

Incomplete or Incorrect Ideas about Christianity

- What are some **incomplete** or **incorrect** ideas about Christianity that are common today?
- Why does it matter?
- What can be done?

Now what? Matthew 28:11-20

Brown (English) Bible: Page 1000
White (Spanish) Bible: Page 1262
Red (Chinese) Bible: Page 1615

The Setting for Matthew

- Bringing the Gospel to Jewish people

Matthew 10:5-6

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.”

Matthew 10:5-6

The Setting for Matthew

- Bringing the Gospel to Jewish people *Matthew 10:5-6*
 - Jesus is the promised Messiah (God’s chosen savior)
 - Gentiles too...
- Matthew 27-28
 - Jesus was condemned, crucified, and buried
 - Guards: prevent stealing the body *Matthew 27:62-66*

“Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb **as secure as you know how.**”

So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

Matthew 27:65-66

The Setting for Matthew

- Bringing the Gospel to Jewish people *Matthew 10:5-6*
 - Jesus is the promised Messiah (God's chosen savior)
 - Gentiles too...
- Matthew 27-28
 - Jesus was condemned, crucified, and buried
 - Guards: prevent stealing the body *Matthew 27:62-66*
 - Women see empty tomb, then they see Jesus, then they go to tell disciples

Matthew 28:11-20

11-15: False report: well-financed, high power
Silence leads people away from Christ

16-17:

18-20:

Matthew 14

Jesus walked on water of the Sea of Galilee

Peter asked to do it too, so Jesus invited him out of the boat

Peter walked on the water too!

“But when **he saw the wind**, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. ‘You of little faith,’ he said, ‘why did you **doubt?**’”

- Doubt → waver, hesitate
 - Looking at the trouble rather than Christ

Matthew 28:11-20

11-15: False report: well-financed, high power

Silence leads people away from Christ

16-17: Disciples worship and waver

***The church (God’s people)
was and is imperfect***

18-20:

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. **He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him.** His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. *Daniel 7:13-14*

Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be **handed over to the holy people of the Most High.** His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.’ *Daniel 7:27*

Matthew 28:11-20

11-15: False report: well-financed, high power
Silence leads people away from Christ

16-17: Disciples worship and waver
The church (God’s people) was and is imperfect

18-20: Jesus: **All** authority and **always** present
Mission: **All** inclusive discipleship of **all** people
God’s ancient plan can now be enacted

- Formation of the people of Israel:
 “I will make you into a great nation,
 and I will bless you;
 I will make your name great,
 and you will be a **blessing**.
 I will bless those who bless you,
 and whoever curses you I will curse;
 and **all peoples on earth**
 will be **blessed** through you.”

Genesis 12:3

The Big Idea

Jesus Christ’s universal authority
 demands and empowers
 God’s imperfect people
 to make disciples
 of all peoples

TEACH → HEAD+
 BAPTIZE → HEART
 OBEY → HANDS

**CHRISTIAN: ONE WHO
 IS “IN” CHRIST (BELIEF + WORSHIP)
 BECOMING LIKE CHRIST (TRANSFORMATION)
 BY THE WORK OF CHRIST (HOLY SPIRIT)**

Implications

- Church's mission: make disciples of Jesus Christ
 - Here and everywhere, our church and the global church
 - Life transformation: Head, Heart, and Hands
 - Creativity and Contextualization
 - **Silence leads people away from Christ!**

Implications

- Church's mission: make disciples of Jesus Christ
- Width (all people) and depth (life transformation)
 - If we don't feel the tension, we probably aren't handling it well

Implications

- Church's mission: make disciples of Jesus Christ
- Width (all people) and depth (life transformation)
- Church exists for its members **and** for its not-yet-members
 - Internal ministry: discipling for discipleship in diversity
 - External ministry: discipling for discipleship in diversity
 - Local & far away

Implications

- Church's mission: make disciples of Jesus Christ
- Width (all people) and depth (life transformation)
- Church exists for its members **and** for its not-yet-members
- Individual mission
 - **Each and every person** contributes to **our** mission
 - What parts of a human body are needed to communicate verbally?
 - Help each other see how we can each contribute to our mission
 - Pray. Encourage. Give. Invite. Support. Speak. Serve. ...
 - Examples: Crossway Dialogue, invite to church, coffee conversation, offer to pray, ...
 - We are imperfect, yet God is with us

The Big Idea

Jesus Christ's universal authority
demands and empowers
God's imperfect people
to make disciples
of all peoples