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# *The* Carey Pulpit

**CAREY 250:  
CELEBRATING  
THE LEGACY OF  
WILLIAM  
CAREY**

*Yours very affly yours  
W. Carey*

**William Carey University**  
Hattiesburg Biloxi New Orleans



On August 17, 1761 William Carey was born in Paulersbury, England. As a child he was fascinated by the world around him, and he spent much time in the garden and scavenging the fields collecting different plants. He was inspired by the adventures of Captain Cook and dreamed of traveling to far off lands. However, he appeared destined to live his life as a poor cobbler—a shoemaker. While apprenticing as a shoemaker, he encountered John War, a “dissenter,” who led him to accept Christ as his personal savior. William Carey became a bi-vocational pastor and demonstrated his talent for learning biblical languages. To help lay the theological foundations for the missionary movement, Carey wrote *An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens*, and worked with other area pastors to establish the Baptist Missionary Society. In 1793 Carey and his family sailed for India where they would spend the rest of their lives devoted to the Gospel. When Carey answered the call to become a missionary in India, God honored and enhanced all his gifts and talents by transforming the poor shoemaker from England into a linguist, scientist, professor, and social reformer. Carey and his associates evangelized, established Serampore College, and translated the Bible into 40 languages. The “Father of Modern Missions” died in 1834 after helping to start the modern missionary movement.

William Carey University is proud to carry the name of William Carey. This edition of *The Carey Pulpit* celebrates and honors the 250th anniversary of William Carey’s birth and legacy. Contributors in this edition are from Carey’s church in England, Serampore College in India, the International Mission Board, William Carey University, and William Carey alumni who have served in missions.

Past and current volumes of *The Carey Pulpit* are posted on the university website, so you will have access to an ever increasing number of sermon outlines. The web address is [www.wmcarey.edu/pulpit](http://www.wmcarey.edu/pulpit). If you would like to receive sermon outlines by email, please send your email address to [scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu](mailto:scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu).

I invite you to submit sermon outlines for *The Carey Pulpit* and to encourage others to submit outlines. The sermons can be focused on a single passage, topic, holiday, or event. Mail or email your sermon outlines to the address or email listed below.

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**“EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD;  
ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD”****Luke 5:1-11, Jeremiah 1:1-10****Introduction:**

This story from Luke 5 is one of my favorites in the whole Bible. The familiar words in verse 4, “Push the boat out further, to deep waters, and you and your partners let down your nets for a catch,” have inspired many sermons. All the “whys and wherefores” and theological concepts may go right over our heads, but this story suggests things beyond the here and now, beyond just the physical facts of the matter. What happened on that lake all those years ago was nothing less than a miracle. The timeless truths of miracles go on and on, and what happened then can happen now!

**I. The Disciples Were Ordinary Fishermen Who Failed in Their Fishing Expedition.**

- A. They fished all night and caught nothing.
- B. Failure must have made them want to give up and go home.
- C. Jesus spoke to them; and they succeeded, catching 153 different fish, the net nearly bursting (Jn. 21:11).

**II. What Is the Application to Us?**

- A. When we are discouraged, do we give up too easily? You may say, “So what? We don’t fish like that around here anymore, and anyway, the river near here is kaput. The best you can catch there is a rusty bike, a broken supermarket trolley, or an old boot!”
- B. Miracles still happen. One word from Jesus and everything can change. The frustration and discouragement can disappear.
- C. Push the boat out into the deep water with no excuses.

**III. Consider These Examples from History.**

- A. Jeremiah, a prophet of God, called to an impossible task.
- B. Paul, a Rabbi and Pharisee, launching his first mission to the Gentiles.
- C. William Carey, a cobbler, self-educated, with a burning desire to take the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world. He pushed the boat out into the deep. In the Park Street Chapel, Nottingham, on May 31, 1792, he preached his famous sermon from Isaiah 54:2-3: “Enlarge the place of thy tent, spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes.” Then he spoke those famous words, still echoing down the centuries, “Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.” Deep water indeed.

**Conclusion:**

Are we prepared to go out into deep water, or are we just content to wobble toes in at the edge? If we want to do anything or go anywhere, we’ve got to be prepared to get our feet wet, to push the boat out! Just like Jeremiah, Paul of Tarsus, and William Carey, we have to expect great things from God and attempt great things for God. Step out from the shallows of your life, and in faith push your boat out into the deep water where there are still fish to catch and souls to save.

**WILLIAM CAREY: FAITHFUL WITNESS****Isaiah 43:2, Matthew 28:19-20****Introduction:**

More than 217 years ago, on June 13, 1793, a poor journeyman shoemaker named William Carey, his wife Dorothy, and their four children sailed from England on a Danish ship headed for India. With only a grammar-school education, Carey had no credentials for missionary service except an inextinguishable conviction that God had called him to devote his life to “the conversion of the heathens.”

