

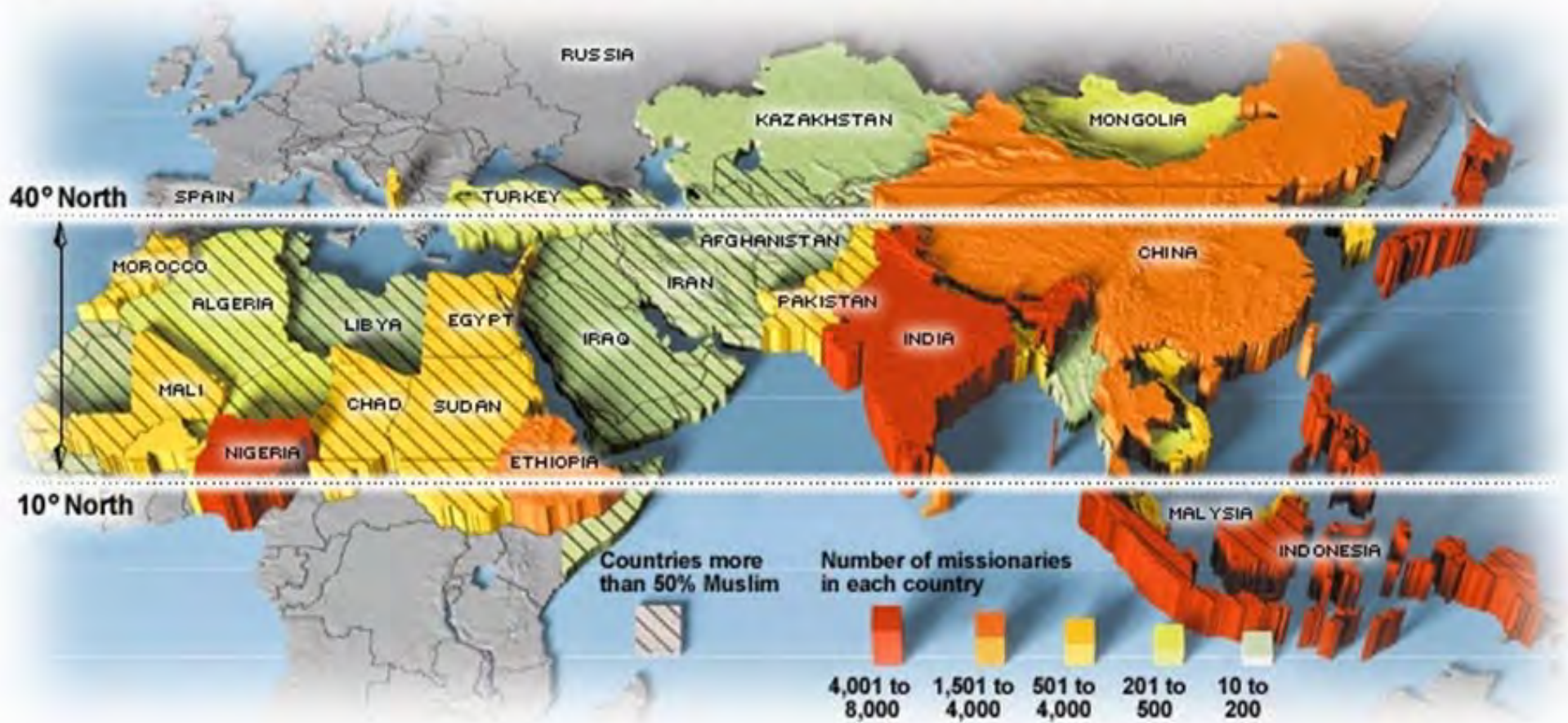
Instructions About The Kingdom

Matthew 18: 1-14

January 22, 2023

THE 10/40 WINDOW

Activity by missionaries, from all denominations, including those that do and do not proclaim the gospel. About 30% are evangelicals



SOURCE: WORLD CHRISTIAN TRENDS

Arch of Baal





**Nebuchadnezzar's
Dream (Daniel 2)**

Gold

Silver

Brass

Iron

Prophetic Gap

Iron & Clay

Stone



Head of Gold
BABYLON
[B.C. 605 - 539]

Breast of Silver
PERSIA
[B.C. 539 - 331]

Thighs of Brass
GREECE
[B.C. 331 - 168]

Legs of Iron
ROME
[B.C. 168 - A.D. 476]

Feet of Iron & Clay
DIVIDED NATIONS
[A.D. 476 - Present]

Destroying Rock
**KINGDOM OF
CHRIST**

Verse 1 - 5

Who is the greatest in the Kingdom?

