

22:7 86:9 2:14 5:9 7:9

I'm challenged by the numbers above. They pretty much tell the whole story. I've committed them to memory. Much like flying an airplane... they lift me above the daily routine. Let me explain:

I love flying in small airplanes. As a pilot who has not renewed his pilots license, I fly just enough to be dangerous. My present skill level is kind of like the pilot in the picture to the right☺

However, what I love about flying... is the perspective it gives you (contrary to the low level flying of this pilot). At 500 feet you gain new perspective. At 5000 feet life takes on a totally different perspective.

These numbers I listed above are verses that give God's 50,000 foot perspective. They describe God's perspective on life... God's agenda. They give us God's Mission. They let us see the God's agenda from the highest of all levels.



For years I've focused on the mission that God gave us... the mission of imparting our lives to others... making disciples who can make disciples (Matthew 28:19).

But God's mission... is so much higher than our assigned mission. **God's mission is the gathering of a worldwide worshipping church from every tribe, family and nation.** God's mission is what makes our mission significant. God has an awesome mission statement!

From God's perspective, reflect on that mission. Now look at what these numbers tell us....

Psalm 22:27 *All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, all the families of the nations will worship before You.*

Psalm 86:9 *All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name.*

Habakkuk 2:14 *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.*

Revelation 5:9 *And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with your blood *men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation*"*

Revelation 7:9 *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, *from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues*, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands*

As I reflect on these verses several observations come to mind.

#1 The Mission of God is very clear. In the first book of the Bible, God promises Abraham in covenant agreement... “through you *all the nations of the earth will be blessed*”. God has one mission... that people from every nation and people group will one day worship Him and display the magnitude of His majestic glory through that worship.

#2 Every book of the Bible points to how God is fulfilling His mission. God’s agenda becomes the unifying theme of all the scriptures. Once you see it... the scriptures become clear. It is the guiding North Star by which to set our agenda. As we align our lives to God’s mission, by praying... giving... going... we honor Him by acknowledge His greatest agenda.

#3 The End has been revealed. God has allowed us to see and know the last chapter. His mission will be accomplished. Rev 7:9 says... “I looked and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples an tongues, standing before the throne...” God will accomplish His mission.

#4 There is work yet to be done. With 11,227 people groups in the world... and almost 6600 of them considered unreached... much is yet to be accomplished. But God is and will accomplish this agenda... but we must align our efforts with His. His command to us is still... go and make disciples *of all nations!*

#5 It can be accomplished in our lifetime. With the rapid multiplication of the church globally (up to 178,000 new believers every day), with a new commitment to reaching these unreached people groups (over 300 plans globally to fulfill this task), and with new technology and a renewed passion for praying (over 600 prayer ministries each with 1000’s of intercessors praying for the fulfillment of the Great Commission), this task can be accomplished. It is God’s Agenda... He is mobilizing His church to accomplish it... and He has promised it to be a reality one day.

#6 Then the end will come. Matthew 24:14 tells us... “This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, *and then the end shall come.*” I believe this can and will happen in our lifetime!

PRAYER REQUESTS

In just over a week, I will be heading on an extended trip to Manila and then Thailand. I will be on the road over 18 days... with a very demanding schedule. **Please pray for Char and the girls as I am gone.**

In Manilla, I have 11 different leadership groups that want to meet. Almost every morning, afternoon and evening is scheduled. **I feel a deep need for prayer support... so if God lays me on your heart... below is my daily schedule.**

- Jan 20-21 Flight to Manila, Philippines
- Jan 22 Meet with Campus Crusade Leadership Team
- Jan 23 Church staff meeting and ASEO leaders
- Jan 24 Meet with Randolph and his team and dinner meeting with his leaders
- Jan 25 Speak at Alliance Seminary, meet with leadership, teach in classes... evening meeting with Alliance grads
- Jan 26 Meet with Conservative Baptist leaders, speak at Int. School of Theology
- Jan 26- Jan 27 all day... train 1500 leaders at Christ’s Commission church and then meet with leadership team in the evening
- Jan 27 Speak at a church, meet with Board members of Randolph’s new ministry
- Jan 28 Meet with Randolph concerning his new ministry
- Jan 29 Fly to Bangkok and Chiang Mai for ELIC (English Language Institute of China) meetings where I will speak over the next week
- Feb 4 Fly home



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE... SAYINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR



The obituaries in the newspaper prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that people die in alphabetical order.

A lot of people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.

Christmas is weird. What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks?

Do you know what they call the guy who graduates last in his class at med school? "Doctor"

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.

Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.

Have you ever tried to actually wrap any bubbles with bubble wrap?

He who smiles in a crisis has found someone to blame.

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.

If a cluttered desk means a cluttered mind, what does an empty desk mean?

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?

If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

"Old" is when you don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

"Old" is when your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes, and you're barefoot.

Research has determined that the shelf life of fruitcake is longer than the shelf.

Take my advice. I don't use it anyway.

The geek shall inherit the earth.

The trouble with being in the rat race is that even if you win, you're still a rat.

There's always a lot to be thankful for, if you take time to look for it. For example, I am sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

When all is said and done, more is said than done.



Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to:
Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317