Carey, recognized as the “father of modern missions,” is synonymous with the Protestant missionary movement, which began with Carey’s 40-year ministry in India. Yet, what Carey wrote about the fulfillment of the Great Commission more than 200 years ago is still valid and even more compelling today. Carey said, “Some attempts are being made, but they are inconsiderable in comparison with what might be done if the whole body of Christians entered heartily into the spirit of the divine commanded on this subject.”

**I. The Sovereignty of God and Finality of Jesus Christ (Mt. 28:19-20).**

Carey knew Christian mission work was rooted in the gracious, eternal purpose of the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- A. Because of his belief in the greatness of God, Carey was willing “to venture all” to proclaim the gospel in the far corners of the world. In 2008, according to the Gospel Broadcasting Network, the world’s population had grown to over six billion, with 245 new souls being born each minute, and the population is expected to double by 2040. Approximately 105 people die every minute with most having never heard the gospel, having never believed, and eternally lost.
- B. A reasonable question: Considering the Lord’s desire that all men be saved and His great charge to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature,” how can there ever be enough preachers

or enough time to reach the billions of souls passing through life, each one unique and precious in the sight of God? (Rom. 10:13-15)

**II. The Authority of Holy Scripture and the Power of Prayer (Is. 43:2).**

- A. Carey’s evangelistic plan had three bases: 1) preach the gospel; 2) translate the Bible; and 3) establish schools. At the heart of this plan was his confidence in the authority and total truthfulness of the Bible. He either translated or personally supervised the translating of the Bible into some 40 distinct tongues. Over 200 years later, some 10,000 language families have not yet received the Bible in their own language family.
- B. Prayer awakened the church to action, and Carey constantly felt the sustaining power of prayer. Time and again he learned to trust God in the face of overwhelming circumstances. We must pray with fervency and specifically for those who labor in mission fields of the world and for those who have not heard the transforming message of God’s grace.

**III. Contextualization and Holistic Missions (Mt. 28:20).**

The gospel should be communicated in such a way that it speaks to the total context of the people to whom it is preached. Carey experimented with new methods and untried approaches in reaching for Christ the people to whom he had been sent. Key elements were establishing indigenous churches and training national pastors to proclaim the life-changing, culture-transforming message of salvation through repentance in faith in Jesus Christ.

**Conclusion:**

Today people can glean much from the life and testimony of William Carey, evangelical preacher and missionary. The need is vast, and the possibilities are endless to preach the gospel throughout the unevangelized world.

THANKSGIVING

Luke 17:11-19

**Introduction:**

It is said that God sent two angels, Gabriel and Michael, each with a basket to collect all the prayers in the world. While returning, the angels met each other and were curious about the substance of their baskets. Gabriel asked Michael, "What is in your basket that it is so full and heavy?" Michael replied, "God sent me to collect all the 'I want' and 'please give me' portions of prayers." Then Michael enquired, "Why does your basket look so light and empty?" Gabriel answered, "God sent me to collect only the 'thank you' portions of prayers."

When we pray, we ask much more frequently than we give thanks. The chosen text, Luke 17:11-19, tells us a story of the lack of thanksgiving from most of the lepers who were healed by Jesus.

**I. Jesus Healed Ten Lepers (17:11-14).**

- A. In a society where lepers were banned and untouchable, they could meet Jesus.
- B. They could lift up their voices and ask his mercy.
- C. Jesus saw them and had pity on them.

**II. Why Did Only One Out of Ten Return to Give Thanks (17:15)?**

- A. The lepers were detached from society. When they found themselves cured, they thought it was more important to show themselves to the priests. Only if the priests certified that they had been healed would they be allowed to associate themselves with other people in society. So they needed to please the priests more than they needed to thank Jesus.
- B. Forgetting to give thanks is a normal tendency. We rarely remember the benefits and give thanks. The Psalmist reminds us, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Psalm 103:2). This disease of forgetfulness is

commonly seen after the benefits are received.

- C. They may have taken the credit for themselves instead of giving credit to the Lord. It is typical to cry for help when in great need or danger, but when the danger is over, people often think that they overcame the crisis by their own efforts.

**III. The One Who Was Least Expected Came to Give Thanks Sincerely (17:15-16).**

He who returned to give thanks was not one the Jews expected to give thanks because he was a Samaritan, a foreigner, and also a marginalized person, a non-Jew and a leper. Jesus was astonished at his thankful gesture and exclaimed, "Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" His thanksgiving was unique for many reasons.

