

Principles of Evangelism
EM324/524

Week 3: Terms, Tensions, + Theological Foundations

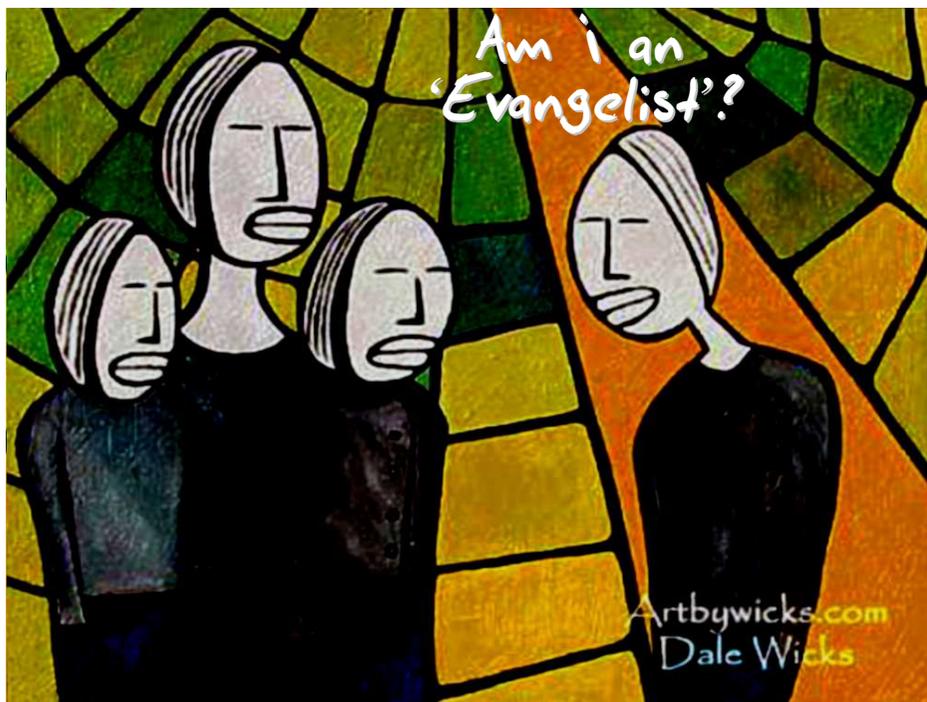


Lecture overview

Am I an 'Evangelist' & Other Tensions

Testimony/Tips/Prayer/Challenge
+ Readings Debrief

Theological Foundations



Am I an 'Evangelist'?

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images of Evangelists

How can I be an evangelist, when an evangelist is like ...



I've got a message!

Evangelism vs. Evangelist

- 🔊 What experiences have shaped this identification?
- 🔊 How is this image *like* and *unlike* you?
- 🔊 Are you an 'evangelist' ... why/not?
- 🔊 Is *evangelism* the task of all Christians, or a select few? Justify your answer biblically.

Evangelism vs. Evangelist

- 🔊 Consider Acts 21:7-9, Ephesians 4:4-13, 2 Timothy 4:1-6. What do we learn about *proclaiming* (κηρύσσω, kēryssō) and the *evangelist* (εὐαγγελιστής euaggelistēs)?
- 🔊 If evangelism is *every Christian's calling*, then what of the particular use of "*evangelist*" among the spiritual gifts?

Evangelism vs. Evangelist

- 🔊 In light of the whole Biblical story (designed for good, damaged by evil, restored for better, sent together to heal, and God sets everything right), what is the *function* of the evangelist ... think of their action in the present as a bridge between past and future.
- 🔊 Are there any *distinctives* that set an evangelist apart, in *character* or *skills*?
- 🔊 How do you *recognize* if you, or another, is an evangelist? And how does one effectively *build up all members* of the church for the *shared task of evangelism*?

images of Evangelists



- 🔊 How do you *connect/resonate* with each, and what's the key point of *difference*?
 - 🔊 Where are they both *right*?
 - 🔊 Where are they both *wrong*?
- 🔊 If you were born *mute* (!), how could you still "*call*" people to respond to the gospel?

images of Evangelists



— "You're running but you *gotta* die anyway— you should rather save your soul, worship Jesus and pray the Lord"
(From <http://www.loupiote.com/photos/4614912054.shtml>, taken by Tristan Savatier)

👉 Re-imagine a *new image* for an "evangelist". Draw this image on the front board, and describe it to the group. That is, how can we move beyond both caricatures to more *faithful practice* as evangelists concerned with evangelism.

images of Evangelists



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Terms + Tensions



Terms + Tensions

☀️ In pairs, choose one set of terms below, find a key verse supporting each, discuss any tensions involved, and then compose a 30 second statement of how they properly relate in the evangelistic task ...

