because God had purposed that Sergius Paulus come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ."

Matthew 16:18 ¹⁸ "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (NKJV)

Derek Thomas "Missionary endeavor is a responsibility of the entire church! It is not meant to be a quirky fixation of the select few who are 'missionary-minded' ... Missions *is* the heart of God. It is the beating pulse of the Almighty for the lost souls of men and women. To be cold toward missions reveals an indifference to what lies at the center of God himself."

Charles Spurgeon "That is why we preach! If there are so many fish to be taken in the net, I will go and catch some of them. Because many are ordained to be caught, I spread my nets with eager expectation ... It seems to me to be the very thing that should awaken us to energy—that God has a people, and that these people shall be brought in."