Who will be #1 disciple?

Power lust is rampant in the group!



To be great, one must first be converted

This is all about genuine salvation!

**Converted = “*sterpho*” = to turn, to
change course**

**A CHANGED LIFE is a hallmark of true
salvation!**

HUMILITY is a hallmark of Salvation!

Basic terminology: Humility, humble

ταπεινῶ *tapeinoō*

Literal: “low lying, brought low”

Came to mean: “someone of low degree, low estate, weak, insignificant, poor”

**From that it was used metaphorically:
“someone of lowliness of mind, humble”**

Humility is not viewing yourself as useless, of no value, or purposeless

Humility is viewing yourself as God views you:

- Valued and loved**
- Under submission to God**

“True humility is
not thinking less of
yourself; it is
thinking of yourself
less.” **C.S. Lewis**

Verse 6 - 7

Do not offend immature believers

Offend = “*skandalon*” = to set a snare or a trap; to throw off course

New believers are precious to God!

Those who mess with their beliefs are
WARNED!

Verse 8 - 9

**Warning to all who choose contrary
to God**

**Whatever causes you to sin (*entraps you*),
GET RID OF IT, NOW!!**

Jesus' warning:

Unrepentant, habitual, given
yourself over to sin, will
result in everlasting fire!

Hell = "*Gehenna*" = a smoldering garbage
dump outside of Jerusalem is the
imagery used



Verse 10 - 11

Guardian angels?

Do all believers have a guardian angel? What does Scripture say?

Matthew 18: 10

Acts 12: 13-15

The nation of Israel has an archangel, Michael, assigned to protect her – Daniel 12: 1

Muslim Nations vs. Jewish Nation



How does any sane person justify NOT supporting Israel?

No other nation is mentioned as having their own angel assigned to it

God uses angels to minister to us

I suspect we have an angel that, from time to time, invades our lives (*sent to help*)

We have an angel escort into heaven the moment we die – Luke 16: 22

Lazarus “*was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom*”

Verse 12 - 14

Jesus seeks after strays

You know you are genuine, when you go off course, you sense God pursuing you (*conviction*)

How does God help true believers change course when they wander?

He disciplines them

Hebrews 12: 6

“For whom the Lord loves, He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.”

The Shepherd loves the sheep, even when they wander

The Shepherd's love is not conditional on your obedience

Wolves want you to wander – *stay close to your Shepherd!*



The Plan of Attack



Ultimate Fighting - The Reality of Spiritual Warfare



The Ripple Effect

The Ripple Effect reflects on the very nature of affecting change: how one small stone tossed into a body of water causes a ripple effect with an almost never ending forward motion ...

DANGER: A sheep thinking they are super sheep
(*can live close to sin, dabble in sin*) and



WARNING:

“If you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.”


Hebrews 12: 8

THIS IS SCARY!!

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

For those who are truly humble, life is not about me, *it is about GOD!!*

Living humbly will bring something into your life the world does not have – *JOY!*

A painting of a forest path. The path is illuminated by a bright, golden light source on the right side, creating a strong contrast with the dark, shadowed trees on the left. The light casts a long, glowing path across the ground, which is covered in fallen leaves and grass. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

Jesus
Others
You

TRUTH:

“HE” must increase, and “I” must decrease!

This is Kingdom thinking

Are you looking forward to the Kingdom with all of God’s creatures living in harmony?



When we pray, *“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done”*, this is what we are talking about

Live for the KING today and look forward to the KING coming soon!!

**THE KING,
*HE IS COMING!!***

**BEHOLD!
HE IS COMING!**

The Lion of the
Tribe of Judah!
Jesus Christ, King of kings
& Lord of lords!
THE GREAT "I AM"!