



Missio Dei

in the Pauline Epistles



Apostle to the Gentiles

- Gal 2:8—“For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles.”



Yet also with a mission to Jews

Romans 11:13-15

Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry 14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. 15 For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?



The Sending of Missionaries

Romans 10:13-15

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 ***And how can they preach unless they are sent?*** As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

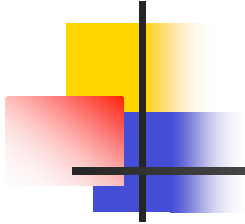


Financial Support

Romans 15:23-25

23 But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to see you, 24 I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to visit you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

(Looks like itineration to me!)



25 Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the saints there. 26 For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. 27 They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings. 28 So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this fruit, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way. 29 I know that when I come to you, I will come in ***the full measure of the blessing of Christ.***



Prayer Support

30 I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, ***to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.*** 31 Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, 32 so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed.



In case you aren't convinced

Some have adopted George Mueller's strategy of not asking directly. It is not Paul's way.



A Strong Appeal for Funds

2 Corinthians 8:1-3

8:1 And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. 2 Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.

Read 8:1-9:15.



The Kingdom of God and Power

- 1 Corinthians 2:4-5—“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.”
- 1 Corinthians 4:20—“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.”



Choosing Church Leaders

Very soon after Paul entered a new place and planted a church, he set up leaders.

“New believer” had a different meaning for him.



Leaders must meet standards

1 Timothy 3:2-10

2 Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6 ***He must not be a recent convert***, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

- 8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, . . .



Paul believed in young people

1 Timothy 4:11-12

11 Command and teach these things.

12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.



Moral Example and Endurance

2 Timothy 3:10-12

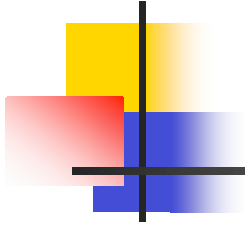
- 10 You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, 11 persecutions, sufferings-what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. 12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted . . .



Hard Work

The Apostle of salvation apart from works believed in good old fashioned hard work—not in order to be saved, but in response to God's saving act.

- 2 Thessalonians 3:10—For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."



1 Corinthians 15:9-11

9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. ***No, I worked harder than all of them-yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.*** 11 Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.



Theology of Mission

All of the themes we have seen in the OT are present in Paul's theology of missions. Look them up!



Missio Dei

in the Revelation of Jesus Christ



The Book of Revelation

Brings it all home. Missio dei is brought to completion. The paradise of Genesis is to be restored at the end of history, with God's mission complete.



Written to the Churches of Asia

Christianity has been spread to every known continent of the world. Europe, Asia Minor, Egypt, Ethiopia, and India have indigenous churches.



The Soon Return of Christ

Revelation 1:7

7 Look, he is coming with the clouds,
and every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and all the peoples of the earth will mourn
because of him.
So shall it be! Amen.



The Scene in Heaven

Revelation 5:9-10

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."



The Saints Are Gathered

Revelation 7:9-10

9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from ***every nation, tribe, people and language***, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb."

Human Diversity preserved forever for the Glory
and Pleasure of God.



The Kingdom Has Come to Earth

Revelation 11:15-18

15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "***The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ***, and he will reign for ever and ever." 16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. 18 The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. ***The time has come for judging*** the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great- and for destroying those who destroy the earth."



The Defeat of Satan

Revelation 12:10-11

"Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. 11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.



The New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.



Now wait just a minute . . .

Isn't the church the bride of Christ?



Setting up housekeeping

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "**Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them.** They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."



Paradise Regained

Revelation 22:1-5

22:1 Then the angel showed me ***the river of the water of life***, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood ***the tree of life***, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And ***the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations***. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for ***the Lord God will give them light***. And they will reign for ever and ever.



Wedding Invitations

Revelation 22:17

17 The Spirit and the bride say,
"Come!" And let him who hears say,
"Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him
come; and whoever wishes, let him
take the free gift of the water of life.



**PRAISE
THE
LORD!**