- A. As soon as he realized that he was healed, he immediately returned to thank Jesus. Sometimes, people think they can give thanks later at a more suitable time; that time usually never comes in the busy life.
- B. When he came to thank, he was "praising God with a loud voice." People generally ask loudly, but thanksgiving is usually so soft that it cannot be heard. John, in Revelation 5:11-12, describes how myriads of angels continue to praise the Lamb of God with a loud voice.
- C. He also fell at the feet of Jesus. Sometimes we are shy of humbling ourselves at the feet of Jesus. The proud cannot thank God sincerely. James says in 4:6, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
- D. The Samaritan's thanksgiving was spontaneous. It must have been his habit to give thanks at all times.

**Conclusion:**

It is expected that we give thanks to God in all circumstances. St. Paul confirms it in Ephesians 5:20, "...always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father." May God help us to have thankful hearts.

## WHEN GOD CALLS

Jonah 1:1-4, 15, 17 and 2:1, 10

**Introduction:**

“The church exists by mission as a fire exists by burning.” ~ *Emil Brunner*

This issue of the *Carey Pulpit* is dedicated to the memory of “the father of modern missions” in celebration of the 250th anniversary of his birth. The hope for our world, troubled by conflict, hunger, violence, greed and every sin of every description, is for Christians to get serious about completing the mission of taking the gospel to “the uttermost parts of the earth.”

**I. When God Says Go, You’d Better Go.**

- A. The scriptures, as well as history, are replete with examples of individuals who ignored, resisted, or ran from God’s call.
- B. The testimony of Lottie Moon reveals that she was reluctant to go, but when she surrendered totally to God, she made an impact for time and eternity.
- C. When God “gets on our trail” we cannot escape, not in the “lowest part of the vessel” (Jon. 1:5) or in the belly of a fish (Jon. 1:17).

**II. When God Says Go, You Don’t Have to Know.**

- A. *Where—Abraham*  
“By faith Abraham went out when he was called, not knowing where he was going” (Heb. 11:8).
- B. *How—Joseph*  
Joseph had no idea how God would fulfill his dreams, but he trusted God (Gen. 37 and 40).
- C. *Why—Phillip*  
When God called Phillip to leave the tremendous revival in Samaria (Acts 8:4-8) to go to the desert of Gaza (Acts 8:28), he didn’t ask why, he just obeyed.

**III. When God Says Go, Faith Overcomes Fear.**

- A. Ananias overcame his fear (Acts 9:15) and obeyed God (Acts 9:17).
- B. “Fear not” (Deut. 31:6), “for I am with you always, even to the ends of the earth” (Mt. 28:20).

**IV. When God Says Go, Don’t Look Back.**

- A. Consider Lot’s wife—if our affection remains with things of this world, we are not worthy to serve Him.
- B. “He who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is not worthy” (Lk. 9:62).

**V. When God Says Go, He Goes With Us.**

- A. God promised to be with Joshua as he conquered the Promised Land. “As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Josh. 1:5).
- B. “Go ye into all the world; and lo, I am with you always” (Mt. 28:20).

**Conclusion:**

When God calls, the only appropriate response is obedience. God called William Carey to be a missionary in India and to translate the Bible into their indigenous languages. When God called, William Carey went. Carey did not know how he could afford to go, but he knew God would be faithful. Carey overcame his fears and many obstacles. He never looked back to England; instead, he dedicated his entire life to the mission in India. William Carey accomplished great things for God because God was with him. How will you respond when God calls you?

## A NEW DAY FOR MISSIONS THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF WILLIAM CAREY

Matthew 28:18-20

### Introduction:

William Carey lived in a day when many believed that Matt. 28:18-20 applied only to the apostles and not to Christians in modern times. For those the Great Commission had become the Great Omission! From William Carey's life we find an explanation, illustration, and application of the Great Commission.

In 18th century England the gospel light had diminished to a flicker. With the exception of the Methodists and the Moravians, there was little world mission activity. Some became concerned and called the nation to prayer for world missions. Within 20 years, prayer groups petitioning for the conversion of the heathen had formed all over the British Isles.

At the tender age of 14, Carey became an apprentice to the shoemaker in Hackleton, England. Upon his conversion at age 18, he disassociated himself from the Church of England and became a part of the "nebulous body of Dissenters." He began preaching in local churches and then joined the Baptists. While Carey preached on Sundays, he continued his trade as a shoe mender and taught school during the week. In his spare time he taught himself Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, French, and Dutch. Denying that he was a genius, Carey merely considered himself a "plodder."

### I. A Missionary Vision

- A. Captain Cook's voyages inspired Carey. He admired Cook, but disagreed with the attitude that "the heathen could not be evangelized." As Carey read the *Journal of Captain Cook's Last Voyage*, he learned about a "world of people in spiritual darkness," magnifying "his conviction that the words of Matthew 28:19-20 were still binding on all Christians."

