

# **NON-NEGOTIABLE**

By Pastor Bill Hekman

Sometimes we see the word NON-NEGOTIABLE written on a bank check or document. It means that the check or document cannot be negotiated, transferred or exchanged. It can only be deposited in the account of the one to whom the check is payable.

In the Scriptures we have many matters, instructions and commands which are absolute and non-negotiable for the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. These instructions must be obeyed by anyone who claims to be a disciple and follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. No excuses are acceptable, no delay is allowed, no transfers or exchanges can be made and there are no exceptions to any believer. These instructions must be obeyed seeing they are non-negotiable and absolute. No further "call", dream or vision is needed for the implementation of God's commands to the believer. God has spoken in His Word. His Word cannot be changed or broken. (John 10:35)

The following are but a few of the non-negotiable instructions of God:

1. His plan of Salvation for all people regardless of race, religion or social standing.
2. The participation of all believers in the implementation of declaring God's Plan of Salvation to all peoples every where.
3. God's plan to establish Christian churches in cities, suburbs, villages, residential areas, industrial complexes, apartment buildings and wherever possible, such as hotels, restaurants and movie theatres.

## **GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION FOR ALL PEOPLE.**

God has established one plan of Salvation for all people regardless of race, religion or social standing. There are no separate plans of salvation for Hindus, Muslims, Christians or Buddhists.

"This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men..." (1 Timothy 2:3-6)

Jesus Christ has been appointed by God to be the Savior of all people and when He was crucified on a wooden cross on a hill called Calvary, He took our punishment upon Himself and there He died for all people. (2 Corinthians 5:15)

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead and His resurrection proves the truth of the statement of Jesus Christ in John 14:6,

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Jesus Christ is not one of many ways to God but He is the only way.

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

God is offering salvation to all people without discrimination. God has no special love or treatment for any group of people or any nation for that matter. Some may think themselves to be favorites of God but this is nothing but spiritual pride and arrogance. God does not show partiality to anyone.

“Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism.” {Acts 10:34}

God’s plan of salvation is so simple that a child can understand it. Anyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ shall be saved (John 3:16). God is commanding all men everywhere to repent from their sin. (Acts 17:30). Anyone who receives Jesus Christ as personal Savior has the right to be called a child of God. (John 1:12). Salvation is by the grace of God to all who believe.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the Gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Salvation cannot be earned by doing good deeds, giving to the poor or working for God. God has provided all. We obey Him by repenting from our sin, believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and receiving Him as personal Savior and Lord.

### **ALL BELIEVERS MUST PARTICIPATE IN SHARING THE GOSPEL.**

It is God’s plan and desire that all people are saved, go to heaven and come to a knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:41). God is not willing that any person suffer in hell and He desires for all people to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

The Lord Jesus gave the command to His disciples to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all people.

“Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 29:18-20)

It is very sad indeed that almost 2000 years after this command was given, most people living in the world today have never heard the Gospel, have no understanding how their sins can be forgiven and do not know how they can enter heaven when they die. It is indeed a great honor and privilege for the believer to participate in fulfilling the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ in this generation.

A great missionary statesman, Oswald J. Smith, reminded his congregation in Toronto repeatedly that it is not fair that some hear the Gospel over and over again while others have never heard the Gospel for the first time. They did something about it and hundreds of missionaries are serving around the world, supported by Peoples Church in Toronto. Yet most believers do not seem to care that millions are lost in their sins, on the way to hell.

Fred D. Jarvis wrote this poem as a reminder of our task for the year 2007:

**CHRIST'S COMMISSION**

Christ's commission is still binding,  
Every creature is His plan;  
We must never shrink nor falter,  
We must follow His command.

Wars are won by blood and battle  
And they call for sacrifice;  
God is searching for more Christians  
Who will pay a greater price.

What a solemn obligation!  
How God's heart must nearly break!  
Dare we do so very little  
With so many souls at stake?

God has placed at our disposal  
All the precious Gospel seeds;  
Dare we keep for our possession  
What this weary world so needs?

That a few should hear the Gospel  
While the millions wait in vain  
Is a devilish delusion.  
It is wicked and insane.

God almighty, please forgive us!  
Have our souls become so base  
That we corner all Thy blessings  
And refuse to share Thy grace?

What a shame that this great message  
Still remains untold, unsend;  
Oh my God, 'tis time for weeping  
Prick our hearts 'til we repent.

Yes, my friend. 'tis time for weeping,  
For the task so near God's heart  
Still remains so far from finished.  
All must share a greater part

All must press this urgent battle.  
God's command" Let us invade!  
Though the foe is strong and mighty  
We must win this great crusade.

Farther! Faster! This our watch word!  
Let the standard be unfurled!  
Jesus died for all of mankind!  
Let us shout it round the world!

There is room for all believers in the evangelization of the world. Young and old, rich and poor, imperfect as we are. God wants all believers to obey His commands and participate in reaching our generation with the Gospel. There is no believer who does not qualify to join His ranks and reach the lost for Christ. In Christ we have forgiveness of past sins and failures. The Bible says that God will be merciful to our iniquities and He will remember our sins no more. (Hebrews 8:12). There is no reason neither excuse for non-involvement, apathy or disobedience to the commands of Christ to declare His plan of Salvation to all people everywhere. Allow no one to tell you that you are not good enough, not smart enough, not eloquent enough or not qualified for an involvement in sharing Christ with the lost.

