

...saw an altar in Damascus and sent to Uriah the priest for its construction. Uriah detailed the plans for an altar in accordance with all the plans that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus and finished it before King Ahaz returned. When the king came back from Damascus and saw the altar, he approached it and presented offering and grain offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his fellowship offerings on the altar. The bronze altar that stood before the LORD he brought from the front of the temple—from between the altars to the north side of the temple.

King Ahaz had ordered Uriah the priest to offer the morning burnt offering and evening grain offering, and his grain offering and his drink offering and their drink offering on the altar all the blood offering and their grain offering, and their burnt offerings and sacrifices. But I will use the bronze altar for seeking guidance." And Uriah the priest did just as King Ahaz had ordered.

King Ahaz took away the side panels and removed the basins from the movable stands. He removed the Sea from the bronze bulls that supported it and set it on a stone base. He took away the Sabbath canopy that had been built at the temple and removed the royal entryway outside of the temple of the LORD, in deference to the king of Assyria.

As for the other events of the reign of Ahaz, and what he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? Ahaz rested with his fathers and was buried with them in the City of David. And Hezekiah his son succeeded him as king.

**Hoshea Last King of Israel**  
17 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea son of Elah became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned nine years. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, but not like the kings of Israel who preceded him.

112 Or and sent up  
14 Or to take to the, so is possibly an abbreviation for Chertan

354  
Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up to attack Hoshea, who had been Sargon's vassal and had paid him tribute. But the king of Assyria discovered that Hoshea was a traitor, for he had sent envoys to So<sup>112</sup> king of Egypt, and no longer paid tribute to him and put him in prison. The king of Assyria invaded the entire land, marched against Samaria and laid siege to it for three years. In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Habor River and in the towns of the Medes.

**Israel Exiled Because of Sin**

All this took place because the Israelites did not keep the commands of the LORD their God, which they had introduced. They rejected all the people of Israel and gave them into the hands of their enemies, until he thrust Israel away from the land. The king of Assyria made Jeroboam son of Nebat king of Israel, and he did not turn away from the practices which the kings of Israel had introduced. The Israelites secretly did things against the LORD their God that were not right. From watchtower to fortified city they built themselves high places in all their towns. They set up sacred stones and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every spreading tree. At every high place they burned incense, as the nations whom the LORD had driven out before them had done. They did wicked things that provoked the LORD to anger. They worshiped idols, though the LORD had said, "You shall not do this." The LORD warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers: Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I delivered to you through my servants the prophets.

But they would not listen and were as stiff-necked as their fathers, who did not trust in the LORD their God. They rejected his decrees and the covenant he had made with their fathers and the warnings he had given them. They followed worthless idols and themselves became worthless

118 Or the day of his throne (see Septuagint)  
119 Exodus 20:4, 5

idols and themselves became worthless. Then the king of Assyria gave this order: "Have one of the priests you took captive from Samaria go back to live there and teach the people what the god of the land requires." So one of the priests who had been exiled from Samaria came to live in Bethel and taught them how to worship the LORD.

Nevertheless, each national group made its own gods in the several towns where they settled, and set them up in the shape of calves, and shrines at the high places. The men from Babylon made Succoth Benoth, the men from Cush made Nergal, and the men from Hamath made Ashima. The Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire as sacrifices to Adramelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim. They worshiped the LORD, but they also appointed all sorts of priests in the shrines to officiate for them as priests in the shrines at the high places. They worshiped the LORD, but they also served their own gods in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought.

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# Mission in the Bible

by Heidi Bowes

# In the beginning...



- Genesis 1-2 – creation without sin
- Genesis 3 – sin entered the world



## Genesis 3:9

*“But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” (NRSV)*

# 1 Peter 1:18-20



*“You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.*

*He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.” - Peter*

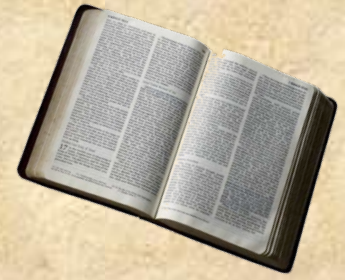
# God's Mission Through Abraham - Genesis 12:1-3



*“Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

– The Lord

# Genesis 45:7



*“God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.” - Joseph*

# Exodus 6:6-7



*"I am the Lord, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians." – The Lord*

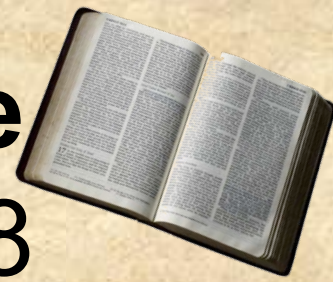
# Exodus 9:13-16



*"Thus says the Lord, the God of the Hebrews:  
Let my people go, so that they may worship me.  
For this time I will send all my plagues upon you  
yourself, and upon your officials, and upon your  
people, so that you may know that there is no one  
like me in all the earth. For by now I could have  
stretched out my hand and struck you and your  
people with pestilence, and you would have been  
cut off from the earth. But this is why I have let you  
live: to show you my power, and to make my name  
resound through all the earth." - The Lord*

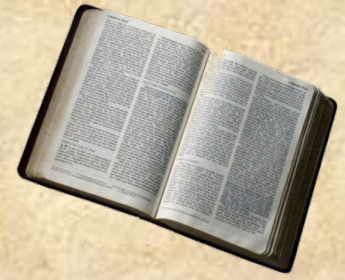


# God's Mission Through the Israelites - Exodus 19:4-6a, 8



*“You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation’ . . .*

*The people all answered as one:  
‘Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.’ ”*



