

Title: I Will Exalt You, Lord, Among the Nations

Passage: Matthew 25; Revelation 7

Introduction:

Song: "Be Exalted, O God"

O Lord, among the people

I will sing praises to Thee

Among the nations

For Thy steadfast love is great

Is great to the heavens

And Thy faithfulness

Thy faithfulness to the clouds

Chorus

Be exalted, O God

Above the heavens

Let Thy glory be over all the earth

Be exalted, O God

Above the heavens

Let Thy glory be over all the earth

<http://www.christianstudy.com/data/hymns/text/e0025.html>

<https://youtu.be/jQ0Nk5-v88o>

Question: Why serve Jesus in missions?

Answer: Because Jesus commanded it. Jesus is worth it!

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- Question: do these words inspire you?
- Pray that God would stir your heart to live for a new purpose.

Quote: "Being motivated for eternity, living life with the end in mind."

Question:

- What will Jesus say to us when all is said and done?

The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25)

- Story: three servants to a master given talents while latter was away for a long trip

Matthew 25:14

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

Accounting of servants (first two)

Matthew 25:19-23

Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. *Enter into the joy of your master.*' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. *Enter into the joy of your master.*'

- Complete stewardship and complete commitment is what the master required
- Meaning of parable: both privilege and responsibility is what God has given us by which we will give account to Him.

Question:

- When think about the Ultimate Day when you are asked of what you have done with your life, would you want to hear:
 - "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. *Enter into the joy of your master.*"
- Do we do all things to honor God? To bring joy to God?

Two Visions of the End (Revelation 21-22)

Vision: Great Multitude from Every Nation

Revelation 7:9-12

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "*Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!*" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "*Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.*"

- What John sees:
 - great multitude of people from every nation singing great chorus of praise to God
 - *Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!*
 - all angels around God's throne singing great concurring chorus of praise to God
 - *Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.*
- You can be part of this as well through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!
- You can live today with eternity in mind.

Vision The New Heaven and the New Earth

Revelation 21:1-8

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "*Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.*"

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

- Many in the world today live in the midst of sin (injustices, poverty, suffering, etc.). What can we do?
- Precious promise of hope:
 - Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away...Behold, I am making all things new."
- Question:
 - What has God called you to do?

Concluding Thoughts

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus *for good works*, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- Be wise in stewardship and be focused on eternity
- Have open eyes and open heart to what God calls of you - the good works He has in mind.
- Live in obedience to God and live life with eternity in mind.

Song: "Facing a Task Unfinished"

<https://www.gettymusic.com/facing-a-task-unfinished/>

Related Verses:

Matthew 6:19-21

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Colossians 3:1-2

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Romans 14:12

So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.