There are thousands of villages in Indonesia, India, China and others Asian nations where there is no church or fellowship of believers and no one there has ever heard the Gospel. Some must go, others can give, making it possible for some to go and all can pray. If you cannot go yourself, you can always make it possible for some one else to go on your behalf. Will you obey the command of Christ?

### **ESTABLISHING CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS EVERYWHERE**

In the Book of Acts we have the example of the Apostles winning people to Christ and immediately establishing Christian congregations for the following purposes:

- To enable an united effort to reach others with the Gospel. (Acts 4:31).
- To praise and worship God. (Acts 2:46-47)
- To have prayer together and be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 4:31)
- To learn about each other's needs and assist one another. (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32)
- To have fellowship together and share food. (Acts 2:46)
- To study the Word of God. (Matthew 28:20)

The only way the Great Commission can be fulfilled completely is by establishing churches in the cities, towns, villages, real estate projects, industrial complexes, apartment buildings,

hotels, restaurants, and schools. The believers need to be taught the Word of God in the fellowship of a congregation. They need to love each other and care for one another in the fellowship of a congregation. It is God's plan for churches to grow and multiply. Acts 2:47, Acts 5:14.

Also the training of evangelists and pastors for the rural areas must be a high priority for Christian churches. Most workers on the mission fields of the world give priority to the cities where it is comfortable and modern conveniences are readily available. Life in the villages is tough and there is much hardship. Many villages in Kalimantan have no toilets. You go to the toilet in a fast flowing river and you also bathe yourself there and wash your clothing. It will take self-denial and sacrifice. We must always remember the words of our Lord: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow me."

It was tough for the Lord Jesus to leave heaven's glory, live on earth and suffer so much and die like a criminal. We as His disciples must be prepared to suffer for Him as we obey His instructions. These are non-negotiable. So we must go to the thousands of villages and residential complexes, win people for Christ and start churches for His glory and honor, and for the extension of His Kingdom. If we don't go, who will? The false cults have their plans in place and are going in large numbers. Obey Him now!

**REBELLION AND FALSE CLAIMS.** There is much rebellion against the marching orders of the Lord Jesus Christ. The result is that millions of souls continue to live in despair and darkness. Besides that false religious leaders give their people false hope. Yet God has given us the tools needed to reach our generation with the Gospel. We have computers, radio, television, newspapers, the internet, cell phones, satellites and printing presses. God has provided us with airplanes, trains, and cars. None of this was available for the early disciples.

The devil does not want us to go and be involved in world evangelism. He has created "comfort zones" for the believers and most believers including their leaders are not at all interested neither prepared or excited about leaving these comfort zones.

I become angry when I hear some television evangelists claim they are now reaching the entire world population with their telecasts and broadcasts. How deceptive. The fact is that most villages in India have no television set and most people in that nation of over 1 billion own no television sets. Christian leaders are deceiving the believers and make it appear that sending money to them is the will of God and wins the world for Christ. It will take a mobilization of thousands of Christians to reach our generation with the Gospel.

**A STEP OF FAITH.** The Bible says that without faith it is impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11:6). It takes a step of faith to get involved in obeying God and participate in world evangelism. It involves self-denial and total submission to Jesus Christ. The key is not our ability but our availability to God. In Romans 12:1 the Lord is pleading with us to present our bodies to Him as a living sacrifice. Why? Because He wants to function through our bodies.

He wants to live His resurrected life in and through us in the power of the Holy Spirit to reach the lost with the Gospel. So it is not our ability or our inability that is important to the Lord. But as we avail ourselves to Him, then He can do His work through us, which is to seek and save the lost.

### LET US GIVE OUR BEST

1. Millions still are waiting,  
Waiting to be told.  
We must rise and win them,  
Win them to the Lord.

2. They are sad and lonely,  
Groping in the night.  
We must give our witness,  
Share the Gospel light

3. Long they have been waiting,  
Can't you hear their cry?  
"Help us or we perish!  
Help us or we die!"

4. Must they wait forever?  
In their sad despair?  
Won't you share the message?  
Don't you give a care?

5. We who know the Savior,  
Who have been set free,  
Must proclaim the Gospel  
Over land and sea.

6. Let us shout the story  
round the entire earth.  
Let us sound His praises,  
Share His love and worth.

7. Let the whole creation  
Know of Christ our King.  
Every tongue and nation  
Of our Lord must sing.

8. Looking unto Jesus,  
Counting not the cost.  
Let us share the message,  
Let us tell the lost.

9. Go and preach the Gospel  
Can't you hear His call?  
This is His commission,  
Let us give our all.

10. Jesus rose triumphant  
O'er the dreaded grave.  
Let us shout the message  
How He came to save.

11. Jesus is the answer,  
With our hearts aflame  
Let us tell the story  
of His saving Name.

12. Lost and dying millions  
Yet may hear and live.  
If we yield to Jesus  
And our all we give.

13. Jesus Christ is calling,  
"who will go for me?"  
Let us quickly answer,  
"Here am I, send me!"

14. Let us reap the harvest,  
Heed our Lord's bequest  
To tell the world of Jesus.  
Let us give our best.

(Fred D. Jarvis)