

THE SUPREMACY OF GOD IN MISSIONS: Part 2¹
(Romans 11:36)

- I. The PRINCIPLE of God-Centered Missions (2 Cor. 4:15)
 - A. In Paul's ministry, "all things are for YOUR sakes"
 - B. The ULTIMATE purpose is "to the GLORY of GOD"
- II. The PROOF of God-Centered Missions
 - A. Our RESPONSE to the Gospel ACKNOWLEDGES God's glory (2 Cor. 1:20; cf. John 5:23-24; Rom. 4:19-21; Heb. 11:6)
 - B. The Spirit's WORK through the Gospel DISPLAYS God's glory (2 Cor. 3:7-11)
 - C. The believer's TRANSFORMATION by the Gospel REFLECTS God's glory (2 Cor. 3:18; cf. Gen. 1:26-27; 9:6; Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:24; James 3:9; 1 John 3:2)
 - D. The central MESSAGE of the Gospel IS God's glory (2 Cor. 4:4-6)
 - E. The believer's HOPE in the Gospel is FUTURE glory (2 Cor. 4:17-18)
- III. The PRACTICAL Implications of God-Centered Missions
 - A. Missions PRIORITY—We must not pursue FRUITFULNESS at the expense of FAITHFULNESS
 1. When "success" is measured by RESPONSES, we are prone to focus on MAN to get "RESULTS" (2 Cor. 2:17)
 2. If we want to be genuinely FRUITFUL, must be FAITHFUL to the WORD (2 Cor. 4:2)
 - a. We must not DISTORT it to please the AUDIENCE

¹ Adapted from Dave Doran, *For the Sake of His Name*, (Allen Park, MI: Student Global Impact, 2002) pp. 49-67.

- b. We must not FORSAKE it when it doesn't seem to WORK
- B. Missions PROMOTION—must not emphasize MAN'S NEEDS at the expense of GOD'S GLORY (Acts 14:15; 17:16; Rom. 15:16; 2 Cor. 11:2; 1 Thess. 1:9; 2:19)
 - 1. Pursuing man's perceived needs is at the heart of man's FLIGHT from GOD
 - 2. Presenting God as a Divine NEED-MEETER is to appeal to man's LUSTS
 - 3. The driving force of redemption is to MAGNIFY God's GRACE (Eph. 2:1, 7)
- C. Missions PRACTICE (2 Cor. 2:16)
 - 1. What we do must not be controlled by TRADITION
 - 2. What we do must not be dictated by TRENDS
 - 3. What we do must be governed by GOD'S WORD
- D. Missions POWER—must not depend on MEN but on GOD (2 Cor. 3:7-11)
 - 1. God's work does not depend upon our PLANS, PROGRAMS, and PREPARATION
 - 2. God wants missionaries who will allow the SPIRIT to work THROUGH them