

New-Testament Era

It was on the Pentecost when God poured out His Spirit, that the gospel began to penetrate the hardened hearts, the close-minds, the selfishness, the self-limitation, the conceitedness, the prejudice and the unbelief of that day. Through the death and resurrection of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and the coming of the Holy Spirit, God has chosen for Himself a new person which is the Church.

In this manner, God revealed His never-changed desire to the Church to accomplish the unfinished task—global missions. As He commissioned Abraham that *“all people on earth will be blessed through you,”* (Gen. 12:3) He has commissioned the Church today to: *“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.”* (Mark 16:15) The wordings may be not exactly the same, the intention and purpose are. What the Israelites did not accomplish, God wants the Church to accomplish. The Israelites failed, because they wanted only “receive” blessings, not to “pass on”; only to "possess", not to "share". As a result, God's judgement came upon them, *“Therefore I tell you that the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruits.”* (Matt. 21:43)