MORNING MESSAGE

"A Great Commission Church"

Matthew 28:18-20

I. A GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH UNDERSTAND HER AUTHORITY (v.18)

- A. How much authority does Jesus have?
 - 1. He has authority in heaven
 - a. 1 Peter 3:22, "Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being subject unto him"
 - 2. He has authority over disease
 - a. Matthew 4:23, "And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease among the people"
 - 3. He has authority over demons
 - a. Matthew 4:24, "And his fame went throughout Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those that were possessed with devils"
 - 4. He has authority over death
 - a. John 11:43-44, "And when he had thus spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes"

II. A GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH UNDERTAKES HER ASSIGNMENT (vv.19-20a)

- A. What is the assignment of the church?
 - 1. The church is to make disciples (v.19a)
 - a. "Teach all nations" literally means "make disciples"
 - 2. The church is to mark disciples (v.19b)
 - a. "Baptizing" translates the Greek word "baptizo", which means to bury or put under
 - 3. The church is to mature disciples (v.20a)
 - a. "Teaching" means giving instructions

III. A GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH UNLEASHES HER ABILITY (v.20b)

- A. Jesus told His church how and how long they would perform the mission
 - 1. The strength of the mission
 - a. "I am with you" means His divine power and presence
 - b. RSV, "I, myself, the divine, resurrected, living, eternal Son of God will be with you"
 - 2. The length of the mission
 - a. "Unto the end of the world" means until the end of the age; the church age
 - b. This is our mission until Jesus returns