

The Great Omission

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake from Internet sources)

Introduction:

- A. What do you think is the most disobeyed verse in the entire Bible?
 - 1. Assemble? Give? Don't lie? Don't covet?
 - 2. Matt. 28:18-20
 - 3. Matthew 28 is often called the "Great Commission," but could be more accurately called the "Great Omission?"
- B. What do you think is the most obeyed verse in the entire Bible?
 - 1. Judge not? Have no fellowship with denominations? Love Jesus?
 - 2. Luke 9:20-21

I. THE RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Matt. 28:19-20, 7:12; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:44-47; John 20:21; 2Tim. 2:2

II. THE EXCUSES

- A. Fear - Rev. 21:8
 - 1. Well, that does a lot of good; threaten someone who is afraid with fear of punishment
 - 2. Why not trade fear for another emotion, like anger? Be angry with the Adversary for making a fool out of you
 - 3. Don't want to stay angry? Trade anger for determination
 - 4. Maybe a more helpful approach would be to point out, as did Jesus, that fear robs us of productivity and good experiences - Matt. 25:25
- B. Lack of knowledge - Heb. 5:12
 - 1. Another thief! Robbing you of enrichment, a higher capacity to discern and enjoy spiritual matters, and the opportunity to be involved in saving others
- C. People don't want to know the truth - John 8:31-34
 - 1. Are there people who don't want to know the truth? Yes, but is that a reason to quit looking?
 - 2. Are you going to believe Jesus or your limited personal experiences?
 - a. John 4:35
- D. Evangelism isn't my talent
 - 1. Really?! Can you fill a water glass at the kitchen faucet? - Mark 9:41
 - 2. Do something; find someone who does it and get involved
- E. I've had bad experiences in the past - Heb. 12:4
 - 1. I've had bad experiences with most activities of life, and so have you. Does that keep you from trying again?
 - 2. Ever had a bad vacation? Bad ice cream cone? Bad phone call?
 - 3. What do you do if you have a bad experience in personal work?
 - a. Matt. 10:12-15

III. THE REASON

- A. To fulfill our responsibility - Jer. 20:7-11; 2Kings 7:8-9

- B. To be grateful for what Christ has done for us - 2Cor. 5:14-15, 21
- C. To rejoice in what Christ is doing for us - John 14:1-3
- D. To anticipate what Christ will do for us - John 12:26

Conclusion:

1. This is not a social club but an emergency rescue center
2. A local church can provide worship services seven days a week, and its members can attend all of the services, but if they are not active in the work of saving the lost, it has not completed its work
3. The Great Commission will be known for those members on Judgment Day as the Great Omission.