



Biblical
Missions
and Church
Growth Strategies

THE NIGERIAN EXAMPLES

Chibuzo I. Nwanguma Ph.D

**BIBLICAL MISSIONS
AND
CHURCH GROWTH**

**STRATEGIES
THE NIGERIAN EXAMPLES**

By

Chibuzo I. Nwanguma Ph.D

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission of the copyright owner.

ISBN: 978 - 978 - 942 - 805 2

Published by:
Chibuzo I. Nwanguma Ph.D

© 2014

Printed By:
UNIBLEND NIGERIA LTD.
Suite 3, No 22, Folarin Street,
off Ladipo Road, Mushin, Lagos.
Tel: 08146288226, 08020708747.
E-mail: kalu4ude@yahoo.com



COMMENTS ABOUT THE BOOK



.... The church must revisit the ancient landmarks by modeling mission mandate principles and methods as epitomized in biblical precedence through Old Testament heroes, the Lord Jesus Christ, and Apostle Paul. This book on missiology in contemporary church context is a good discourse of the subject matter. The author ... has explained scholarly yet in simple language, the essence of missions; ancient and modern....

This book is a major text for theologians in all tertiary institutions as well as all churches which are still mission - minded.

Prof. Dapo Asaju (Rt. Rev)
Professor of Biblical Studies,
Former Deputy vice- Chancellor (Academic)
Lagos State University

The topic of this book is well captioned and attractive. The chapters are well laid out, and connected. On the whole, the book is well researched and it makes a clear contribution to knowledge. The efforts of the author to establish a nexus between the missionary efforts of some African-Initiated Churches and those of Paul is a plus to Africans' contribution to realizing Jesus' ideals of the "Great Commission." It also makes an enviable contribution in Christian quest for the realization of the Kingdom of God in the world of humans as proclaimed by Jesus (Matt.4:17, 5:9-15).

Prof. Olu E. Alana
New Testament Professor,
Department of Religious Studies,
Kogi State University, Anyangba

This book is quite good in every sense of its nature. Its strength lies most in the various personal discoveries of the author. The link between the various eras in God's dealings with mankind. "From old to new testament" even in skillfully comparing Apostle Paul's Mission with the contemporary man is highly commendable. It is such that all must read.

Dr. Elizabeth E. Ikem
Provost, Nigerian Institute of Journalism

This book is a classic in the area of God's eternal purpose for humanity. It settles in a matter-of-fact the question of the universality of God. God's programme has never at any time been limited to the Israelites. His purpose has always been to reach the whole of humanity, irrespective of race, sex or status, with His message of salvation.

Often times we downplay the impact of the original sin and the enormous sacrifice that the remedial work of the cross entailed. But this book put these and other germane issues in their right perspectives.

Dr. F.O. Oleghe
Ordained Minister in TREM



DEDICATION



This Book is dedicated to all students of missions, those who see missions as God's main assignment to mankind, particularly to the servants of the Lord who are keenly dedicated to missions and missionary activities.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



My invaluable thanks go first to He who has all power who granted me all it took to have this book published. To Him are all the Glory, Honour and Majesty ascribed.

To the two men of God whose commitment to God and His work affected my life positively and consequently inspired this work, Bishop Mike Okonkwo, and Pastor W.F. Kumuyi, I say a million thanks. My invaluable thanks and appreciations go to my indefatigable Supervisor, Rt. Rev. Prof. Dapo F. Asaju who has been there for me since 1993 we came to know ourselves as colleagues in His vine yard. Thank you very much Sir.

My indebtedness is also due Prof Olu E. Alana, Rev Dr Francis O. Oleghe, Dr. Mrs. Elizabeth E. Ikem, Dcns Lara Bolarinwa, and Dcns Lechi Ekeh for reading through this work and offering useful advices that made it stronger. I am also indebted to my students at GABC, WATS, and McU and my numerous admirers who have always been at my nerves, nudging and urging me to publish most of my ideas that those far away might access His grace in my life. A million thanks to you all.

Many thanks to Dcn. Nath Ikem for his unquantifiable encouragements.

Last and never the least are my family members, my wife, Mrs. Gladys I. Nwanguma, my amazing daughter, Chimamaka and all he Nwangumas and Odoemenas, my thanks cannot be enough or your understandings. I thank you all.



