

Seeing Missions from Afar

It was a glorious day. The church was excited and the people were prepared. The church knew what was at stake, lost souls. They had been fasting and praying in eager anticipation of this very event. What event? Mission work! (See Acts 13.)

The church was sending missionaries to take Jesus all over the western Mediterranean area. And it worked! Paul and Barnabas preached the word. Everywhere they went, some listened, some didn't. But people were saved, churches were planted and God was glorified.

Things have changed very little. Saved people love to share their love for Jesus. Those who have found His grace want to share salvation with those who haven't. And little has changed in the realm of mission work. Some listen to Jesus' word and decide to walk in His steps – some do not.

But one thing is for sure, when lost souls decide to give up their own will, listen to His word and follow His will, they see something they will never forget: FEET! Feet? Yes, feet! And they never forget those feet. We speak of two sets of feet, beautiful ones and wounded ones. Romans 10:14-17 tells part of the story:

How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!"

However, they did not all heed the glad tidings; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Indeed, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things. One of the best ways to support missions is a good mix of stateside and foreign works. To anyone who listens when a missionary shares God's word, he has "beautiful feet." Why? Because he is bringing the word of God to lost souls who will spend eternity with the other set of feet - the wounded feet. One old song says it so preciously:

O the wounded feet of Jesus, grown so weary seeking me,
Stand at God's bar of judgment and intercede for me,
Stand at God's bar of judgment and intercede for me!

Two precious, beautiful feet were wounded on the cross for me. It takes funds to train men to send to stateside as well as foreign mission works. Beautiful feet travel to another state or country to share the story of the wounded feet, the blood, the death, the cross. What else is beautiful? The love that makes both sets of feet walk this earth seeking lost souls to bring to heaven.

-Ray Wallace