





Missions and the Local Church

Reconnecting with our
Purposes

What to Expect Today

1. Look a little at the church today and missions
2. How did we get here.
3. What to do about it .
4. Some tools to fix it.

Who Owns
Missions ?

Missions Ownership

There are
400,000 churches

Numerous Para
church groups

Others ?



Question :

Is there a primary leader
in this work one who
has been tasked with
the main responsibility ?

The Church

Matthew 16:18:

...upon this rock I will build
my church...



The Church

Colossians 1:16-18

Christ is the head of the church
, the body

He should come to have first
place in everything



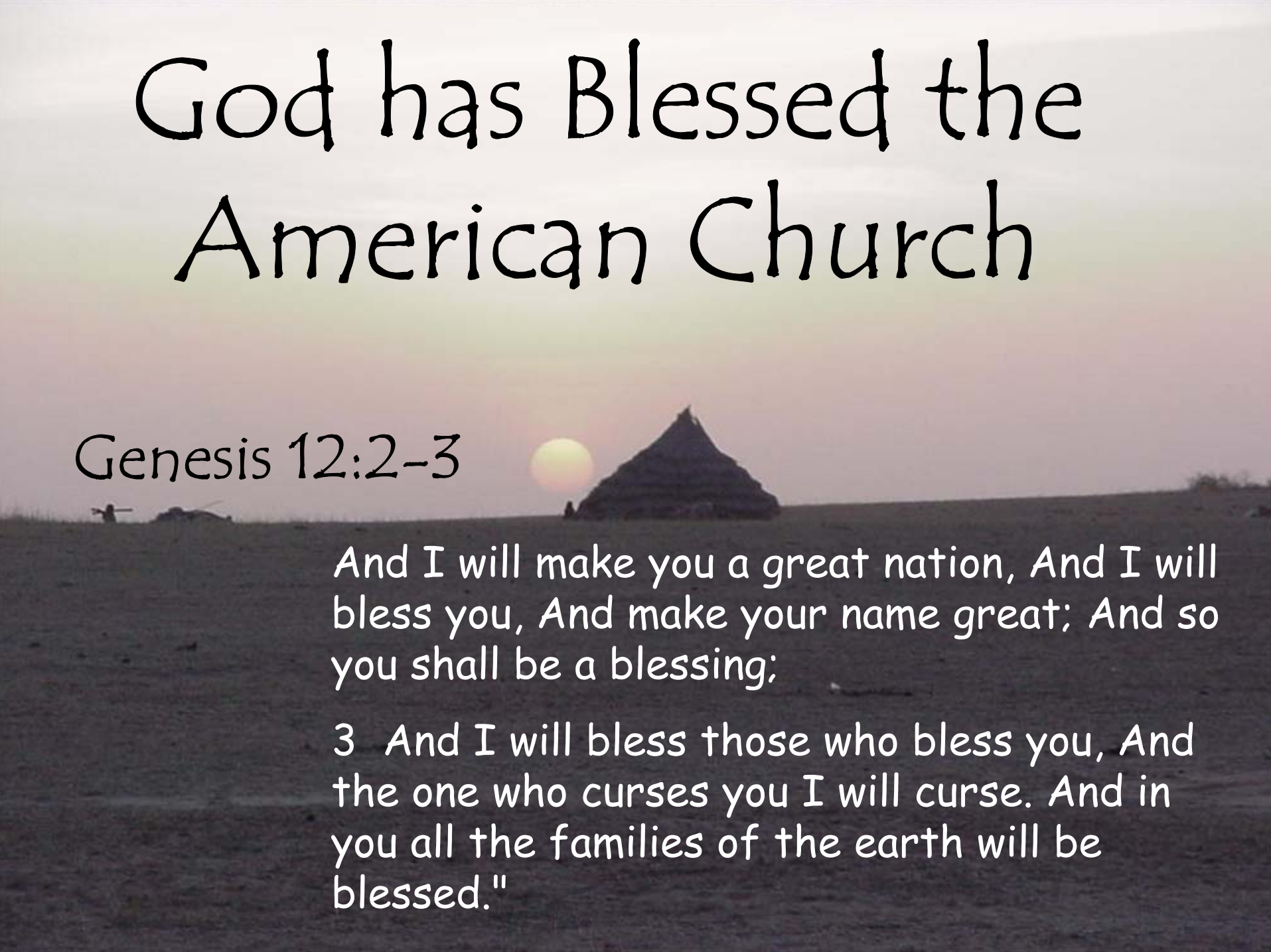
The Church

Acts 15:22 ... then it seemed good to the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send men from among them...