- B. In *Help to Zion's Travellers*, Robert Hall developed arguments from Isaiah 57:13-14, speaking about the stumbling blocks that keep people away from the Lord Jesus Christ and against the "...extreme Calvinism that paralyzed many churchmen in an attitude that God had so predestined every happening that men had few choices of their own." Of this sermon Carey stated, "It articulates my exact feeling for the gospels and salvation."
- C. Carey said, referring to the little known book *Periodical Account of Moravian Missions*, "If you had only read this and knew how these men overcame all obstacles for Christ's sake, you would go forward in faith!"

### II. A Missionary Voice

- A. At an associational meeting, Carey spoke against the anti-missionary sentiment in Britain, prompting a brother to respond, "Oh, for heaven's sakes, Brother Carey, the age of apostles is over."
- B. In 1792 Carey wrote *An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens*, addressing the issues involved and answering objections to missionary activity.
- C. After Carey mentioned the Great Commission at a Northamptonshire ministerial meeting, John Ryland expressed the prevailing sentiment when he said, "Young man, sit down. When God pleases to convert the heathen, He will do it without your aid or mine."
- D. Carey spoke on Isaiah 54:2-3 at the Baptist Ministers' Association at Nottingham, sharing his oft-quoted couplet: "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God." A resolution was placed in the minutes, stating that: "A plan be prepared against the next minister's meeting for forming a Baptist society for propagating the gospel among the heathens."



### III. A Missionary Venture

- A. Carey volunteered to go as a missionary in spite of resistance from his father and his wife.
- B. As a result of the “labors and letters of Carey,” many missionary societies were formed, earning him the title of “father of modern missions.”
- C. Some of Carey’s accomplishments include
  - 1. Scripture translation and indigenous church planting through Bible translation efforts
  - 2. Krishna Pal – first convert
  - 3. Almost 700 baptized converts within 25 years

#### Conclusion:

The warning has been often sounded that Christianity is just one generation away from extinction. Therefore, we must diligently propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. There are three facets of the Great Commission recorded in Matthew 28 that we must consider. First, there is the *solemn obligation* found in verses 18-19a. We must go! Secondly, we find *specific objectives* in verses 19b-20a. Dr. O. S. Hawkins explains, “We are to ‘make’ disciples, ‘mark’ them by baptism, and ‘mature’ them in the faith. Finally, there is to be a *strict obedience* from verse 20b. Dr. Al Jackson emphatically states, “The heart of missions is obedience.” God does not leave us to ourselves in the fulfillment of the Great Commission. He literally goes with us every step of the way.

### **Southern Baptist Convention**

June 14-15, 2011 ♦ Phoenix, Arizona

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Visit our booth or contact

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### **Mississippi Baptist Convention**

November 1-2, 2011

First Baptist Church, Jackson

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**LITTLE IS MUCH WITH JESUS IN IT****John 6:9; Matthew 13:31-32****Introduction:**

There is a song which says, "Little is much with Jesus in it; Labor not for wealth or fame; There's a crown, and we will win it, If we go in Jesus' name." These lines are inspirational and true to God's way of working out His kingdom in the lives of many a servant of God.

**I. Great Things Often Have Humble Beginnings**

- A. Five loaves and two small fish in the hands of a boy, then in the hands of Jesus (Jn. 6:9)
- B. The mustard seed is the least of all the seeds. After it is sown, it grows, and birds build nests in its branches (Mt.13:31-32).

**II. The Nation of Israel**

- A. Abraham, ancestor of nations, was childless. He put himself in the hands of God, who blessed him and made him a blessing (Gen.15:3).
- B. Joseph's brothers persecuted and sold him (Gen. 37:24-28), but he became a great official in Egypt (Gen. 41:40).
- C. Moses, a murderer and fugitive (Ex. 2:11-15), became a great leader and deliverer.

**III. William Carey (1761-1834)**

- A. His humble family background
- B. His lack of formal education
- C. His lowly profession—a cobbler
- D. His vision, mission, and sacrifice
- E. His attempts for great things for God
- F. His name and legacy

**Conclusion:**

What is significant in all these? The hands which hold all things. Christ continues to perform the miracle of taking the humble and making them great. This is true in the history of the Church and missions. It can be true in your life as well. If only we will put ourselves in the hands of Jesus Christ in faith and fully trust in His goodness and power.