PREFACE



This book is a major extract of my doctoral thesis titled *A Study of Pauline Missiology in Context of Missions in Deeper Life Bible Church and The Redeemed Evangelical Mission of Nigeria*. It examined Apostle Paul's approach to missions in relation to missionary methods of two indigenous Pentecostal Churches in Nigeria. Missiology, which is the science of missions, has become a prominent discourse in the light of proliferation of churches and their aggressive missionary enterprises locally and globally. This is more so when the colonial model of foreign missionaries has been replaced by local initiatives of indigenous churches. This paradigm shift to Nigerian-type missiology has raised questions about ministerial integrity and lack of impact by Nigerian churches overseas, on their hosts' indigenous population; rather, their churches are composed mostly of Nigerian people living overseas. Contrary to this phenomenon, the life, ministry, and teaching of Paul in the Acts constitute a classic model of doing mission with intercultural impact. In view of this, there is the need to re-examine indigenous, missionary concepts and methods in the light of the Pauline model. Two case studies representing two Pentecostal churches in Nigeria have been examined.

The study, being a biblical study in context of church history, adopted primarily exegetical methodology, using tools of literary-historical criticism to analyze relevant texts on Paul and relating the findings to the Nigerian church context using the combination of historical and contextual methodologies. Questionnaires were employed to complement field surveys carried out in the relevant churches.

The work found that the life of Paul especially his call to ministry, pastoral ethics, church planting methods and emphasis both on theology and miracles remain influential and indispensable to the indigenous missionary practices by the new generation churches as typified by 'Deeper Life Bible Church' and 'The Redeemed Evangelical Mission'. It notes that whereas the world-views and contexts of Paul and contemporary Nigerian missionaries differ, new generation churches have developed further, missionary methods beyond Paul's style, by appropriating elements of modernity to missions.

The study established a connection between Paul and Nigerian missionary churches in the area of inter-cultural and international mission. As Paul, a Hellenistic Jew was responsible for evangelizing the Gentile world including the continents of Asia and Europe resulting in the global spread of Christianity, Nigerian Church founders have also embarked on a 'Reverse' mission beyond Nigeria's borders with hundreds of churches in virtually every continent. The link between Pauline Missiology and Nigerian missions and the critical review of Nigerian churches from the perspective of Pauline missiological models constitute the original contribution of this work.

Chibuzo I. Nwanguma

2014



TABLE OF CONTENT

Comments about the Book

Dedication

Acknowledgement

Preface

Table of Content

Forward

List of Abbreviations

Chapter One: The General Introductions

The Background

The Problem

The Aims

The Scope

The Methodology

Definition of Terminologies

Mission

Missiology

Pentecostalism

Evangelism

Great Commission

Chapter Two: Missionary Enterprises in Old Testament

Introduction

Yahweh and Call to Missions

Adam

Noah

The Patriarchs

The Mosaic Law and Its Implication on Missions

The Psalmists

The Prophets

Jonah's Missionary Call and Career

Conclusion

Chapter Three: The Messianic Mission of Jesus Christ

Introduction

The Incarnation of Jesus and Missions

Jesus' Messianic Mission Statement:

A Study of Luke 18 - 19

Christological Titles of Jesus

Christ

Son of God

The Son of Man

Lamb of God

Logos

The Cross of Jesus and Missions

Conclusion

Chapter Four: Apostle Paul: A Model in Christian Missions

Introduction

The Formative Years

Paul's Missionary Traits

Paul's Missionary Strategies

Concentration on Highly Populated Areas

Starting with the News and Always

Extending to the Gentiles

Focus on Leaders and Men of Influence

Use of Team Effort

Notion of Discipleship and Follow-up

Exploitation of His Strengths and Natural Advantages

Utilizing Natural Opportunities that

Afforded Themselves

Paul's Main Missionary Teaching:

Justification by Faith

Conclusion

Chapter Five: Mission in Deeper Life Bible Church

Introduction

History of DLBC

Mission Policies in Deeper Life

Mission Methods in Deeper Life
Personal Evangelism
Mass Evangelism
Discipleship or Teaching Approach
Literature Evangelism
House Fellowship
The Use of the Supernatural in Deeper Life
Bible Church
Life School Outreach
Life Mission
Relating Paul Approach to Mission in the
Ministry of Deeper Life Bible Church (DLBC)

