

## ARISE, WALK THROUGH THE LAND

By Joshua Phoong

When Abraham separated from Lot and chose to dwell in the Land of Canaan, the Lord said to Abraham "... for all the land you can see, I give it to you ...". Our Lord God went on to instruct Abraham to "Arise, walk the land through its length & its width, for I give it to you" (Gen 13:17). From this, we can all learn that when our Lord God bequest the Land of Canaan for Abraham's charge, Our God did not want Abraham to merely inherit the land in a passive manner and in vain, but the Lord wanted Abraham to not only inherit the Land but to be actively engaged in the affairs of the Land, to know of the Land, to learn of it and to arise to walk through the Land (every bit of it) through its length and its width. Let us put this in the context of today and the Land which the Lord is entrusting and giving to us. What is it then that Lord wants us to inherit?

Consider this that the Lord Jesus has in like fashion instructed us to "go into ALL the world" (Mk 16:15). Our Lord Jesus has entrusted us with this divine commission and task that before the end of the world and righteous judgment of our Lord, the gospel of the kingdom of Heaven will be preached into all of the world (Matt 24:14). This commission and inheritance is bestowed to all of us who are to inherit the kingdom of God. It is we, the true believers, who must carry this glad tidings forward and with us, bring forth the banner of the gospel of Christ into all nations. Putting this into perspective, we can already see from the sign of the times that the end times are indeed near, the kingdom of God is at hand and the second coming of our Lord Jesus is not far off. Even so, with the days coming to the close and end in sight, how much of this Land that the Lord has commissioned under us have we actually walked through.

When our Lord Jesus was on earth, He has shown us the way, the method and the path which lies ahead of us. Our Lord Jesus has said that, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work." As such, when Jesus was still on earth, He lived for the sole purpose of carrying out the will of the Heavenly Father & to accomplish the work that was entrusted to Him. Jesus, also showed us the urgency and priority which He placed to bring forth the gospel of salvation into the places where it was most needed, and did not procrastinate or linger aimlessly in accomplishing this task. Once there was a large crowd who wanted to keep Jesus from leaving but our Lord Jesus told them "I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent" (Lk 4:42-43). Jesus, having the divine work of the Heavenly Father in His mind, continued to move from place to place to bring forth and spread the gospel of salvation to those in need of it. Likewise, apostle Paul, clearly understood and fulfilled the calling of God and declared boldly that it was his aim and ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not yet known (Rom 15:20).

Putting all of this into the context of today and what is required of us all who have inherited this divine commission and the wide expanse of this Land, where we must go into ALL of this world, it is clear for us all that we must delay no further, that we must all don the mantle of

Christ and follow in his example and the sandals of Abraham and walk in such footsteps and to take on a diligent and proactive approach in the work of evangelism, and not just a passive and leisurely attitude, one which lacks urgency and priority, a wait and see, and wait for others to do concept. Let us all awaken from this slumber for the world has been given to us as our inheritance. Our at Lord God has willed that the doors of evangelism be opened far and wide for all, and we must all participate in this to gain our inheritance but we must work hard to ensure that the doors to salvation remain open wide and not shut.

Whilst many of us who are chosen by the Lord have the knowledge and the ability to quote this divine commission of our Lord Jesus and some even knowing that it is our inheritance, how many can be like our Lord Jesus Christ who has spoken of it as daily food and sustenance, to bring forth this food of spiritual life and to make it our life's work and calling? We have over 200 countries in this world but yet our gospel has only reached to about 55 nations, and of that total, there are some of those countries where the gospel is preached only to a handful of members in one location. Can we then say that the doors of evangelism have been opened for all, far and wide, are we not then just receiving this inheritance of the Lord in vain, just like the foolish servant who hid his talent and not making use of what was given to him to earn for the Master?

The will of our Lord God concerning the spreading of the glad tidings and the gospel of salvation is clear to us all. It needs no more invitation, study or request. It is for us now to plan to arise to walk through the Lands which we have inherited to bring the gospel to the people of the world who are in sore need it. Rom 10:14-15 is an encouragement to us all and tells us how beautiful indeed are the feet of those who bring the good tidings. Have we now donned our sandals in preparation and anticipation to arise and walk these lands with our beautiful feet?