

Knowing God to Make Him Known September 15th, 2013

Luke 8:1-3

Jesus set the example for His disciples to follow

- ❖ Proclaim the good news of the kingdom!

*“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’”
John 20:21*

📖 John 17:3-4, 13-21

Jesus entrusted the ongoing work of the Kingdom of God to a few chosen followers

- ❖ Jesus sent them out ...

“Go your way; behold I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.” Luke 10:3

“And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.” Mark 16:20

Are we fulfilling God’s purpose for our lives?

- ❖ Pastor David Platt, author of the book *Radical*¹, doesn’t think so.

John Hus

- ❖ John Hus (1369-1415) was a professor of Philosophy at the University of Prague. “He served as rector of the university in 1402–03. He was appointed a preacher at the newly built Bethlehem chapel around the same time.”²
- ❖ John Hus was considered a heretic by the Roman Catholic clergy for his teaching.
 - ♦ He taught that God is Sovereign and His Word is the final authority, not the church.
 - ♦ He believed that laity should have the Bible in their language.
 - ↳ His opponents stated “The jewel of the clergy in now the toy of the laity.”
 - ♦ He taught that all those who believed and followed Jesus Christ were the true body of Christ.
 - ♦ He taught that the Scriptures should be applied and lived out in all areas of life.
 - ♦ He spoke against the corruption and indulgences of the Clergy at that time.
- ❖ John Hus was influenced by John Wycliffe who had died when Hus was about 15 years of age. Wycliffe was considered a trouble maker by the Roman Catholic church. He translated the first English version of the Bible for laity and called Christians to live by the Biblical standards.
- ❖ John Hus was martyred and burned at the stake because of his proclamation to the gospel of the Kingdom! “Lord Jesus, it is for thee that I patiently endure this cruel death. I pray thee to have mercy on my enemies.”³ The writings of John Wycliffe were used as “fire starter” for John Hus’ execution.

“The last words of John Hus were that, ‘in 100 years, God will raise up a man whose calls for reform cannot be suppressed.’ Almost exactly 100 years later, in 1517, Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses of Contention (a list of 95 issues of heretical theology and crimes of the Roman Catholic Church) into the church door at Wittenberg. The prophecy of Hus had come true!”⁴

What does our Christianity cost us in America?

The Moravians

The Moravians were followers of the teachings of Hus, and organized the church east of Prague in 1457. In 1722, the Moravians had to flee persecution and found refuge in the estate of Count Nicholas Ludvig von Zinsendorf's in Saxony, which is present day Germany. Many more came and the town of Herrnhut was founded. Zinsendorf pastored the church and revival began! 24 hour prayer continued for 100 years in Herrnhut and the Moravians sent their first Christian missionaries around the world! Today the YWAM base in Herrnhut continues to train and send missionaries world-wide!

“But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.”
Acts 20:24

Endnotes:

¹ Platt, David. *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*. 1st ed. Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah Books, 2010. Print.

² "Jan Hus." *Wikipedia*. 10 Sep 2013. <[http:// http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_Hus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_Hus)>. Web.

³ "John Huss." *Christian History*. Christianity Today, 08 Aug 2008. Web. <<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ch/131christians/martyrs/huss.html>>.

⁴ Jeffcoat III, John L. "English Bible History." *WWW.GREATSITE.COM*. Greatsite Marketing, 2012. Web. <<http://www.greatsite.com/timeline-english-bible-history/index.html>>.

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