

Which scriptures in the Old Testament explain why evangelism and discipleship is a command from scriptures?

The gospel was a mystery (Eph 3:5) preached by the apostle Paul (6:19). It had been concealed in the Old Testament (3:5a) but was revealed in the New Testament (3:5b). The nature of the gospel is that both Jews and gentiles have been brought into God's kingdom (3:6).

Men have always been saved the same way—by grace through faith (2:8-9). They looked forward to or back from the cross in faith.¹

God had prepared a people for the coming Messiah (Ac 13:14–23); but, unbelieving Jews (13:44–46, 50–52) rejected their Messiah (13:14–23); so, God rejected them (13:46). It was foretold (Is 49:6) that the gentiles would believe (13:47–49). Many did believe and accepted Jesus (13:48–49).

The commission to preach the gospel was given: by Christ to mankind (John 3:16–18), from Israel [through the apostle Paul]² to the gentiles (Acts 13:45–47)—It is now a special assignment for the church to preach to the world (Matt. 28:19, 20). Men must be: faithful (2 Tim. 4:1–8), diligent (Rom. 15:15–32) and willingness to do this (1 Sam. 3:9, 10).

Paul wrote:

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall

¹ The examples of faith (Heb 11:4–5, 7–40). Who they were (11:4a, 5a, 7a, 8a–11a, 12, 17–18, 20a, 21a, 22a, 23a, 24, 27a, 28a, 31a, 32): Sixteen people of faith are named [in Hebrews], and many others are referred to as well. Abel (11:4a), Enoch (11:5a), Noah (11:7a), Abraham (11:8a, 9, 12, 17–18), Sarah (11:11a), Isaac (11:20a), Jacob (11:21a), Joseph (11:22a), Moses' parents (11:23a), Moses (11:24, 27a, 28a), The people of Israel (11:29a, 30a), Rahab (11:31a), Gideon (11:32a), Barak (11:32b), Samson (11:32c), Jephthah (11:32d), David (11:32e), Samuel (11:32f), All the prophets (11:32g). What they did (11:4b, 5b, 7b, 8b, 11b, 19, 20b, 21b, 22b, 23b, 25, 27b, 28b–30, 31b, 33–35a). Abel gave the Lord an acceptable offering (11:4b), Enoch left the earth without dying (11:5b), Noah survived the great Flood (11:7b), Abraham inherited a land (11:8b), Sarah bore a son through a barren womb and began a nation (11:11b), Abraham believed that God could raise the dead (11:19), Isaac and Jacob both predicted the future (11:20b, 21b), Joseph anticipated the Exodus long before it happened (11:22b), Moses' parents defied the king of Egypt (11:23b), Moses forsook the pleasures of sin (11:25), Moses left the land of Egypt and was not afraid of the king (11:27b), The people of Israel kept the Passover (11:28b), The people of Israel crossed the Red Sea (11:29), The people of Israel shouted down a city (11:30), Rahab protected some Hebrew spies (11:31b), The prophets and judges subdued kingdoms, shut the mouths of lions, quenched flames, escaped the sword, exchanged weakness for strength, put enemy armies to flight, and a few even raised the dead (11:33–35a). Willmington, H. L. (1999). *The Outline Bible* (Heb 11:6–35). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

² The apostle Paul gets the privilege of revealing what in other ages was not known (Eph 3:4-6). The secret is not that gentiles would be saved (Isaiah is full of that). The secret is the mysterious entity called the church. We are fellow heirs—the same body. Similarly, Jesus' parables mixed old and new secrets together. It is possible that Paul's epistles fit the seven churches of Revelation [Ephesus: The Sower and the 4 Soils (devotion, not just doctrine); Smyrna: The Tares and the Wheat (endure persecution); Pergamos: The Mustard Seed (stand fast against the world); Thyatira: The Woman & the Leaven (abandon pagan practices); Sardis: The Treasure in the Field (watchfulness, diligence); Philadelphia: The Pearl of Great Price (missionary outreach); Laodicea: The Dragnet (prosperous compromise)]. Missler, Chuck. *Revelation Series: Sessions 1 – 24*: <https://www.youtube.com/channel>

they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, *How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!* Ro 10:14–15

Noah preached righteousness (2 Pet. 2:5) and 8 people were saved (Ge 7:23). The author of Ecclesiastes preached (Eccl. 1:1, 2)—and then came Paul (1 Tim. 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11). Whereas Jews don't proselytize, Christians do. They preach as ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:18–20): to all nations (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15), from house to house (Acts 5:42), always (1 Pet. 3:15). They will be kings and priests in the millennium (Re 5:10)—a title reserved only for Melchizedek (Ge 14:18) and the Lord himself (1 Tim. 6:15, Heb. 4:14).

Jews were called to righteousness to be a light to all nations (Is 42:6) and they will be (49:6)—God is not finished with the nation Israel (Ro: 11:11a, 26–36).

The church of Philadelphia; a bible-believing, evangelical church, is praised by the Lord in the Book of Revelation (Re 3:7-13).