

Lecture 13- Mission Strategies & Technology (23, cont.); Unreached People (24)

The modern mission project has been a special locus of the larger confrontation among modernity, the Christian faith, and world cultures.

-Shenk, p.154

Unreached peoples (is) a term now synonymous with two others—hidden peoples and frontier peoples.... An unreached people group should be defined as a people group within which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians able to evangelize this people group without outside (cross-cultural) assistance.

- Ralph Winter in Harvie Conn, ed., p.44

Key Terms

Enlightenment; deism; pietism; Great Awakening; culture & church theology; western; “strategy;” technology; financial support; unreached; hidden; frontier; comity agreement

Lecture Objectives

- Outline and describe the dynamic relationship among modernity, Christian faith, and world cultures
- Identify key issues in the areas of strategy, technology, and finances that face the modern missions project
- Identify initial Biblical and pastoral approaches to these issues
- Define the term “unreached”
- Evaluate the term and its use in light of Scripture and course themes
- Identify key principles with regard to “reaching the unreached” and applications of these principles to your own service and the ministry of the local church

Mission Strategies & Technology (cont.)

Continued from Lecture 12

I. Western (U.S.) Missions

II. Strategies & Technology

A. Overview- Shenk, 103-114; Bonk, 70-76

B. MTW, etc.

C. Local church involvement(s) – MTW, etc.

III. Money; Technology

A. Bonk, 111ff.

B. Missionary financial support

1. Cooperative program / “central pot,” raised by missionary, faith mission, tent-making

2. Send money or missionaries?

a. www.missionfrontiers.org/1999/08/dirset.html

b. www.missionlink.org/

Unreached People

The following quotes are taken from:

Winter, Ralph D. “Unreached Peoples: The Development of the Concept” & “Unreached Peoples: What Are They and Where Are They?” Harvie M. Conn, ed. *Reaching The Unreached: The Old-New Challenge*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, 1984, pp.17-60.

“Unreached peoples (is) a term now synonymous with two others—hidden peoples and frontier peoples.... An unreached people group should be defined as a people group within which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians able to evangelize this people group without outside (cross-cultural) assistance.” (44)

“I think we are living in the third and final era of mission history.” (56)

“The most famous of all missionary slogans—‘the evangelization of the world in this generation’—was surely a closure theology. What I do not see in their (Student Volunteer Movement) literature specifically is the wedding of the people concept as a missionary target with a restatement of their closure goals as basically a reaching of unreached peoples. I have been slow to do so myself.

“They did, however, faithfully parcel out the necessary remaining task as they saw it. Comity agreements were intended to encourage some attention to every part of the world. They...boldly conceived of a ‘Distributed Responsibility’.” (40, note 4)

“We are gratified that the ultimate unity of mind and heart in all these discussions is the attempt to hasten the completion of the task. In that we must not grow weary. In due time we shall reap if we faint not. Providentially, the ‘we’ here includes a vast, unprecedented world family of believers whose final citizenship is in heaven, whether or not that heaven preserves the magnificent diversity of the world’s peoples—a diversity still irritating so often to our fellow Americans unless they too can come to see these cultural barriers as potential bridges.” (40)

2000/08/04 -BRIGADA TODAY

THE FINAL FRONTIER: ASSIGNED

Lately, we’ve been highlighting the needs of the “final frontier”...those last 250-some groups from the Joshua Project 2000 list which had remained untargeted by churches and agencies throughout the world. Fortunately, the list has just been trimmed significantly. To zero, in fact. :-) Yesssssssssssss! In a meeting this past week by the Strategic Task Force, representatives of various agencies stepped forward and, one by one, signed up for the final 253 groups on the JP2000 list. (Thanks to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, Campus Crusade/Jesus Film Project and Youth With A Mission (YWAM) for taking responsibility for the final 100!) Now... to clarify... this doesn’t mean the job is done, you understand. But we can finally say that now there is some agency or church, somewhere in the world, which has taken ultimate responsibility for launching a church-planting movement in every known remaining desperately unreached people group in the world (consisting of at least 10,000 people with a percentage of evangelicals lower than 2%). God be praised! (Thanks to Rick Wood for reporting in the online version of Mission Frontiers about this exciting development.)

See <http://www.strategicnetwork.org/> for more information.