God has Blessed the American Church

Genesis 12:2-3

A silhouette of a tent on a grassy plain at sunset. The sun is a bright yellow circle on the horizon, and the sky is a mix of orange and blue. The tent is a simple, conical structure. There are some small figures and structures in the distance to the left.

And I will make you a great nation, And I will
bless you, And make your name great; And so
you shall be a blessing;

3 And I will bless those who bless you, And
the one who curses you I will curse. And in
you all the families of the earth will be
blessed."

God has Blessed the American Church

We have :

- The richest people on the planet.
- The language the world wants out for.
- The technology.
- The schools.
- Computers galore!

**But what does
He desire us to
do ?**



Psalm 67-12

2 That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

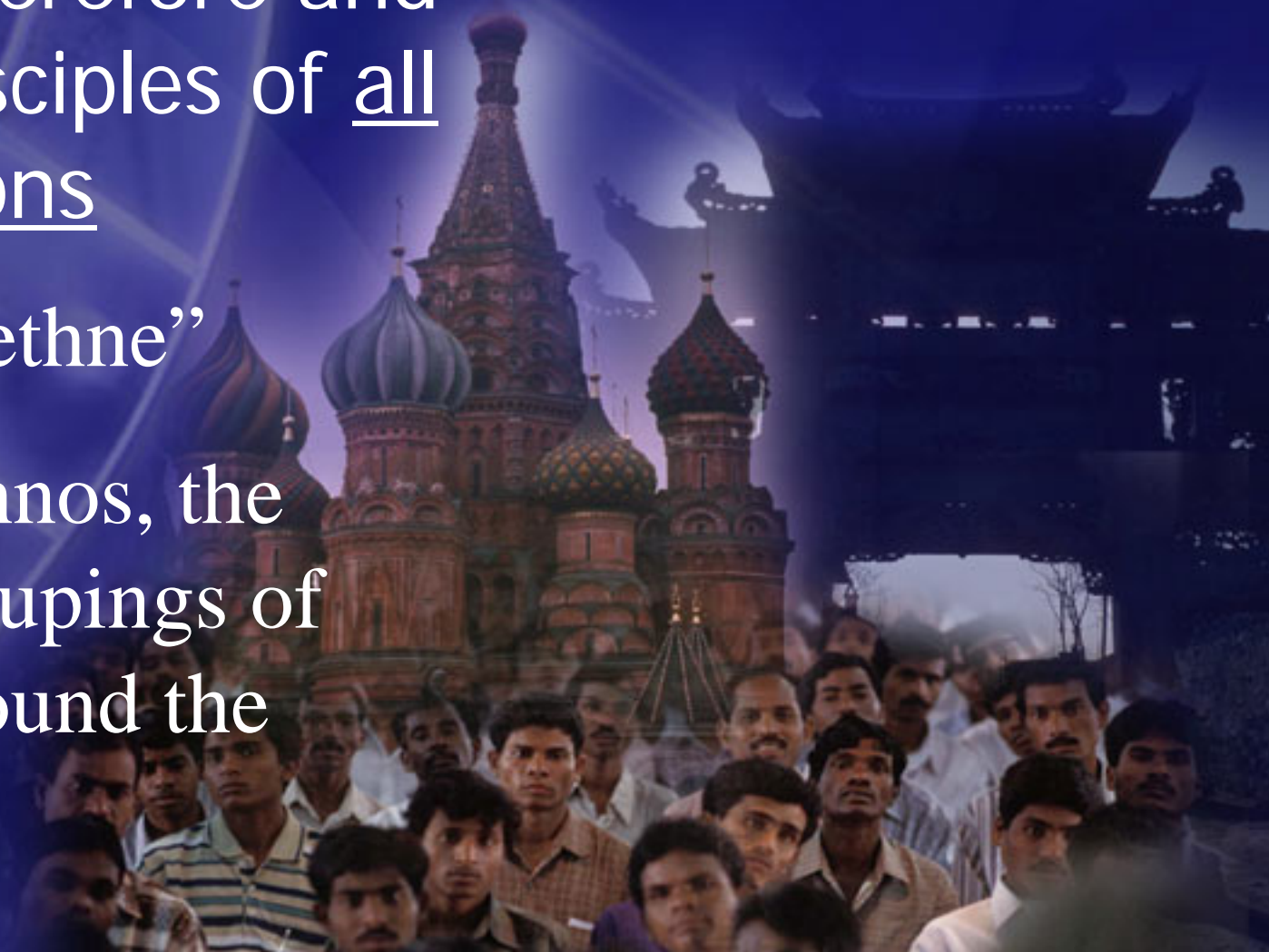
4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;