- ♦️ good words + good deeds
- ♦️ contextualization + 'Gospel' message
- ♦️ divine sovereignty + human response in faith
- ♦️ discipleship + being 'saved'
- ♦️ Pre-evangelistic apologetics + pronouncing the gospel
- ♦️ baptism + conversion
- ♦️ repentance + salvation
- ♦️ 'Power Evangelism' + 'Social Justice'
- ♦️ Jesus' 'Gospel' + Paul's 'Gospel'
- ♦️ the centre of the Gospel + the story of the Gospel
- ♦️ announcing God's reign + denouncing false kingdoms
- ♦️ individual justification + corporate identity as the church body

Divine Election vs. Free Will?

Calvinism vs. Arminianism

👉 What is each position, and why does it matter?

👉 What are the main strengths biblically/practically of each camp?

Properly relating God's Universal desire to bless (Gen. 12:1-3; Gal. 3:8) with His Electing of a Particular People. ... A **third way**:

Chosen to Bless

Divine Election vs. Free Will?

Summary from Christopher Wright, *The Mission of God*, chapter 7:

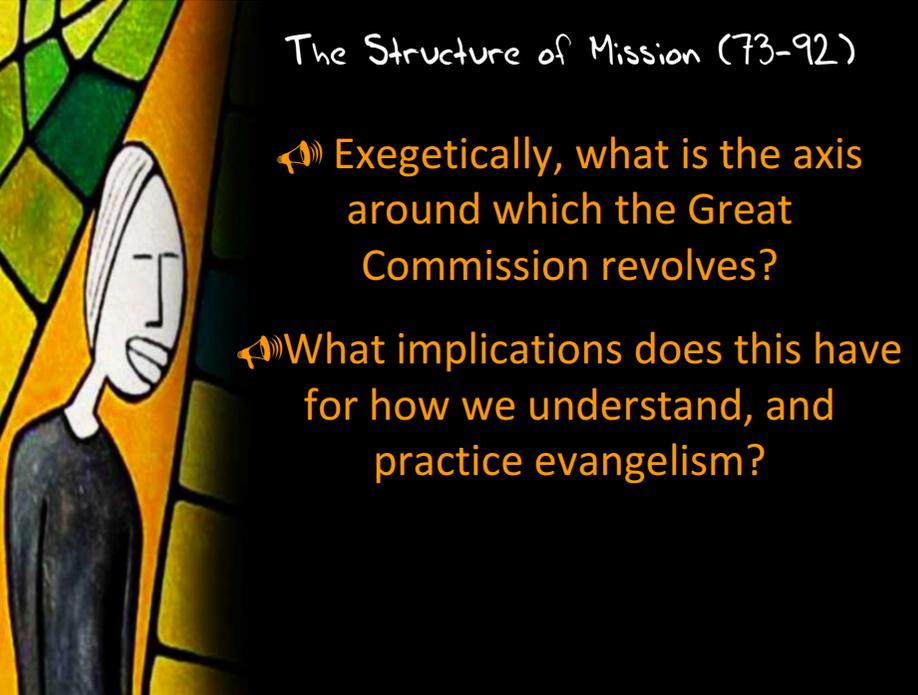
Biblical Election and Mission: **The election of Israel ...**

- ◆ ... is set in the context of God's universality
- ◆ ... does not imply the rejection of other nations
- ◆ ... is not warranted by any special feature of Israel itself
- ◆ ... is founded only on God's inexplicable love
 - ◆ ... is instrumental, not an end in itself
- ◆ ... is part of the logic of God's commitment to history
 - ◆ ... is fundamentally **missional**, not just **soteriological**

