

**BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY**  
**“SO SEND I YOU” (John 20:21): DELEGATING THE CHURCH**  
**ANNIVERSARY MORNING, JUNE 6, 2021**

INTRODUCTION:

-“so send I you” shows that the Son came on a m \_\_\_\_\_, now given to the d \_\_\_\_\_

I/ BEING SENT ESTABLISHES AUTHORITY

1. Doing A Great Work

-prophets like Elijah and Elisha were considered dangerous trouble-makers by the kings; as Jesus said, a prophet has no h \_\_\_\_\_ in his own country

-still, in Ephesians 3:1-6, Paul sees his ministry as g \_\_\_\_\_, to preach the r \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ: because this will s \_\_\_\_\_ those who believe, and turn the w \_\_\_\_\_ upside down

2. Delighting in the Great King: compare Psalm 27:1-6

-the o t \_\_\_\_\_ desired is to see the b \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord; because sent, the church has a r \_\_\_\_\_ to be here

II/ BEING SENT ENCOURAGES COMMITMENT – AND SUFFERING

1. Understanding: The Knowledge of His Will

-Jesus showed the powerful l \_\_\_\_\_ that drives o \_\_\_\_\_ to the will and commands of God – in His case, unto d \_\_\_\_\_ (Philippians 2:5-8)

-Paul prayed for his churches to walk well-p \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, fruitful in His Will (Colossians 1:9-12)

2. Unashamed: compare Romans 1:16; 2 Timothy 1:12

-even if the world aims to remove Christ’s representatives, Paul is not ashamed of the G \_\_\_\_\_

3. Unmoved to the end! 2 Timothy 4; 1 Corinthians 15:58

-Paul carries on his work to its conclusion because of the r \_\_\_\_\_

III/ BEING SENT ENSHRINES MESSAGE

1. The Content: Acts 26:16-20

-see Romans 6:17 – believing from *the h* \_\_\_\_\_ the form of *sound d* \_\_\_\_\_

-Paul’s commission in Acts 26:16-20: to be a w \_\_\_\_\_; turning from d \_\_\_\_\_ to light, so that they might be f \_\_\_\_\_; he is to call people to r \_\_\_\_\_ and t \_\_\_\_\_ to God

2. The Calling: 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2

-Paul at work, carrying out that mission: his appeal is that they be r \_\_\_\_\_ to God

IV/ BEING SENT EQUIPS WITH RESOURCES

1. The Presence of the Triune God (see Matthew 28:18-20)

-Christianity will face a \_\_\_\_\_; but Jesus prepared His disciples for this: the S \_\_\_\_\_ is coming (John 20:21-23; see John 7:37-39; 14:15-17, 25-27; 15:26-27; 16:7-15); Jesus will not leave them alone (John 14:18, 23; 16:16) – and the Father loves them (14:23; 15:9; 16:23-24): He is with us a \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Word

-we must k \_\_\_\_\_ our Bibles, so that we might g \_\_\_\_\_ in godliness

-the same p \_\_\_\_\_ is still able to save: our labour is not in v \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord!

**BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY  
DEFINING THE CHURCH  
ANNIVERSARY EVENING, JUNE 6, 2021**

INTRODUCTION:

-the very makeup of the church is designed to support its mission: the community builds itself up (Ephesians 4:11-16)

**1. The Church is Purchased by Blood: Acts 20:28; see 1 Peter 1:18-2:11**

a) the instruction:

-the church is born through an act of redemption like the Exodus (1 Peter 1:19): it begins with the knowledge of the nature of sin as brutal, inescapable bondage, and the need of God who delights in mercy to rescue us

b) the impact:

-“thou shalt have no other gods before me” sums it up!

-do not go back to the place of bondage! Compare 1 John 2:15-17; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

-thus the call to be God’s special (“peculiar”: see Exodus 19:3-6; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 2:5-10) people is a call to holiness (1 Peter 1:13-17), living as pilgrims (1 Peter 2:11-12): God’s special treasure, evidence of mercy (1 Timothy 1:13-16)

**2. The Church is the Pillar of the Truth: 1 Timothy 3:14-16; see Ephesians 4-5**

a) the instruction:

-it is the “mystery of godliness”, the “truth as it is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21) that rescues us from darkness, vain thinking, and bondage to self-interest and lust (Acts 26:16-20)

-the “Spirit of Truth” has come (John 14:17; 16:13): and that enables the church as pillar and ground of the truth

b) the impact:

i) the truth is our strong offensive weapon in a hostile environment, the “sword of the Spirit” (Eph.6:17)

ii) the truth must be the cause that we adopt: Romans 6:17

iii) compare Paul’s approach based on this truth, as noted in 2 Corinthians 4:1-7

**3. The Church is a Partnership in Christ: Philippians 1:3-7; 1:27-2:4; 3:8-11**

a) the instruction: Paul was grateful for the Philippians’ “fellowship in the Gospel”: compare 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

b) the impact:

i) that Christ is the Head of the Church: we are partners in His mission, working together to glorify Him

ii) that this mission is carried out by being like Christ, rooted in Christ, sharing first in the Gospel itself, then in the work

iii) that independence from the church is dangerous: only as we link arms can we form a strong defence (Ph.1:27-2:1 – supporting John 13:34-35); praying for one another is not just social nicety, but theological necessity!

iv) do not be distracted into conflating personal and political opinions and goals with the church and the Gospel: Ph.2:1-4

v) that prayer figures so prominently in this underlines that the ultimate supplier of resources and strength is God alone

**4. The Church is Publisher of the Gospel: 1 Thessalonians 1**

a) the instruction: as Paul broke new ground, the Thessalonians’ reputation supported his efforts: they served as “lights in the world” (Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:14-16)

b) the impact: the church consciously thinks of what will glorify the Lord; love needs to be shown in practical ways

-compare instructions to Revelation’s 7 churches, “candlesticks” (Rev.1-3): be faithful, to resist error, to maintain fervour

**5. The Church is Promise of Things to Come:**

a) the instruction: in light of the resurrection, think of the church’s future – Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:1-8; 1 Peter 2; Philippians 3:20-21: the church as bride prepared for the wedding day; the building ready for praise; the heavenly home

b) the impact:

-live as “strangers and pilgrims”: always preparing to go home (see 2 Peter 3:11-14)

-never forget what we are being prepared for; take our present lives seriously in light of that Day

-endure the trials for now, knowing that a grand homecoming awaits – knowing we shall be forever with the Lord