Matthew 28:19-20

Go ye therefore and
make disciples of all
the nations

“panta ta ethne”

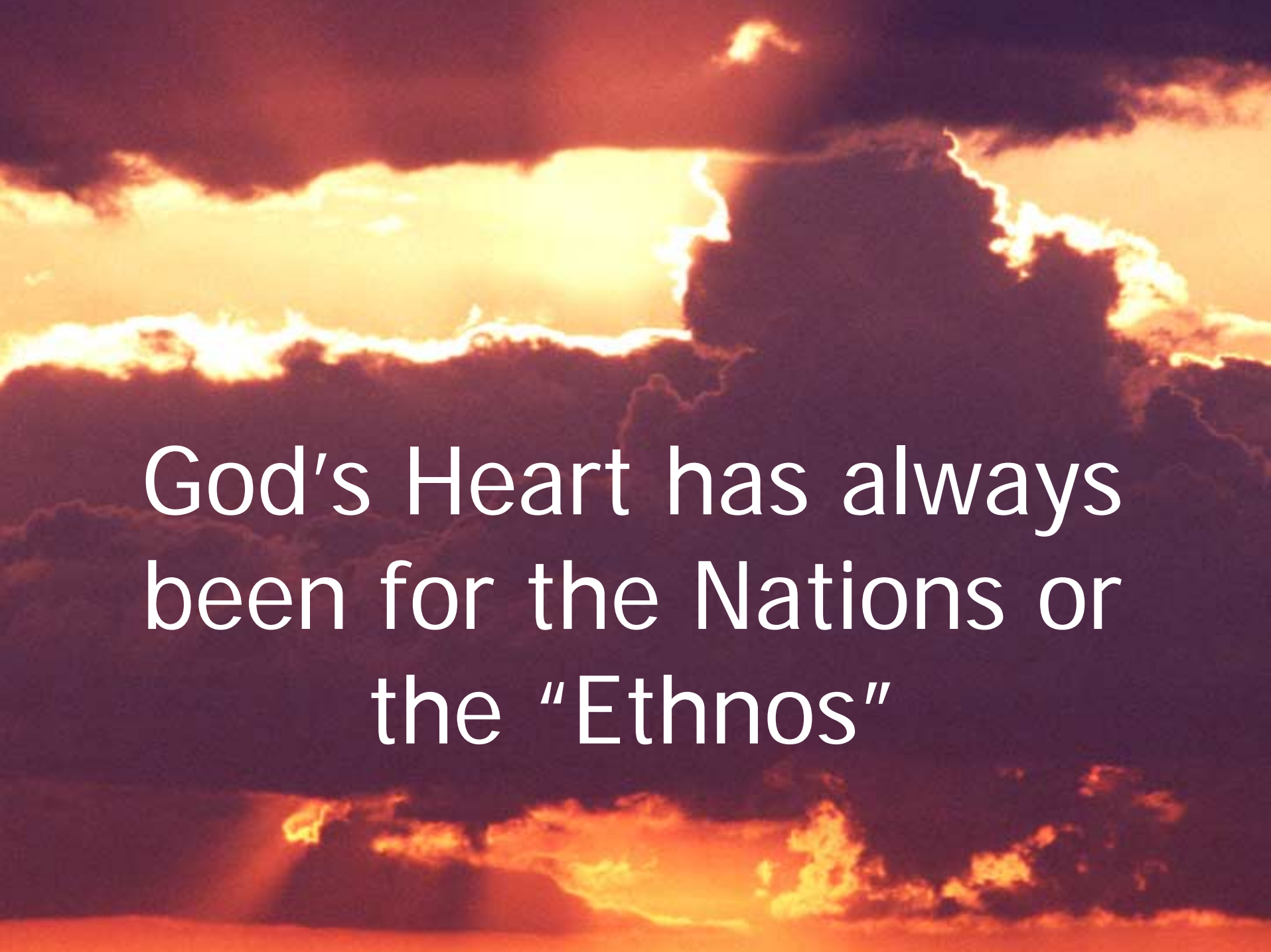
All the ethnos, the
ethnic groupings of
people around the
world



