


The Gospel of Matthew

"The Great Commission" (pt 1)
Matthew 28:16-20

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But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated.
And when they saw Him, they worshipped; but some were doubtful.
And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying. "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



The Great Commission

Culmination of themes in Matthew...


- the preparation of the disciples
- the proclamation of the gospel of the kingdom
- the kingship of Jesus
- the new community of disciples (*ekklesia*)



The Great Commission

1. The Basis


- *the universal authority of Jesus*
 - the exercise of this authority is given Jesus by His Father as the vindication and reward of His suffering (c.f. Phil. 2:9-11; Eph. 1:20-22; Heb. 2:9)



The Great Commission

1. The Basis

- *the universal authority of Jesus*
 - His promotion to universal authority inaugurates the beginning of His universal mission
 - His followers may go in confidence that Jesus is in sovereign control and exercising His saving authority



The Great Commission

2. The Content

- A) the command: *"make disciples"*
 - disciples are those who believe, follow, learn from and obey Jesus and His teaching
 - discipleship consists of supreme allegiance and submission to Jesus as Savior and Lord



The Great Commission

2. The Content

B) the characteristics

- *baptizing* – a sign of both entrance into Messiah's covenant community and a pledge of submission to His lordship



The Great Commission

2. The Content

B) the characteristics

- *teaching* – ongoing instruction in the commandments of Jesus (not merely the Mosaic Law) with the goal of obedience



The Great Commission

3. The Promise

➤ *the ongoing presence of Jesus*

- His powerful presence enables and ensures the successful completion of His mission