

SESSION EIGHT: The Mission of Christ's People on Earth. And Beyond. Being Ready for Forever.

"I have been given say over all things in heaven and on earth. So as you go, make disciples to me from all kinds of people, submerge them in Trinitarian reality, and teach them to do every-thing I commanded you. And look, I am always with you, until the job is done." (Matt. 28:18-20)

"In Jesus Christ the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.... In order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 2:21-22 and 3:10)

"And there shall no longer be any night; and they shall not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God shall illumine them; and they shall reign forever and forever." (Revelation 22:5)

1. "Christians" but not "Disciples."—The contemporary reality, but never the intention of Jesus and his Father.
2. A disciple/apprentice of Jesus is anyone who is learning from him how to lead their life as he would lead their life if he were they.
3. One becomes a disciple by realizing that apprenticeship to Jesus is the greatest opportunity in human life.
 - "Counting the cost."
 - The "Pearl of great price" and the field with the treasure (Matt 13:44-46)
4. The places of discipleship: Where you are. Home and work, for the most part.
5. The three dimensions of discipleship.
 - Obedience to his commands.
 - Doing what he wants in all areas of life not commanded.
 - Learning to act in his power.
6. Good news for leaders of society, government and business.
7. How our local congregations could proceed to break the grip of non-disciple (consumer) Christianity.
 - Simply carry out the "Great Commission."
 - Announce that they teach people to do everything Jesus said.
 - Hold specific training sessions.
8. "When you've been there ten thousand years." What will you be doing 400 years from now?
9. *"The earth will be filled WITH THE KNOWLEDGE of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." (Habakkuk 2:14)*