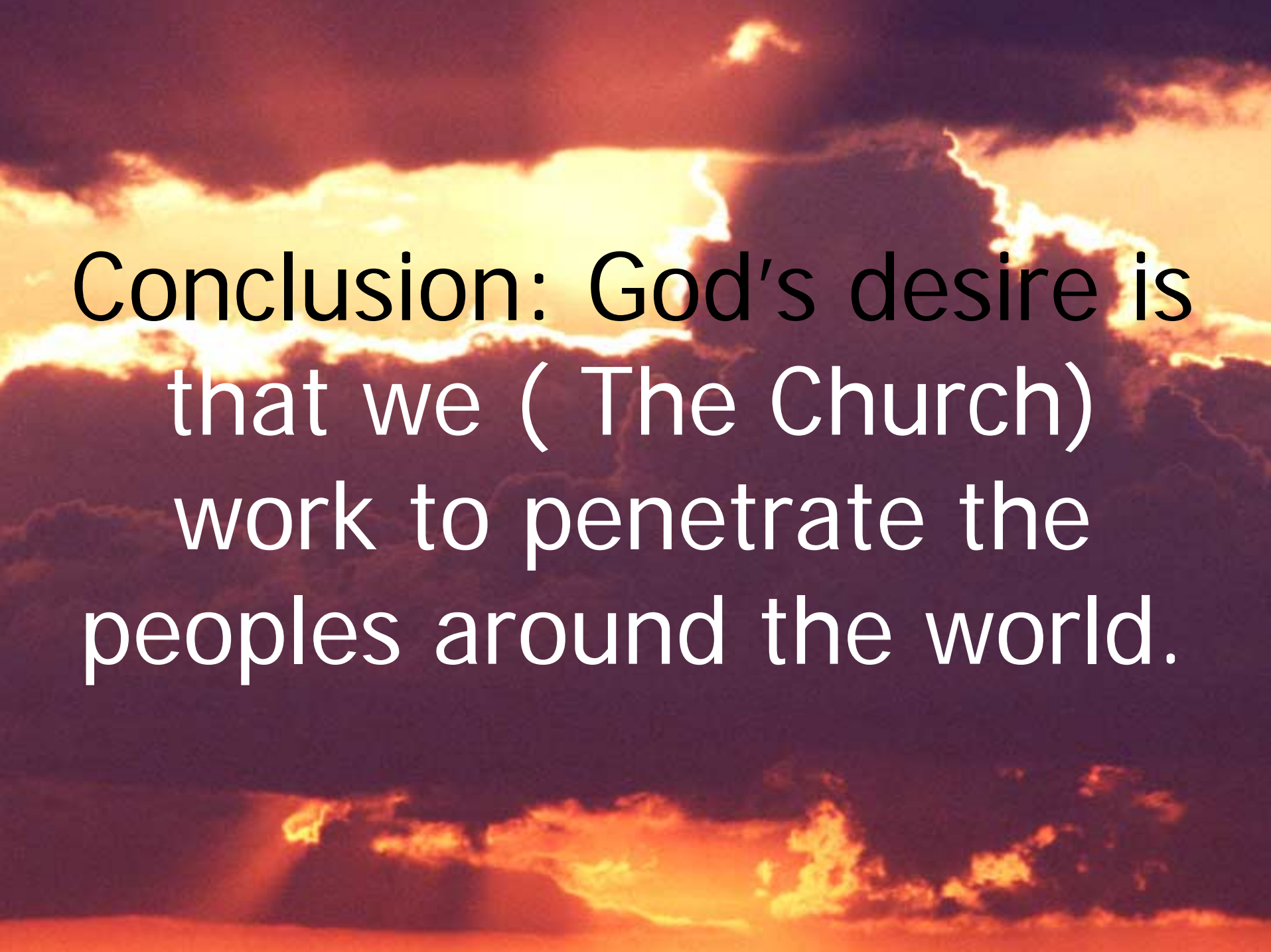
Nations = peoples, groups, herds



Defined by language, culture, ethnicity



God's Heart has always
been for the Nations or
the "Ethnos"



**Conclusion: God's desire is
that we (The Church)
work to penetrate the
peoples around the world.**



The Current Situation

1. **SBC has done a great job of financially supporting our missionaries on the field**



The Current Situation

2. We have failed to connect in a serious way with our missionaries and the field

Examples:

