

THE FOUR ALLS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

By

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BIBLICAL TEXT

■ **Matthew 28:18-20**

- **And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Why does Matthew start with a genealogy?**
 - **Matthew wants his audience to know that Yeshua (Jesus) is the promised Messiah**
 - **Matthew takes us from the particular to the universal (Jewish disciples to disciples from all nations)**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Relies more than any other early Christian text on the Old Testament**
 - **Roughly 50 quotations and allusions to the Septuagint (LXX)**
 - **Matthew uses “... to fulfill what was spoken... by the prophet” (Mt 1:22-23; 2:15; 4:14; 8:17; 27:9-10)**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Yeshua (Jesus) is the “son of David”, the long awaited ideal Davidic King**
 - **He is called Messiah from the Jewish postbiblical literature (genealogy)**
 - **Use of “son of David” and Jesus’ kingship (Mt 1:1; 2:2; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30; 22:42; 27:11)**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Only Matthew states Judas hangs himself; this is comparable to Ahithophel, David's betrayer (2 Sam 17:23)**
 - **Son of David is surpassed by Yeshua because he is also the divine "son of God" who will save his people (Mt 1:21; 2:15; 3:17; 4:3,6; 8:29; 14:33; 16:16; 26:63)**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Yeshua is contrasted to God's *shekhinah*, the physical manifestation of divine presence (Mt 1:18; 18:20; 28:20)**
 - **Since Jesus is the physical incarnation of God, he therefore replaces the Temple as the center of the presence of God**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Matthew demonstrates that Yeshua is the fulfillment of Torah (law) and prophets (Mt 5:17; 7:12; 17:3, 12)**
 - **Yeshua shows how to understand and apply the Jewish laws (Mt 12:1-14)**

INTRODUCTION

- **Jewishness of Matthew's Gospel**
 - **Some of the traditional values are replaced by Jesus**
 - **He is also superior to such things as the Sabbath (Mt 12:1-8)**
 - **Yeshua has authority to forgive sins (Mt 9:6)**

INTRODUCTION

Moses

- Rescued in infancy
- Travels to Egypt
- Crosses water
- Is in the desert

- Climbs the mountain before beginning his instruction

Jesus

- Rescued in infancy
- Travels to Egypt
- Jesus is baptized
- Jesus tempted in the desert

- Sermon on the Mount

INTRODUCTION

Moses

- He gives instructions from a mountain (Dt 32:48)
- He interprets Torah (Law) for the people
- Moses is inferior
- Moses fasts for 40 days and nights (Dt 34:1)

Jesus

- He gives instructions from a mountain (Mt 28:16)
- He interprets Torah for the people
- Jesus is superior
- Jesus fasts for 40 days and nights (Mt 4:8)

INTRODUCTION

Moses

- **Challenged to command stones (Num 20:8)**
- **Moses is only shown Canaan (Dt 34:1)**
- **Moses dies outside the promised land**

Jesus

- **Challenged to command stones (Mt 4:3)**
- **Jesus is shown “all the kingdoms of the world” (Mt 4:8)**
- **Jesus dies outside the gate, raised and will return again (Mt 28:16-20)**

INTRODUCTION

Moses

- **Moses receives the *Torah* from God & gives the *Torah* to Israel**
- **Moses does not come from royal lineage but is adopted**

Jesus

- **Jesus is the fulfillment and authoritative interpreter of *Torah***
- **He is a descendant of King David**

THE FOUR ALLS

- **All Authority**
- **All Nations**
- **All Things**
- **All Times**

ALL AUTHORITY

- **Jesus has the maximum authority**
 - **There is no greater authority either in heaven or on earth (Dan 7:13-14; Mt 11:27; John 3:35; 13:3; 17:2; Acts 2:36; Ro 14:9; 1 Cor 15:27; Eph 1:10, 20-23; Phi 2:9-11; Col 2:10; Heb 1:2; 2:8; 1 Pet 3:22)**
 - **Jesus is above ALL authorities in the hierarchical spiritual worldview (Eph 6:10-17)**

ALL AUTHORITY

- **Jesus has the maximum authority**
 - **There is a difference between power and authority**
 - **However, Jesus has both**
 - **Jesus has delegated His authority to His people**
 - **The people of God are to be channels of the power of Jesus through signs and wonders and the proclamation of the Good News**

ALL NATIONS

- **Make disciples is the command**
 - **“Go” is a gerund which modifies**
 - **In the original it is in the second person plural (μαθητεύσατε)**
 - **It is the responsibility of the people not just an individual or a specialist**
 - **To “make a disciple” is to literally make a follower of Jesus (model)**
 - **The scope is for all peoples to be trained followers**

ALL NATIONS

- **The phrase all nations (πάντα τὰ ἔθνη) in Matthew**
 - **Believers will be hated by nations (Gentiles)- 24:9**
 - **The price to pay for Christ's cause and sake**
 - **Testimony to the nations-24:14**
 - **Proclamation of the Gospel to ALL**

ALL NATIONS

- **The phrase all nations (πάντα τὰ ἔθνη) in Matthew**
 - **All nations are to be judged- 25:32**
 - **There will be a final judgment and separation of the just and unjust**
 - **All nations are to be disciplined- 28:19**
 - **Being a mature follower of Jesus Christ is for all peoples**

ALL NATIONS

- **Galilee of the Nations**
 - **Matthew stresses Jesus' focus on the nation of Israel during His earthly ministry (10:5, 6) but not limited to Israel**
 - **However, Jesus' ministry fulfills Is. 9:2 which shows that the commission to go to the Gentiles in Matt. 28:19 is not an afterthought; the ultimate goal always included the nations (Ps 67)**

ALL NATIONS

- **Global Community and Globalization**
 - **Imagine that a village of 1,000 represents the world's population**
 - **206 China**
 - **176 India**
 - **79 C. & S. America**
 - **51 North America**
 - **50 Eastern Europe**
 - **45 Western Europe**
 - **33 Indonesia**
 - **24 Pakistan**
 - **22 Bangladesh**
 - **21 Japan**
 - **21 Nigeria**
 - **118 sub-Saharan Africa and other Asian communities (Elmer)**

ALL THINGS

- **Teaching Them All Things**
 - **We are to be disciples in order to make disciples**
 - **The Bible needs to be the source of our information and transformation (Great Commission + Great Commandment)**
 - **The Bible should mold our values and the way we live**

ALL THINGS

- **Teaching Them All Things**
 - **The Four Critical Skills of a Disciple (J. Robert Clinton)**
 - **Daily Devotions**
 - **Bible Interpretation and Application**
 - **Relationship**
 - **Ministry (Acts of service)**
 - **INSTE Certificate Program (Level 1)**

ALL TIMES

- **The Literal Presence of the Resurrected Christ**
 - **We are not orphans**
 - **We are His ambassadors**
 - **We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit**
 - **We have the certainty of His promise**
 - **We should be confident of His presence with us**
 - **Our future is certain in His hands**

THE FOUR ALLS

- **ALL AUTHORITY**
- **ALL NATIONS**
- **ALL THINGS**
- **ALL TIMES**

CONCLUSION

- **The Great Commission has not been fulfilled in its entirety**
- **The people of God are to be and make disciples**
- **Do you know your role in God's commission? Are you a disciple? Are you making disciples?**
- **Let's pray!**

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