*Sponsored by MBCB:*

**New Pastor Workshop****William Carey University****Monday, August 29, 2011**

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

kmcdonnell@mccb.org

**January Bible Study*****Studies in Ecclesiastes*****First Baptist Church, Jackson****Thursday, September 22, 2011**

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

ssdept@mccb.org

**NOW IS THE TIME TO MOVE FORWARD****Numbers 32:1-15****Introduction:**

Times of uncertainty and reluctance to move forward come to each of us. The children of Israel had wandered in the wilderness for almost 40 years. Finally they had for the second time approached the promised land. They had already experienced victories over Sihon and Og and a strong victory over Midian. But the time had come to cross the Jordan River and take the Promised Land.

**I. Do Not Stay in Your Comfort Zone (32:1-5).**

- A. The tribes of Reuben and Gad raised livestock, and the land they had already conquered, east of the Jordan, was good for livestock. So they said, "Let us stay here. Don't make us cross the Jordan."
- B. How often do you hear someone essentially express, "Leave me in my comfort zone. Don't make me do something different?" How often do you express that sentiment?
- C. We may say to the Lord, "If you love me, don't require that I trust completely. Don't require me to do something that is not comfortable, that is not what I have come to know how to do."
- D. We will never achieve what God has for us if we insist on staying in a comfort zone.
  1. The lost nations will never be reached if we stay where we are comfortable.
  2. A major reason the thousands of unreached, unengaged people groups are unreached and unengaged is because it is uncomfortable to engage them.

**II. Let Someone Else Do It (32:6-7).**

- A. Moses was disgusted because these two tribes essentially were saying, "Let the other ten tribes do the remaining fighting."
- B. When we are content with giving and maybe praying, and refuse to put our lives on the line by going to where the unreached are, we are saying, "Let someone else do it."
- C. When we leave the work to others, we not only fail to carry out our part, but we also discourage others.

**III. We Are in Danger of Repeating a History of Failure (32:8-15).**

- A. Moses' greatest concern was that these tribes repeat their failure to enter the Promised Land, just as had happened 40 years earlier.
- B. Christians have had the Gospel and have been commanded by the Great Commission for almost 2000 years. Yet, most of the people of the world have never been confronted with a serious presentation of the Gospel.
- C. Examples abound of failure to take opportunities to engage large, significant, unreached people groups with the Gospel.
- D. The tribes of Reuben and Gad seemed to hear the command as simply Moses' command, rather than God's command. Often we hear the command to reach a lost world as the command of man, rather than the command of God.

**Conclusion:**

The place where we receive the gift of God is just beyond our borders. Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go. May we obediently step out to take the Gospel to the nations!

**BARRENNESS TO BLESSEDNESS**

**I Samuel 1:1-28**

**Introduction:**

The Old Testament has some unique stories that have a long lasting impact on life. One such story is 1 Samuel 1:1-28, The Song of Hannah. While Hannah’s narrative provides deep theological and historical insight, it also expresses a simple message of encouragement to hurting souls. Her story comes alive if we read her context into our context today.

**I. Hannah Rose (1:9).**

Hannah lived at a time when a woman’s chief role was that of wife and mother, so Hannah’s barrenness was viewed as a disgrace and a curse. Hannah felt she had failed her husband since his other wife had fulfilled her responsibility of being the mother of Elkanah’s children, but Elkanah loved his childless wife. “Why cry and why not eat? Oh, Hannah, why are you so down hearted? Do I not mean more to you than ten sons?” Peninnah hated Hannah and humiliated her. The women in the community probably were cruel to Hannah also. Finally she put everything behind her, rose above this torturous situation, and sought God’s mercy. Let us not live a defeated life but rise above the problems that get us down and be counted as someone useful in God’s hand.

**II. Hannah Requested (1:11).**

As she sought God’s mercy in her life, she poured out her heart before God in prayer. She was misunderstood and accused as a drunkard by the priest. She did not give up on her request to be liberated from her present situation by God granting her a son. God was Hannah’s refuge and strength. Her faith was strong and simple. Hannah must have watched other children around her with increasing longing. Hannah explained herself to Eli with no sign of self defence, pride, or wounded feelings. She told him her sorrow; she told him what she prayed for; and she told him that she had no wine. Hannah left the sanctuary believing that God would answer her prayers. Her prayer

request was not wild and random but specific and to the point. We have been too general in our prayers. It is said that general prayers are generally answered. Our requests should be decisive and resolute.

**III. Hannah Received (1:20, 27).**

When we stand firm in faith, God is sure to answer and reward us. Hannah’s song praised God, who is just and righteous. God liberated her and gave her a son. Her song reveals that with the birth of a child, God raised her to great heights. Her status had risen within the society. She praised God for liberating her from barrenness. Hannah was able to understand the suffering of others through her own suffering. She received what she requested. Let us tell the Lord the deep desires of our hearts, and He will no doubt honor us.

