

GENESIS ONE:

God did not want planet earth to be sparsely populated but to be filled with every kind of His created life. This helps us understand why He does not want heaven to be sparsely populated but to be filled with every kind of His redeemed, re-created human life: every tribe, language, people and nation.

GENESIS THREE & SIX:

God has always yearned for intimacy with His human creation and He grieved deeply when sin and Satan destroyed that intimacy. The history of world missions is the story of God in pursuit of restoring that lost intimacy, culminating in that heavenly wedding in which Jesus will take His Bride, the global Church, in holy matrimony.

GENESIS ELEVEN:

When the entire human race was in arrogant defiance of God, He in mercy weakened and humbled mankind, making it possible for humanity to seek the security and significance which only He can give; to seek not a secure tower but “a city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.”

(Heb. 11:10)

GENESIS TWELVE:

Beginning in this chapter God repeats five times His promise to bless all of earth's peoples and nations with the blessings that come through Abraham's choicest Seed, Messiah. This promise is given by divine oath and explains all that God has since done and is now doing in the world and among His people.

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT

Question: How did Egyptian hearts get hardened?

Answer:

“I will harden Pharoah’s heart...” Ex. 7:3

“I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants.... Ex. 10:1

“But the Lord hardened Pharoah’s heart...Ex.10:20

“But the Lord hardened Pharoah’s heart... Ex. 10:27

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT

Question: What was the purpose of hardening Egyptian hearts?

Answer:

“...that I may multiply my signs and wonders....”

Ex 7:3

“...that I may perform these signs of mine among them....”

Ex. 10:1

“...so that my wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”

Ex. 11:9

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT

Question: Why the need for multiplied signs?

Answer:

“...the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord....” Ex. 7:5

“...that you [Pharoah] will know that there is no one like the Lord our God.” Ex. 8:10

“...in order that you [Pharoah] may know that I the Lord am in the midst of the land.” Ex. 8:22

“...so that you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth.” Ex. 9:14

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT

Question: Why the need for multiplied signs?

Answer:

**“...in order to show you my power, and
in order to proclaim my name in all the
earth.” Ex 9:16**

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT

Question: The final “sign” – what was its significance?

Answer:

“...I will go through the land of Egypt on that night and I will strike down all the first-born...both man and beast, and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments – I am the Lord.” Ex. 12:12

Question: What resulted from this multiplication of signs in Egypt?

Answer:

**“Then the magicians said to Pharoah,
‘This is the finger of God.’” Ex. 8:19**

**“And a mixed multitude also went up with
Israel [out of Egypt].” Ex. 12:38**

**NOTE: “The Hebrew translated ‘a mixed multitude’ is
‘a swarm of foreigners, a medley or crowd of people of
different nations.’ ...In typical fulfillment of the promise
in Genesis 12:3, and no doubt induced by the signs and
wonders of the Lord in Egypt to seek their good among
the Israelites, a great crowd attached themselves to them,
whom Israel could not shake off....”**

(Keil & Deilitsch, Vol. 2, p. 30)

QUESTION:

What was God's purpose in blessing the nation of Israel?

A KEY PURPOSE OF GOD'S BLESSING ON ISRAEL:

“The Lord will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they shall come out against you one way and shall flee before you seven ways. The Lord will command His blessing upon you in the land which the Lord your God gives you. The Lord will establish you...so all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord.” (Deut. 28:7-10)

QUESTION:

What was God's purpose in giving Israel the laws of Moses?

MOSES' LAWS: A KEY PURPOSE

“So keep and do them [God’s laws], for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the Lord our God whenever we call on Him? Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?”

Deut. 4:6-8

MIRACLE AT THE JORDAN

Question:

What was God's purpose in drying up the Jordan River so Israel could cross into Canaan on dry ground?

MIRACLE AT THE JORDAN

(A KEY PURPOSE)

“...the sons of Israel did as Joshua commanded and took up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, just as the Lord spoke to Joshua....Now the people came up from the Jordan...and those twelve stones which they had taken from the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. And he said to the sons of Israel, ‘When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What are these stones?’ then you shall inform your children saying, ‘Israel crossed this Jordan on dry ground. For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the Lord your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed...