## **Joshua 24:16:**

*“Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods” – the Israelites*

## **Joshua 24:24:**

*“The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey” – the Israelites*

# People from the Nations Who Learned about Yahweh From the Israelites



**Jethro** - *“Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods, because he delivered the people from the Egyptians, when they dealt arrogantly with them.”* (Exodus 18:11)

**Rahab** - *“For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan . . . The Lord your God is indeed God in heaven above and on earth below.”* (Joshua 2:10-11)

# People from the Nations Who Learned about Yahweh From the Israelites



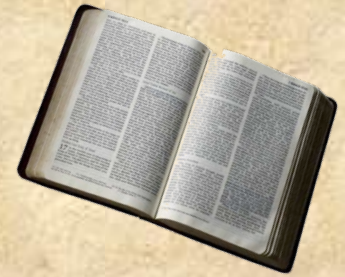
**Ruth of Moab** - *“your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God,”* (Ruth 1:16)

**Queen of Sheba** (1 Kings 10:1-13)

**Widow of Zarephath** (1 Kings 17)

**Naaman, Army Commander for the King of  
Aram** (2 Kings 5:1-15)

# Daniel 6:26-27



**King Darius** - *“I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.”*

# Others from the Nations Who Worshiped Yahweh



- **Abimelech, King of the Philistines** (Genesis 26)
- **Balaam the diviner** (Numbers 22-24)
- **Job of Uz** (Job 1:1, 8; 2:3)
- **Magi, Kings of the East** (Matthew 2:1-12)

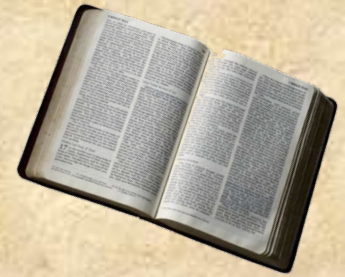
# Judges 2:2, 11-12



*“You have disobeyed me.  
Why have you done this?”* (2:2, NIV) – The Lord

*“The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and worshiped the Baals; and they abandoned the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; they followed other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them, and bowed down to them; and they provoked the Lord to anger.”* (2:11-12, NRSV)

# When Israel failed...



- *“In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes”* (Judges 21:25)
- Warnings to the kings: Isaiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Amos, Micah
- Warnings through the prophets
- Discipline
- Jonah





# Jesus – the Hinge to God's Mission

His words and actions:

*“All this took place to fulfill what  
had been spoken by the Lord”* (Matthew)

Fulfilling God's promise to Abraham (Matthew)

Redeeming humanity from sin since Adam (Luke)

# Jesus as Savior

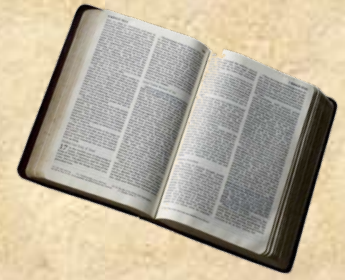


*"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17)*

*Sent to do the Father's will - "that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life" (John 6:40)*

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:18-19)*

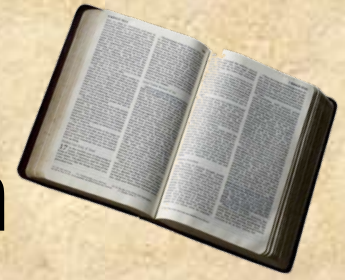
# Jesus sent us



*“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

*“I am sending upon you what my Father promised.” (John 24:49)*

# The Holy Spirit – to continue God's mission

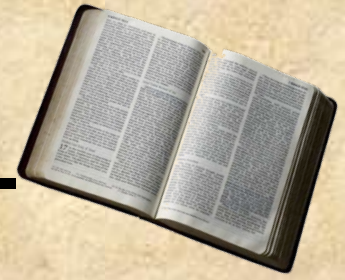


- To sanctify and transform us  
(John 14:16-18; 14:26; 16:5-15)
- To empower us for God's mission

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

Pentecost - Acts 2:1-41

# God's mission continues to all people – including the Gentiles



## Paul's ministry:

*“The Lord said to [Ananias], “Go, for [Paul] is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel.” (Acts 9:15)*

*“For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.” (Galatians 3:26-29)*

# God's mission continues to all people – including the Gentiles



## Peter's ministry:

*“I truly understand that God shows no partiality . . . They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have” (Acts 10:34, 47 TNIV)*

So that...

*“everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21*

# God's Mission Through the Church



*“A chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people...”*

**(1 Peter 2:9-10a)**

# God's Mission Through the Church



*Jesus “called the crowd [together] with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.’ ” (Mark 8:34-35)*

*“The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all”*



# God's Mission Through the Church



Proclaiming Jesus is Lord of all, in the worship of God alone, in word and deed, for the whole creation.

## Examples:

- Jesus - Matthew 11:1-5
- Expectations for the Israelites - Deuteronomy 10:12-21

# God's Mission Will Be Accomplished



*“A new heaven and a new earth”* (Revelation 21:1)

*“After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.”* (Revelation 7:9)

Genesis 3 – 11    ::::    Revelation 21 - 22