**IV. Hannah Returned (1:28).**

The one great aspiration of every Hebrew woman was to become a “mother of men of God.” Hannah knew that Samuel was loaned to her by God for a purpose. She knew that she had to prepare him for the service of God. Hannah imparted to Samuel a deep faith; his obedience to God made him loyal at all costs. Samuel became the first judge, a great prophet, and a priest of the people of Israel. He was an instrument of salvation to his people. He directed their affairs, both religious and in matters of state. Remember, Hannah was faithful and honest in keeping her vow. She had said that she would return her son if she was blessed with one.

**Conclusion:**

The Bible says, “Pay your vows unto the Lord.” If you have made a vow, it is time to fulfill it so that you, in turn, may receive his blessings. When Abraham was asked to sacrifice his only son, he did not spare him. So also our God sent his only begotten son to save us. We must learn to give up that which is dear to us if required by God. That obedience in turn may become a channel of blessing for many.

## ON MISSION WITH THE MASTER

## Romans 1:1-17

## Introduction:

The book of Romans has been called the great doctrinal treatise of the Bible. Romans contains great truths about grace, about forgiveness through mercy, and about sanctification. Romans teaches who we are in Christ, how to walk with Christ, and commands us to be on mission with the Master. Chapter one gives at least three reasons that the Holy Spirit leads us to be on mission with the Master.

**I. We Should Be on Mission with the Master Because the Master Has Called Us to It (1:1).**

- A. I am a slave. *Doulos*—a purchased slave with no will of his own (1 Cor. 6:20).
- B. I am sent. *Apostolos*—to send on a mission (Rom. 10:15; Jn. 20:21).
- C. I am separated. *Aphorizo*—marked out, limited by boundaries established by another.

**II. We Should Be on Mission with the Master Because the Masses Cry Out (1:5, 14-15).**

- A. We are marked by a divine reception: We receive grace and gifts (such as apostleship) from God.
- B. We are made for a divine reason.
  - 1. For obedience to the faith.
  - 2. For obedience among all nations (*etnia*=races, people groups).
    - a. A missionary discovered a people group in Cambodia praying “to the God who hung on a cross,” but they knew nothing about him. The masses cry out!
    - b. In the jungles of Peru a woman sang a lament asking, “Why did you not come sooner so my fathers could hear this message?” The masses cry out!

c. In a Muslim country, hundreds saw “The Passion” and cried out for mercy and forgiveness. The masses cry out!

3. We’ve a story to tell to the nations that shall turn their hearts to the right!

C. We are moved by a determined readiness—*prothumos*, a boiling passion, like the Olympic runners with their feet set in the starting blocks, tensed and ready for the starter’s gun (1:15).

**III. We Should Be on Mission with the Master Because the Message Commands It (1:16-17).**

- A. The sin of the desert: knowing where water is and not sharing it with others.
- B. The source of our strength is the power of the Holy Spirit and the power of the gospel.
- C. The scope of salvation: to everyone who believes.

**Conclusion:**

A Quechua village in Peru sees the Luke video: Four men led their burros along treacherous mountain trails to share the Luke video in the home village of one of the four. They came to a village none of them had ever seen. The men offered to show the people the eight-hour Luke video in their language. They showed the film, two hours each night. On the final night, the villagers heard the same invitation you hear on the Jesus film. The people began to cry, fall to the ground, and throw dirt into the air. One of the evangelists asked why they did this, and the villagers cried, “We never knew we could be forgiven for our sins!” Every adult repented and believed the gospel that night.

We go because the Master has called us. We go because the masses cry out. We go because the message commands it.

ARE YOU HOLDING THE ROPES?

Romans 10:9-15

Introduction:

We take for granted that Christians have always felt the need to send missionaries to foreign fields, but there was a time in Baptist history when preachers, theologians, and laypeople alike believed that the Great Commission was for the apostles only.

William Carey fought against the establishment to convince 18th-century Christians that the Great Commission was still in effect. He felt that the deadness in the churches of his day was due to their failure to take seriously the Great Commission. Carey produced an 87-page tract in his attempt to make a case for sending missionaries to foreign lands. After an eight-year struggle, the first missionary society was formed to send missionaries to India. Carey was a natural fit for this ministry due to his zeal for missions and his love of languages.

Andrew Fuller, a supporter of Carey, reported, "We saw that there was a gold mine in India, but it seemed about as deep as the centre of the earth. Who will venture to explore it? 'I will venture to go down,' said Carey to his brethren, 'but remember that you must hold the ropes.' We solemnly engaged to do so; nor while we live shall we desert him."

With these powerful words of support, William Carey left England in 1793, descended into the gold mine of India, and never returned home. In building his case for missions, Carey often used Romans 10 as his text.

I. The Whole World Needs Jesus (10:12-13).

- A. No distinctions can be made (12a). Carey determined that there were about 731 million people in the world at that time and that more than half were lost. Every person on earth needed to call on Jesus and be saved. This is still true today. Some of these we can reach ourselves. For others we will need to send missionaries.