...that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty....”

Joshua 4:8, 19-24

DAVID AND GOLIATH

(DAVID'S MOTIVE)

“And the Philistine (Goliath) said to David, ‘Am I a dog, that you should come to me with sticks?’ And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine also said to David, ‘Come to me and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field.’”

“Then David said to the Philistine, ‘You come to me with a sword, a spear and a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.’”

I Samuel 17:43-46

DAVID'S CELEBRATION OF THE ARK'S ARRIVAL IN JERUSALEM

**“O give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name;
Make known His deeds among the peoples....**

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Proclaim good tidings
of His salvation from day to day. Tell of His glory
among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the
peoples.”**

**Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe
to the Lord glory and strength.**

Tremble before Him, all the earth....

**Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice, and
let them say among the nations, ‘The Lord reigns!’”**

THE BOOK OF PSALMS A REVELATION OF GOD'S GLOBAL MISSIONARY HEART

2:8 “The Father speaking to His Son says: “Ask of me and I will surely give the nations as your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as your possession.”

8:1 “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.”

18:49 “I will give thanks to you among the nations, O Lord.”

22:27 “All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will worship before you.”

33:8 “Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.”

46:10 “Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

47:1,2 “Clap your hands, all peoples; shout to God with the voice of joy. For the Lord Most High is to be feared, a great King over all the earth.”

47:7,8 “For God is a King of all the earth....God reigns over the nations.”

48:10 “As is your name, O God, so is your praise to the ends of the earth.”

49:1 “Hear this, all peoples; give ear, all the inhabitants of the world.”

- 50:1** “The Mighty One, God the Lord, has spoken and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.”
- 57:9** “I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.”
- 59:13** “...that men may know that God rules in Jacob, to the ends of the earth.”
- 65:5** “...You who are the trust of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea.”
- 65:8** “...they who dwell in the ends of the earth stand in awe of your signs.”
- 66:1,4,8** “Shout joyfully to God, all the earth....All the earth will worship you....Bless our God, O peoples.”

67:1-7 “God be gracious to us, and bless us, and cause your face to shine on us – that your way may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for you will judge the peoples with righteousness and guide the nations of the earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. God blesses us so that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.”

72:19 “...blessed be His glorious name forever; and may the whole earth be filled with His glory.”

75:2-3 “It is I [the Lord] who judge in equity. The earth and all who dwell in it melt.”

- 86:9** “All nations whom you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord.”
- 87:6** “The Lord shall count when He registers the peoples, ‘This one was born here.’”
- 96:1-10** “Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth....Tell of His glory among the nations.Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength....Tremble before Him, all the earth. Say among the nations, ‘The Lord reigns.’”
- 98:2,4** “The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations....All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; break forth and sing for joy.....”

- 99:1,2** “The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble....He is exalted above all the peoples.”
- 100:1** “Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth.”
- 102:15** “So the nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.”
- 105:1** “O give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known His deeds among the peoples.”
- 108:3** “I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.”
- 117:1** “Praise the Lord, all nations; laud Him, all peoples.”

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

(HIS WISDOM DEMONSTRATED)

“And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon...she said to the king, ‘It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. Nonetheless I did not believe their reports until I came and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You surpass the report that I heard....Blessed be the Lord your God!’”

II Chron. 9:3-12

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

(GOD'S PURPOSE)

“So King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. And all the kings of the earth were seeking the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart.”

II Chron. 9:22-23

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON
(THE GOD-INTENDED RESULTS)

Wisdom seminars!

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

QUESTION:

What would have been the likely syllabus for Solomon's wisdom seminars?

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

THE SYLLABUS?

Probably the Book of Proverbs,

the distilled essence

of the wisdom God gave to Solomon.

(Wisdom's prerequisite: Prov. 1:7 & 9:10)

THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM (SOLOMON'S DESIRE)

“Also concerning the foreigner, who is not from your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for your great name’s sake...when they come and pray toward this house, then hear from heaven...in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel....”