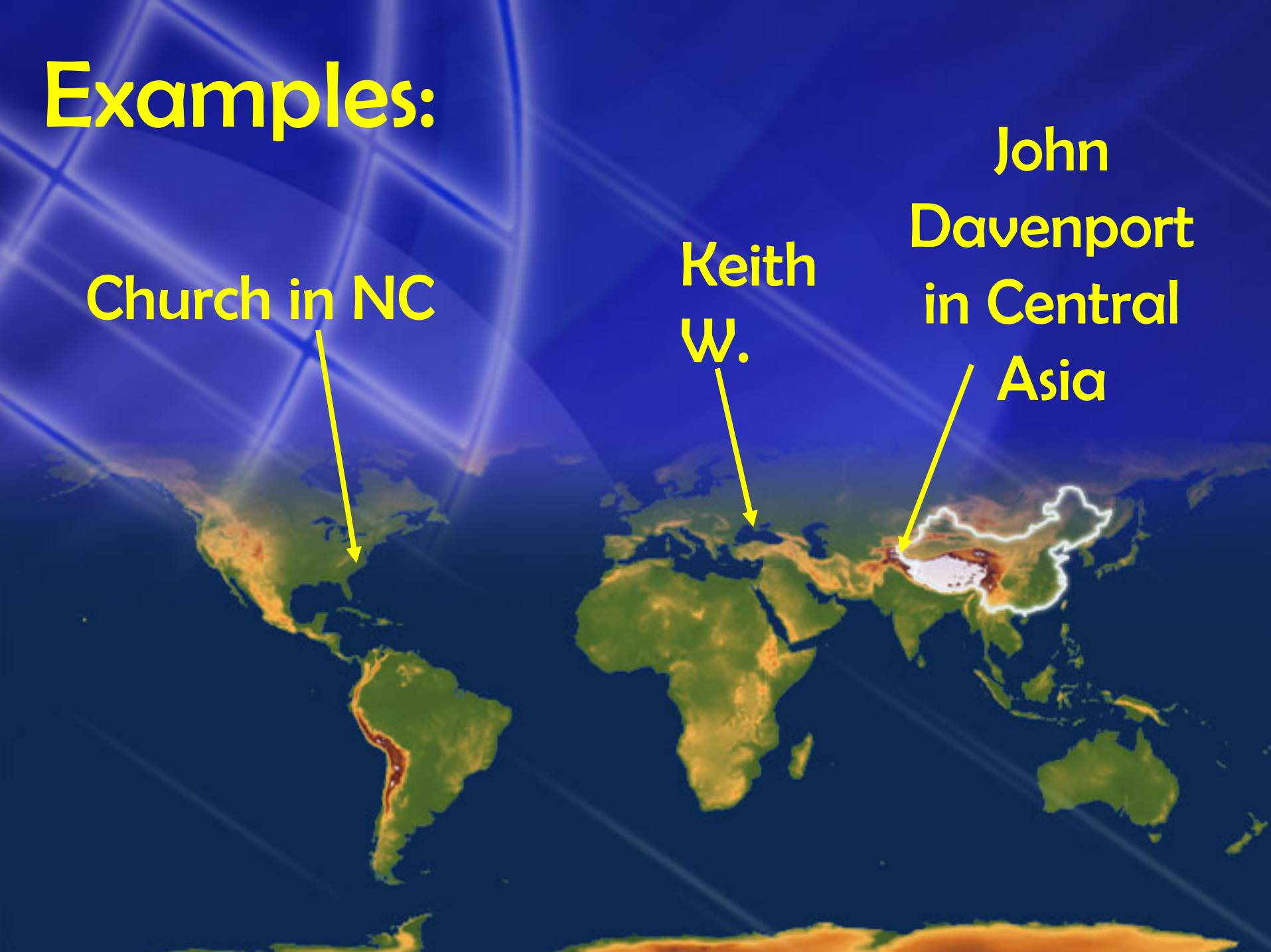
Church in NC



Keith
W.



John
Davenport
in Central
Asia



Many are
missions
minded

Few are truly
missions
active



What do
you mean
by Missions
Active ?

Churches that are:
Totally active
partners with
those on the
field in reaching
the unchurched.





Is this a problem ?

Yes !





Reasons Why churches have not been active:





1. It was the philosophy of the day.
2. Some of the previous leadership wanted it that way.
3. It was a lot of work on the part of missionaries, churches and the IMB.



Main Reason

Churches today have given over the responsibility of reaching the world to someone else.

Para Church
Groups

The IMB

Others



**Some would counter that this is
the way we should do it.**

Let the pro's do it !





One Problem:

Personal opinion, This is not what we find in scripture.

We find the responsibility of reaching the unchurched given to The Church.



“ It is not the job of the IMB to do missions on behalf of Southern Baptist...”
Jerry Rankin, President , IMB

The IMB is not the church !





What is needed ?

How do we do it ?

Mobilization and Partnerships



