

**Text: John 14:12-14**

**Subject: "Greater works"**

### INTRODUCTION

1. The works of the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) Numerous
- b) They may be divided into:
  - i) Miraculous works
  - ii) Non-miraculous works

2. The Challenge to the Disciples

<sup>12</sup> "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

<sup>13</sup> And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

<sup>14</sup> If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

John 14:12-14

### HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME

1. The Believer

- a) He is a disciple
- b) He has confirmed his faith in the Lord Jesus
- c) He follows the Lord
- d) He wants to serve Him

2. The promise of the Lord Jesus about doing His works

- a) The Miraculous works that He did
  - i) The apostles would be able to do these works too
  - ii) Miracles were more confined areas of work
- b) The Non-Miraculous works

- i) Preaching
- ii) Teaching
- iii) Evangelizing
- iv) Counseling

### **GREATER WORKS**

#### 1. The special works of the Lord Jesus

- a) Healing a man born blind                      John 9
- b) Raising of Lazarus                                John 11
- c) These are not in mind

#### 2. What are these “greater works?”

- a) Evangelism on a larger scale
- b) Reaching the world with the Gospel
- c) Planting churches
- d) More servants of the Lord

### **HOW WOULD THIS BE POSSIBLE?**

#### 1. Because I go to My Father

- a) The Lord’s Role would not be diminished
- b) He would play an even greater role

#### 2. The Ministry of the Lord Jesus

- a) As our great High Priest
- b) His role as our Mediator/ Intercessor
- c) His role as the Head of the Church

#### 3. Because of Prayer

- a) The language of the Lord Jesus must be carefully understood
- b) He is not offering “a blank cheque”
- c) A Conditional statement

- i) The first part (protasis)
- ii) The second part (apodosis)

#### 4. IF

- a) If we pray
  - i) Humbly
  - ii) Diligently
  - iii) Faithfully
- b) If our prayers
  - i) Are within God's will
  - ii) They fit into His plans
  - iii) We fulfil all that we are supposed to
- c) Our Prayers
  - i) They will be heard
  - ii) They will be answered
  - iii) The Lord will help us as we seek Him

#### **AN EXAMPLE OF HOW PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED**

<sup>23</sup>And being let go, they went to their own *companions* and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup>So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You *are* God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, <sup>25</sup>who <sup>[c]</sup>by the mouth of Your servant David have said:

'Why did the nations rage,  
And the people plot vain things?

<sup>26</sup>The kings of the earth took their stand,  
And the rulers were gathered together  
Against the LORD and against His Christ.'

<sup>27</sup>"For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together <sup>28</sup>to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. <sup>29</sup>Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, <sup>30</sup>by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

<sup>31</sup>And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Acts 4:23-31

1. Prayer offered:

- a) The Church was threatened
- b) The people prayed:
  - i) For boldness
  - ii) For courage to speak His word
  - iii) For signs and wonders if they are within God's will

2. The answer came

- a) The place they were at was shaken
- b) They were filled with the Holy Spirit
- c) They spoke the word with boldness

**OUR CHALLENGE**

1. To believe even more deeply
2. To pray more diligently