Testimony/Tips/
Prayer /Challenge

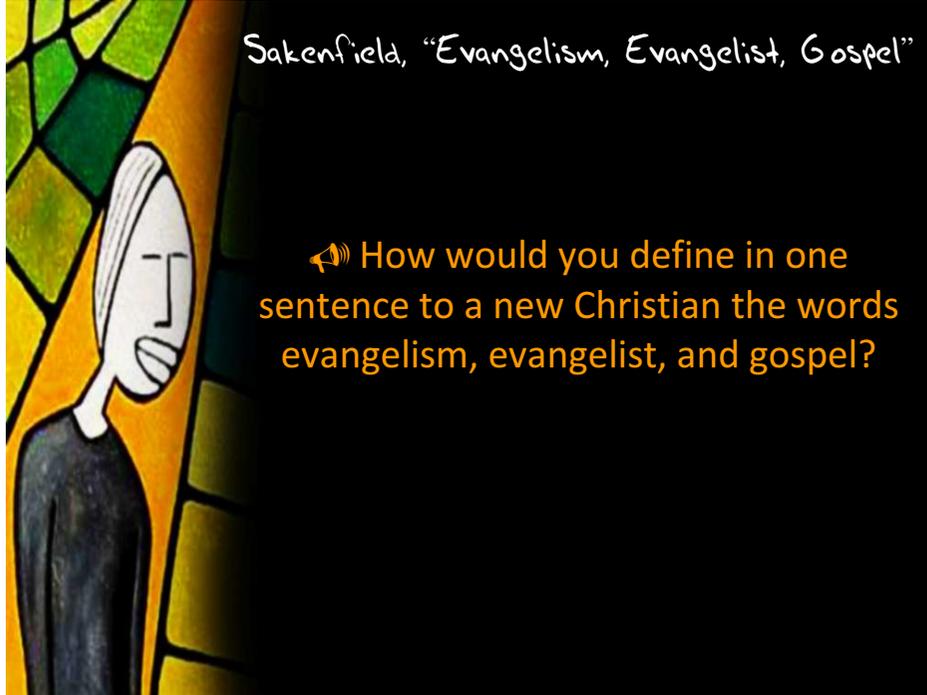
Discussion of Readings

- question**—something you don't get, or want to clarify
- challenge**—something you disagree with, or want to nuance
- implication**—"so what" for your evangelistic approach
- application**—something useful right now in your context



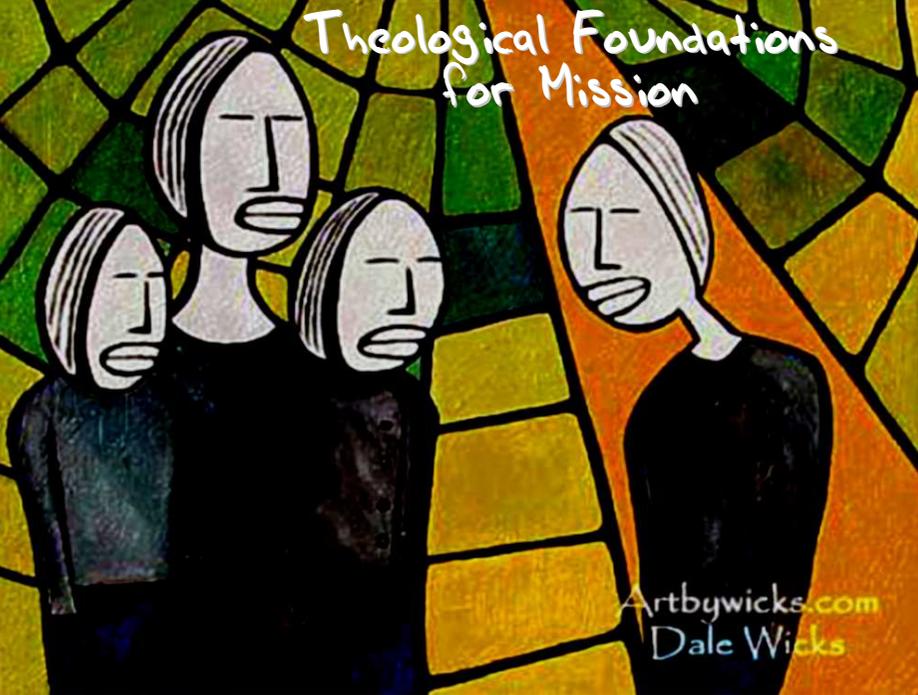
The Structure of Mission (73-92)

- 🔊 Exegetically, what is the axis around which the Great Commission revolves?
- 🔊 What implications does this have for how we understand, and practice evangelism?



Sakenfield, "Evangelism, Evangelist, Gospel"

- 🔊 How would you define in one sentence to a new Christian the words evangelism, evangelist, and gospel?



Theological Foundations for Mission

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What's Your Foundation?

☀️ *Motivation + Mode + Message + Medium* Record your **thoughts** for each section in your notes, then spend time considering the **implications** and **practical applications** of such a theology.

- (1) How does this theology challenge some of our **present practices** of evangelism?
- (2) How might our **churches and outreach look** if we really **lived from and applied this foundation**?

MOTIVATION

- ◆ Trinitarian Perichoresis and the Mission of God (Missio Dei)
- ◆ Elect to Represent the Reign of God
- ◆ Amazed at God's Forgiveness and Grace, Going in Response to God's Love
- ◆ **Implications + Practical Applications?**

MODE

- ◆ Incarnational
- ◆ Sacrificial
- ◆ Holistic
- ◆ Spirit-Empowered
- ◆ **Implications + Practical Applications?**

Remembering Who We Are

*Our Father who is in Heaven,
Holy is Your Name.
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done
On Earth as it is in Heaven
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the Kingdom,
the power, and the glory
For ever and ever,
Amen.*

Reminders for Next Week

- (1) Testimony by _____
- (2) Tips by _____ for _____
- (3) Challenge of _____
- (4) Forum posts for pre-reading