



Matthew 24:14

(14) And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

King James Version

We are assured in [Matthew 24:14](#) that [the gospel](#) of the Kingdom will be preached. [God](#) will see it done. He will preach it through whatever means, by whatever agency, and in whatever time He has *already* ordained. The question for us, then, is whether we will be in alignment with Him and usable by Him so that we can be directed by Him as He completes His work. However, this will be successful only if we let Him lead, rather than assume we already know what He is doing.

Because God is the One who preaches the gospel, and because He sanctifies and prepares His servants to perform His will, He also determines the results of His various works. For 1,900 years, it was not His priority to preach the gospel in a major way. We know this because it was not done. During the last century, a major witness was made because God had ordained it to be so. He controls the results and the effects of His preaching. His word does not return to Him void, but it will accomplish what He pleases ([Isaiah 55:11](#)). Thus, when we look out today at the various efforts to preach the gospel—and we do not see the same results—it is because something else is God's priority, not that we are not trying hard enough.

Is it possible that the church is not yet "spiritually worthy" to be involved in making a witness to [the world](#)? In its present spiritual condition, could the church end up making a witness *against* God rather than for Him? If a witness is being made against God, does it even matter if the true gospel is spoken?

The bottom line is that we cannot insert ourselves into God's plans. God already knows what will be done, how it will be done, when it will be done, and whom *He* will use to do it. Our task is to be close enough to God that we recognize His guidance of our lives and to be practiced in submitting to it. When the time comes for [Matthew 24:14](#) to be fulfilled, it will be, according to what God has ordained.

However, whether or not we play a part in the fulfillment of that prophecy, our focus is to be the sanctification that God has already given us. It is through that process of becoming holy and going on to perfection that we become "spiritually worthy" and able to be used by God in whatever capacity He ordains—large or small.

Our goal should not be to fulfill [Matthew 24:14](#) . Our goal is to get to the place where we, like [Jesus Christ](#), "always do the will of [our] Father" ([John 8:29](#))—no matter what His will may entail. God is doing far more than just making announcements. He is creating us in His image ([Genesis 1:27](#)), and that requires a lifetime of submission and a level of focus and energy far beyond simply preaching to the unconverted world. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" ([Ephesians 2:10](#)).

— David C. Grabbe

To learn more, see:

[**'This Gospel of the Kingdom Shall Be Preached'**](#)

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