

For the Sake of Christ's Name Among All the Nations: The Theme of Missions in Scripture

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What we learn about the gospel in Rom 1:1–6:

1. Its source and content (v.1):
2. Its history (v. 2):
3. Its focus (v. 3):
4. Its purpose and aim (v. 5–6):

Tracing the theme of missions in Scripture:

1. Mankind's original commission (Gen 1:27–28)
2. God's lasting commitment to magnify himself universally (Gen 3:15; Num 14:21; Hab 2:14; Ps 72:1–2, 17–19; Isa 11:1–2, 9–10)
3. The need for curse-overcoming blessing (Gen 11:8–9)
4. The means for curse-overcoming blessing: the two-stage Abrahamic promise (Gen 12:1–3)
5. The move from Abraham being the father of a single nation to being a father of a multitude of nations: the significance of the single, male deliver as agent of blessing (Gen 17:4–6; 22:17–18)
6. The flow of salvation history
7. Stage 1: The Mosaic covenant and Israel's "come and see" calling (Exod 19:4–6; Deut 4:5–8)
8. Israel's failure and destruction (Deut 31:27, 29; 2 Kgs 17:13–15, 23)

9. The hope for the day of good news and global blessing (Isa 42:1, 5–7; 49:2–6; 51:4–5; 52:13, 15; 53:11; 61:1–3)
10. Stage 2: The new covenant and the mission of good news:
 - a. Jesus is *the* offspring of Abraham, and those in him become Abraham's offspring, heirs of the promises (Gal 3:8, 14, 16, 29; cf. Gen 22:17b–18).
 - b. Jesus is God's royal servant, who brings light to the nations (Matt 4:13–17; Acts 26:22–23; cf. Isa 9:1–2; 49:6).
 - c. Jesus is the one in whom the nations hope (Rom 15:8–12; cf. Ps 18:49; Deut 32:43; Ps 117:1; Isa 11:10).
11. The mission of the Messiah becomes the mission of the church.
 - a. The royal servant's mission to bring light becomes Paul's mission (Isa 49:6; Acts 13:46–47).
 - b. The royal servant's proclamation of good news becomes the mission of the church (Isa 52:7; Rom 10:14–15).
 - c. Israel's calling to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation is now fulfilled in the church (Exod 19:5–6; Matt 5:16; 1 Pet 2:9).
 - d. The church's "go and tell" mission is to bear witness to the worth and majesty of Christ among the nations and to proclaim the good news of reconciliation (Matt 28:18–20; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor 5:17–21).
12. The present and lasting praise to the reigning savior and satisfier of the nations (Rev 5:9–10; 7:9–10).

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