- B. Jesus has riches for all people (12b). He wants them to have salvation, which He personally supplies. He wants them to have hope, and he wants them to have practical help.

II. The Whole World Needs Preachers to Proclaim Jesus to Them (10:14).

- A. Carey said that every nation needed preachers. We live in a time when preachers are often dismissed as irrelevant, but lost people need preachers. Before you say, "Well, they can have ours!" please remember that someone preached the Gospel to you. Everyone hears the Gospel of Jesus from someone else.
- B. There is a process at work in preaching: someone preaches; someone listens; someone believes the Gospel; someone calls on Jesus; and someone is saved!

III. The Whole World Is Waiting for Us to Send Preachers (10:15).

In verse 15 Paul seems to sigh as he laments, "But how shall they preach unless they are sent?" Carey agreed!

- A. God calls people to preach. He prepares His preachers with a mysterious calling. The Bible tells about some of those who were called, like Moses, Isaiah, and Paul.
- B. All of us can participate in sending preachers. The Jerusalem church sent out preachers, as did Antioch and thousands since.

Conclusion:

The whole process sounds pretty easy until we remember that missionaries like Carey remind us that we must hold the ropes while they go down to mine the gold and bring precious souls to Jesus. Holding the ropes must include prayer, a willingness to go if called, a willingness to turn loose of our children if they are called to go, and financial support. Are we holding the ropes?

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Isaiah 54:1-5

### Introduction:

This was the text used by William Carey when he preached to an associational meeting in Kettering, England, in 1792 prior to going to India. It was this message that contained the often-quoted theme: "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God." His obedience to go to India is considered the beginning of the modern missionary movement which continues today. We can make a difference in our world by sharing Carey's insights.

#### I. Anticipate Something More.

- A. Isaiah's prophecy foretold of a time of barrenness being turned to fruitfulness and the small, isolated nation of Israel being enlarged to include the nations.
- B. Making a difference must begin with a God-sized vision for extending the kingdom of God.
  1. We must believe spiritual lethargy and indifference will turn to responsiveness.
  2. We must believe it is God's will for the kingdom to expand to all nations.

#### II. Attempt Things Beyond Your Ability.

- A. Israel was in a time of humiliation, disgrace, and shame because of sin and rebellion; it was unthinkable that things could be better and even prosper.
- B. Carey encountered opposition to his missionary enterprise but persevered, in spite of the great cost to his family and lack of resources.
- C. We must be willing to take the gospel to the nations even when the resources may be lacking and we encounter opposition from family and friends.

1. God has promised to provide the power (Acts 1:8, Matt. 28:18).
2. We may not see the results, but God will honor our faithfulness in subsequent generations.
3. Establish a sound doctrinal foundation, then spread our witness far and wide.

#### III. Assess the Potential.

- A. Isaiah saw the potential of God's kingdom growing beyond Israel to include all nations. Carey saw the potential of taking the gospel to the heathen living in darkness.
- B. The Messianic picture of Jesus suffering and dying for sin in the preceding chapter (Is. 53) did not just apply to Israel or to believers today. His redemption was for all peoples and nations.
- C. We need to look beyond current realities to see the difference we can make in a lost world today.
  1. Hold on to something sure—the promises of God.
  2. Stay focused on the vision of an enlarged global witness.
  3. Be totally committed to the task.

#### Conclusion:

We can expect God to do great things through us to reach a lost world only as we are willing by faith to attempt great things for God. We must be compelled by the vision expressed by Isaiah and explained by William Carey as his motivation and then give ourselves fully to the task.

## THOSE OF WHOM THE WORLD IS NOT WORTHY

Hebrews 11:33-38

### Introduction:

Hebrews 11:33-38 is a summary statement at the conclusion of Hebrews 11, a chapter that is commonly identified as the roll call of faith. These Old Testament characters were heroes of faith because they claimed the victory and were used mightily of God. But some chose suffering and martyrdom as the cost of living by faith. They were identified in v. 38 as “those of whom the world was not worthy.”

William Carey was one of whom this world was not worthy. Like Carey, those who will make an impact on a lost world today and fulfill the Great Commission will be those of whom the world is unworthy. We live in a world that is hostile to a Christian witness; believers continue to be persecuted and treated with condescension. Those who are faithful in living for Christ and worthy to be used for His mission must emulate the characteristics of those in Hebrews 11. What does it mean to be one of “whom this world is not worthy?”

