

# Proclaimed in the Nations

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"These things I write unto you, hoping to come unto you shortly; but if I tarry long, so that you may know how you ought to behave yourself in the House of God, which is the Church of the Living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And by-confession, great is the Mystery of Godliness: God, Who was Revealed in the Flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by Angels, Proclaimed in the Nations, believed in the world, taken up in glory." (1 Timothy 3:14-16)

**Proclaimed:** from the Greek word ***ekerychthe***; a verb, which means: was-proclaimed; from ***kerusso***: to be a herald, to proclaim, to preach. To publish, or proclaim openly something which has been done. Properly, to proclaim or preach a message publicly and with conviction and persuasion. To share the Gospel stressing the victory of God's Gospel-message in the totality of His Good-news. In context, refers to the proclamation, preaching, and teaching of the Good-news of Jesus the Christ-Messiah, and Savior of the world.

**Nations:** from the Greek word ***ethnesin*** which means: Nations (as distinct from Israel), also translated Gentiles when referring specifically to non Jewish people of various nations; from ***ethnos***: a race, an ethnic group, a nation. Properly, refers to a multitude of individuals who practice the same nature, custom, or culture. Also refers to Foreign nations not worshipping the true God, i.e. non Jewish Gentile nations. In context, refers to all those other non Jewish nations, tribes, races, and peoples throughout the world where the Good-news of Jesus was-proclaimed.

**Was-proclaimed in the Nations:** refers to the proclamation, preaching, and teaching of the Good-news of Jesus the Christ-Messiah as the Savior of the world, by the Apostles and disciples of the early Christian Church, to the various nations, ethnic groups, and peoples who lived within the domains of the Roman Empire; and beyond. It is as Jesus said:

"And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man (Jesus Himself) be lifted up; so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have Eternal Life. For God so loved the world (all the nations), that he gave His only Begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life. For God did not send **His Son** into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:14-17)

Jesus Himself commissioned His Disciples as follows:

"And He (Jesus) said unto them (His disciples), 'These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me.' Then He opened their understanding, so that they might understand the scriptures; and He said unto them, 'Thus it is written, and necessary that Christ should suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be proclaimed in His Name among all Nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.' " (Luke 24:44-48)

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, unto a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go you therefore, and teach all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things - whatever I have commanded you: and, behold, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.'" (Matthew 28:16-20)

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Then His disciples did as Jesus instructed them to do: beginning at Jerusalem, and then to the Nations, both in person and through written letters. God Himself set in motion the proclamation of Jesus to the Gentiles through two significant events:

## The conversion of Saul (Paul) of Tarsus, and his commission as an Apostle to the Gentile Nations:

Then Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard by many of this man (Saul), how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your Name (Jesus).' But the Lord said unto him, 'Go your way: for he (Saul) is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My (the Lord Jesus) Name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: (Acts 9:13-15) - (see Acts 9:1-30)

## The vision of Peter and the first Gentile conversions of Cornelius and his household:

"Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation he who fears Him, and works righteousness, is accepted by Him. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ; He is Lord of all (all peoples). that word, I say, you know, which **was published** throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John **preached (kerusso)**; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; who went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him." (Acts 10:34-38) - (see in context Acts 10:1-48; 11:1-18)

The rapid proclamation of the Good-news of Jesus to the Gentile Nations is well documented in the Book of Acts. Here are a few examples:

"Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. And as they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, 'Separate for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work which I have called them.' And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Spirit, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus...." (Acts 13:1-5 – the beginning of Paul's first missionary journey to the Gentiles)

"...Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you (Jews living in Gentile city Pisidian Antioch); but seeing that you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, **we turn to the Gentiles**. For so has the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set You to be a light of the Gentiles, that You (Jesus) should be for Salvation unto the ends of the earth. (quote from Isaiah 49:6) And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord **was published throughout all the region.** (Acts 13:46-49)

"And after they came to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit did not permit them. And passing through Mysia they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, beseeching him, saying, 'Come over into Macedonia, and help us.' And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to **preach-the-gospel** unto them. Therefore sailing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; And from there **to Philippi**, which is the chief city of that part **of Macedonia**, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding for some days." (Acts 16:7-12)

Many more wonderful examples of Christ Jesus being proclaimed amongst the Nations are recorded in the Book of Acts; please consider reading about them!

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Paul and Barnabas often first sought out the Jewish communities in the Gentile cities, and some believed in Jesus, but there were not as many Jews who believed as did Gentiles who believed in Jesus! Therefore, in Paul's letters to the mostly Gentile Churches he often discussed this delima, or mystery:

"For this cause I Paul, *am* the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you; How that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; as I wrote beforehand in few words, so that, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the Mystery of Christ which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: **that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the Gospel**; of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should **proclaim among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ**; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, who created all things through Jesus Christ:" (Ephesians 3:1-9)

"Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers; and so that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, '*For this cause I will confess to You among the Nations, and sing unto Your Name.*' (Psalm 18:49) And again He says, '*Rejoice, you Gentiles, with His people.*' (Deuteronomy 32:43) And again, '*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; and praise Him, all you people.*' (Psalm 117:1) And again, Isaiah says, '*There shall be a Root of Jesse, and He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in Him (Jesus) shall the Gentiles trust.*' (Isaiah 11:10)' " (Romans 15:8-12) (see also Matthew 12:18-21 & Isaiah 42:1-4)

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself as a ransom **for all**, to be testified in due time. And for this I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle; I speak the truth in Christ, and do not lie, as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth." (1 Timothy 2:5-7)

Finally, consider this exhortation to the Gentile Church at Colossae (Colossians 1:21-28):

"Therefore, I have been made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; even the mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but is now made manifest to His saints; to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the Hope of Glory; whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; **that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus**:"

## Jesus was Proclaimed in the Nations ...

... in fulfillment of God's prophetic Word;  
... for ages a mystery to the Jewish people of God;  
... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs of God in Christ Jesus;  
... and that in the Jewish Messiah-Christ Jesus the Gentiles shall trust;  
... so that both Gentile and Jew may be forever made perfect in Christ Jesus !!!

All praise and glory be to the Father and Son and Holy Spirit !!!

Thank You Father in heaven for sending Your Son Jesus, to be the Messiah and Savior for both the Jewish Nation, and for the Gentile Nations !

You were, and are still being Proclaimed in the Nations! Amen, and Amen !!!