

Missionaries – Part 8

Cross Cultural Missions in the ministry of Jesus

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on Missionaries. Our topic today: Cross Cultural Missions

Scripture Theme Song: “You are a Chosen Generation” (1 Peter 2:9)

- 1) The Samaritan Woman
 - a) John 4:3-4 – What important clue do we find in v.4?
 - b) John 4:5-7 – What tradition is Jesus ignoring here?
 - i) Note the Samaritan woman’s response – v.8
 - c) How does Jesus seek to connect with this Samaritan woman on a deeper level? John 4:10-15
 - d) Once Jesus has established rapport, what startling request does He make? John 4:16
 - e) How does Jesus know the information revealed in John 4:17-18? (we find the answer in v.19)
 - f) Is the comment in v.20 an attempt to continue the conversation or a diversion?
 - g) How does Jesus respond? John 4:21-26
 - h) Why were His disciples so surprised by the conduct of Jesus? v. 27
 - i) What important principles can we learn about cross-cultural missions from this story? See also v.28-30
- 2) The Roman Army Officer
 - a) Matthew 8:5-13 – almost certainly a Gentile
 - b) Jesus both responds to the Roman centurion and also affirms him. Why?
- 3) The demoniac in the region of the Gadarenes
 - a) Mark 5:1-13
 - b) What is the reaction of these Gentiles who saw evidence of the power of God and the merciful ministry of Jesus? Mark 5:14-17
 - c) Why did Jesus perform such a marvelous work in their region when such a negative response was expected?
- 4) The Canaanite woman in the region of Tyre and Sidon
 - a) Matthew 15:21-28
 - b) What startles you about the conduct of Jesus?
 - c) How can you make sense of the behavior of Jesus in the light of all of His teaching about loving others?
- 5) The Ten Lepers
 - a) Luke 17:11-14
 - b) What clue is there that Jesus is about to teach an important lesson in cross-cultural mission work?
 - c) Luke 17:15-19
 - d) Why does Dr. Luke identify this “foreigner” as a Samaritan? What lesson is he wanting us to learn from this miraculous healing?
- 6) The Greeks who came to see Jesus
 - a) John 12:20-22
 - b) What can learn from the response of Jesus? John 12:23-32
- 7) Discussion question: What lessons can we learn from these stories about ministry to people of other cultures and religious backgrounds?