II Chron. 6:32-33

THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM

(GOD'S PURPOSE)

“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”

Isaiah 56:7

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS: **(THEIR GOD-GIVEN GLOBAL VISION)**

**“It is too small a thing that you
(Messiah) should be my Servant to
raise up the tribes of Jacob....I will also
make you a light to the nations, so that
my salvation may reach to the end of
the earth.”**

Isa. 49:6

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“You who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves and give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise throughout the earth.”

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“All flesh will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

Isa. 49:26

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

**“Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing
His praise from the ends of the earth.”**

Isa. 42:10

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“I am the Lord...I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations.”

Isa. 42:6

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“They cry from the west concerning the majesty of the Lord. Therefore glorify the Lord in the east, the name of the Lord, the God of Israel, in the coastlands of the sea, from the ends of the earth.”

Isa. 24:14-16

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“The Lord bared His holy arm in the sight of all the nations, that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God.”

Isa. 52:10

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“Darkness will cover the earth, and deep darkness the peoples; but the Lord will rise upon you, and His glory will appear upon you, and nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising.”

Isa. 60:2-3

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

**“The time is coming to gather all the nations and tongues. And they shall come and see My glory...and they will declare My glory among the nations....
....All mankind will come to bow down before Me, says the Lord.”**

Isa. 66:18, 19, 23

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“The Lord be magnified beyond the borders of Israel....**For** from the rising of the sun to its setting, **My name will be great among** the nations, **says the Lord of hosts.”**

Malachi 1:5, 11

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

**“Look unto me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!”**

Isa. 45:22

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Hab. 2:14

JONAH:

The compassion of God for the million inhabitants of Nineveh.

“Then the Lord said, ‘You [Jonah] had compassion on the plant....and should I not have compassion on Nineveh?’”

Jonah 4:11

DANIEL:

**The glory of God throughout
the vast Babylonian Empire**

**“Then Darius the king wrote to all the peoples,
nations and men of every language who
were living in all the land: ‘May your peace
abound! I make a decree that in all the
dominion of my kingdom men are to fear
and tremble before the God of Daniel, for He
is the living God....”** Daniel 6:25-27

THROUGHOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT

900 + occurrences of these terms:

“nations”

“peoples”

“tribes”

“kingdoms”

“families of the earth”

“kings of the earth”

A PIVOTAL QUESTION:

***If God in Old Testament times
was truly a God of global missionary passion,
why is there in all the Old Testament
no command such as Christ gave to His
disciples:
“Go into all the world and preach the gospel
to all creation”?***

A PIVOTAL ANSWER:

In Old Testament times

***God's redemptive yearning over mankind
was universal, embracing all nations.***

But His strategy for accomplishing

His global missionary purpose

was different....

OLD TESTAMENT STRATEGY:

CENTRIPETAL

NEW TESTAMENT STRATEGY:

CENTRIFUGAL

NEW TESTAMENT CONTINUATION OF GOD'S GLOBAL MISSION

THE INESCAPABLE NATURE OF CHRIST'S GREAT COMMISSION

- 1. The repetition of the Great Commission**
(Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Lk 24:46-47; John 20:21)
- 2. Christ's parting words**
(Acts 1:8)

THE CLIMAX OF HISTORY

“The gospel must first be proclaimed to all the nations.” Mark 13:10

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”
Matt. 24:14

“And they sang a new song saying, ‘You are worthy...for you have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every tribe and language and people and nation.’ Rev. 5:9

QUESTION:

HOW SHALL WE RESPOND?

Christ in the temple (John 2:13-17)
(consumed)

Paul at Mars Hill (Acts 17:16)
(provoked)

The Moravians
(mobilized)

David Livingstone:

“I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the kingdom of Christ. If anything will advance the interests of His kingdom, it shall be given away or kept, only as by giving or kept, it will most promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity.”

A FOUNDATIONAL ASSERTION:

World missions to God is not just an important program. It is a profound passion that has burned within His heart from earliest human history. He cannot, will not rest content until at last He has redeemed to Himself people from every nation, every race, every language group on earth.

**GLORY THAT IS
LESS THAN GLOBAL*
IS NOT WORTHY
OF OUR GOD !**

*** every tribe, tongue, people, & nation**