Conclusion

**Chapter Six: Mission in The Redeemed
Evangelical Mission (TREM)**

History of TREM
Mission Policies and Methods in TREM
Mission Policies in TREM
Mission Methods in TREM
Mass Evangelism
Literature Evangelism
Government of the Twelve (G12)
Leadership Development and Schools
Social Ministry
National Transformation Programme
Relating Pauline Approach to Mission in the
Ministry of TREM

Conclusion

List of References



FOREWORD



Christianity is today experiencing, perhaps the most challenging attacks globally, in modern history. A combination of the effects of globalization, modernity, secularism, scientific evolutionism, communism, resurgent heathenism, epicurean philosophy and militant Islamic terrorism has called for a revisit of mission basics. The church must revisit the ancient landmarks by modeling mission mandate principles and methods as epitomized in biblical precedence through Old Testament heroes, the Lord Jesus Christ, and Apostle Paul.

This book on missiology in contemporary church context is a good discourse of the subject matter. The author, Dr. Chibuzo I. Nwanguma, an emerging New Testament Scholar in the Academia, has explained scholarly yet in simple language, the essence of missions; ancient and modern. He has contextualized the biblical model in two leading churches of the Pentecostal fold—the Pentecostal movement is Christianity's most impactful missionary globally today. In the words of the author, "... this book established a connection between Paul and Nigerian missionary churches in the area of intercultural and international missions". He uses Paul's mission successes in the Gentile world as a type of African missionary incursion into western countries today. This reverse mission (a reversal of historic European mission in Africa), is a paradigm shift which redefines the place of African people in the promotion of Christian spirituality, sustenance and spread of the 'faith of our fathers'.

This book is a major text for theologians in all tertiary institutions as well as all churches which are still mission - minded. I strongly recommend this book and commend the scholarly erudition of the author.

Prof. Dapo Asaju (Rt. Rev)
Professor of Biblical Studies,
Former Deputy vice- Chancellor (Academic)
Lagos State University

LISTS OF ABBREVIATIONS

1 Chron.:	First book of the Chronicles
1 Cor.:	1 Corinthians
1 Thess.:	1 Thessalonians
2 Cor.:	2 Corinthians
2 Thess.:	2 Thessalonians
A.V:	American Version
Acts:	Acts of the Apostles
CAPRO:	Calvary Ministries.
CMF:	Christian Foundation Movement
COCIN:	Church of Christ in Nigeria
Col.:	Collessions
CRC:	Convention on the Right of the Child.
CSSM:	Christian Students Social Movement
DLBC:	Deeper Life Bible Church
ECWA:	Evangelical Church of West Africa
EMS:	Evangelical Missionary Society
Eph.:	Ephesians
Gen.:	Genesis
KJV:	King James Version
LXX:	An abbreviation used in reference to the O. T. Greek Septuagint texts of the work by the 70-Member Committee which translated the Old Testament texts from Hebrew to Greek in about 250BC.

Matt.:	Matthew
MSS:	Manuscripts
Phil.:	Philippians
Prov.:	Proverbs
R.S.V:	Revised Standard Version
R.V:	Revised Version
Rom.:	Romans
TREM:	The Redeemed Evangelical Mission
WEC:	World Evangelical Crusaders



CHAPTER ONE



GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS

The Background

Christianity is a product of mission. Behind Paul's missionary activities were also, services of mission efforts in the Bible. The call of Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3) and the birth of Israel as a nation (cf. Ex. 19:5-6) were predominantly Mission in essence. In the words of Hawthorne (1992, A-39), "The conquest of the promised land was a land grant on the basis of ancient promises to Abraham's family, in order to unfold the purposes of blessing the nations". The prophecy of the choice of Israel (Isaiah 43:10; 44:8), for instance, was to save the world and this vision was actualised by Jesus Christ's Commission of His disciples towards world evangelization (Matt. 28:19-20). Also, the era of the prophets in the Old Testament was essentially mission in nature. God sent the prophets to proclaim His will to the world. Through them, peoples of the world were directed as the future was predicted to them (Isaiah 13:1-23:18; Jeremiah 46: 1-51:64). All through the Old and New Testaments, we have single prophecy fulfilled in Jesus Christ and propelled by His disciples.

This missionary spirit motivated the evangelization of Africa through missionary churches from Europe and America between mid-19th century and the 20th century which eventually produced indigenous Pentecostal churches. Today, there is an acute