

BICM209 INTRODUCTION TO MISSIOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

"Missio Dei" is the idea that God is actively working to reconcile His creation to Himself through Jesus Christ. This course presents an overview of the theology of missions, as well as current trends in missions. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Outline a biblical rationale and the theological imperative for world evangelization.
- Identify and describe some key movements and individuals in the history of the global expansion of the Christian movement including those within one's own denomination.
- Articulate some of the problems and skills involved in the complexities of communicating the gospel cross-culturally, taking into account insights from applied anthropology.
- Give a biblical rationale for development and social change and outline ways the Church is involved at home and abroad.
- List some basic components necessary for local congregations to be involved in the missionary task of the Church.
- Explain the task yet to be accomplished and describe important trends and selected strategies being used in contemporary world mission outreach.

God is described as an eternal King (Ps.10:16). He is also sovereign over all things (Ps.103:19). Being infinite, He is everywhere, at all times, in every place. This means that God is fully in control of the universe, and He always will be. If He were not, He would be less than God.

God rules by the principle of delegated authority. He organized, in the eons past, a hierarchy of angels, giving different levels of authority to carry on His purposes and plan. There was a supreme lieutenant set in place to rule under God. He was beautiful and filled with wisdom and power (Ezk.28:12-17). Lucifer was his name, and he had a throne given to him, from which he was to rule (Is.14:12-14). This harmonious arrangement carried on for whatever time frame, until a crucial test came. Lucifer and all the angels had freedom of choice in their submission to God, just as man does today. However, because Lucifer got his eyes on himself, and being aware of his splendor and greatness, he rebelled, became independent by his own decision, and decided he would be like the *"Most High."* Wrong! Isaiah tells us about it, quoting Lucifer as saying, *"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds: I will make myself like the Most High"* (Is.14:14). Lucifer did not make this choice alone, for one third (1/3rd) of the angels also chose to follow him in this rebellion (Re.12:4-7). There is a great allurements in leadership, as we have seen in some who have led men to destruction, taking them down paths of untruth until they were finally destroyed with it. Followed by this crowd of rebels Lucifer, now Satan (meaning adversary), sets up his counterfeit kingdom. Since God is sovereign, He could have simply wiped out the whole group, or He could have placed

them in “lock-up” for eternity. God is going to do this, but He is using these rebels today to accomplish another purpose. God will not be put into a box by man or angels. So, in His sovereignty, He is causing the rebellion to serve His purpose, and bringing praise unto Himself, through the rebels. The fact of a rebellion does not change the fact of who is ruling. All of God’s enemies serve Him (Ps.76:10).

We should observe the fact that God did allow the formation of this kingdom of darkness. It was formed through voluntary forces led by Satan. It is the opposite of God’s Kingdom of Light. Thus, all moral creatures have the right to exercise their freedom of choice, having options as to whom they will serve. Satan’s goal is to counterfeit the works of God, and to be praised for it. In this he intends to receive the praise of men, and the more he imitates God’s plan, the more this draws men away from God. We can see that from the first he intended to take over the universe, as stated in Isaiah.

The story of God accomplishing His mission is the plot of the Bible. Every individual who desires to be obedient to God must believe that the Bible is God's infallible Word. If we lose our confidence in the authority of the Bible, we lose our zeal for the evangelization of the world. So, without the Bible, world missions are impossible. If we miss the missionary message of the Bible, us and God together, we will miss the greatest calling of all time. Our marching orders for world ministry are the entire Bible.

Learn more by purchasing the entire course that covers the following topics:

- Lesson 1: Introduction (God Is A Missionary God)
- Lesson 2: Mission - A Bible Enterprise
- Lesson 3: World Evangelization Mandated
- Lesson 4: Missions - The Basis For The Bible
- Lesson 5: Misinterpreted Call - Prophet’s Warnings
- Lesson 6: New Testament Proofs
- Lesson 7: Four Great Commissions
- Lesson 8: The Great Commission
- Lesson 9: Plans Submitted, Plans Rejected
- Lesson 10: He Constantly Put Forth His Future Program
- Lesson 11: Missionary Journeys Of Paul
- Lesson 12: Introduction (Missionary History)
- Lesson 13: Tent-Making
- Lesson 14: Literacy Evangelism
- Lesson 15: Urban Missions (Local Missions)
- Lesson 16: Prayer/Miracles In World Evangelism
- Lesson 17: International Student Ministry
- Lesson 18: Epidemics, Famines, And Ravages Of War
- Lesson 19: Local Church & Mission Agencies