### I. One Who Lives Not for This Life but to Make a Difference for Eternity (11:10, 16).

- A. These Old Testament saints were not focused on what they could accomplish in this life, but they were living for a heavenly city which God prepared for them.
- B. Those who make a difference for God in our world today must be focused not on their own success and reputation but on making a difference through witness and ministry that will last for eternity.
  1. Witnessing faithfully to the lost around us that they might share heaven’s glory with those of us who believe.

2. Being obedient to take the gospel to the nations that will be lost in hell unless someone is willing to give his or her life to make a difference by proclaiming the good news of salvation.

### II. One Who Is Willing to Follow Wherever God Leads (11:8).

- A. Abraham was an example of one who followed God by faith even though he did not know where God was leading and what the consequences would be.
- B. Those whom God will use today must be willing to follow God by faith like Abraham. God will empower and use those willing to lay their lives on the altar in full surrender without having to know where God wants them to go or what He wants them to do.
  1. The world does not value this kind of apparent indecisiveness. The world influences us to plan our life, determine what we want to do, and then assert ourselves to accomplish our personal objectives and aspirations.
  2. Persons in the military are taught to be obedient to their orders and their commanding officer. We should be as obedient to our commander-in-chief, Jesus Christ, who told us to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations.



**III. One Who Turns Away From Personal Comfort and Affluence (11:24-25).**

- A. Moses rejected the comforts and security of Pharaoh's palace to identify with the suffering and needs of his people Israel.
- B. To be used of God, we must be willing to leave the security and comforts of an American lifestyle to go to those who are hurting and lost around the world.
  - 1. A lost world will not know of God's love until we are willing to live among them in an incarnational witness and relate to their needs.
  - 2. Such sacrifice will be driven by a vision of a "greater resurrection" in which all people will be assured of salvation and eternal life (Heb. 11:35b, Rev. 7:9).
  - 3. Being in the center of God's will does not assure our safety, as sometimes suffering and death are the greatest opportunities for God to be glorified.

**Conclusion:**

Those who will be used of God and make a difference in bringing a lost world to Jesus Christ will be those willing to become men and women of whom this world is not worthy. It means living to make an eternal difference rather than for this life, following wherever God leads, and a willingness to sacrifice personal comfort and security to reach a lost world.



**Carey 250 Events**

**August 22, 2011**  
250th Birthday Party for William Carey

**October 3—Nov 9, 2011**  
Carey 250 Art Exhibit

**October 16–22, 2011**  
Spiritual Emphasis week

**November 16, 2011**  
IMB Commissioning Service  
Temple Baptist Church  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi



For more information,  
call Pam Shearer at (601) 318-6107.

# Scholarship for Church-Related Vocations Students William Carey University 2011-2012

*The church-related vocations scholarship could provide up to \$6,300 per year for eligible on-campus residents. Commuting students could be eligible for up to \$4,700 per year.*

In order to be eligible to receive a church-related vocations scholarship, a student must:

1. Have an ACT composite score minimum of 20 and a high school transcript, or a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on 12 semester hours from a college.
2. Be a current and active member of a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.
3. Have made a public commitment to a church-related vocation (ministry or missions) in a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.
4. Have a letter from the pastor stating that a public commitment to a church-related vocation was made or a copy of a license/ordination certificate.
5. Make application to the university and application for scholarships and grants.
6. Meet all admission requirements to the university.

In order to maintain a church-related vocations scholarship, a student must:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.
2. Complete service and ministry requirements of the university.

*Southern Baptist CRV students may also apply to the Board of Ministerial Education of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for additional financial aid. This aid is applied for in a separate process through the Cooper School of Missions and Biblical Studies at William Carey University.*

# General Scholarships

## William Carey University

### 2011-2012

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#### FIRST-TIME FRESHMAN AND FIRST-TIME INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

	<u>ACT Composite</u>	<u>On-Campus</u>	<u>Off-Campus</u>
<b>Trustee Scholarship</b>	28 – above Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 3.2.	\$6,600	\$4,500
<b>Presidential Scholarship</b>	25 – 27 Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0.	\$5,600	\$4,000
<b>Academic Scholarship</b>	21 – 24 Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 2.75.	\$4,500	\$2,900
<b>Opportunity Scholarship</b>	20 Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 2.5.	\$3,500	\$1,900

#### TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

	<u>Cumulative GPA</u>	<u>On-Campus</u>	<u>Off-Campus</u>
<b>Presidential Scholarship</b>	3.5 – above Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0.	\$5,600	\$4,000
<b>Academic Scholarship</b>	3.0 – 3.49 Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 2.75.	\$4,500	\$2,900
<b>Opportunity Scholarship</b>	2.5 – 2.99 Recipients must maintain an overall GPA of 2.5.	\$3,500	\$1,900

William Carey University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor, master, specialist, and the doctor of osteopathic medicine degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 407-679-4500 with questions about the accreditation of William Carey University.

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