



# ALL IN 4

## Packing Your Coffin

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem...all Judea...Samaria... to the remotest part of the earth."* Acts 1:8

100 years ago God's ALL IN men took seriously Jesus' gracious invitation to follow Him (Mark 1:17-18). When they saw the depth of God's love for them and the grace He extended to forgive their sins on the cross they grew to see themselves as one-way missionaries. They saw the great need for others to experience the same forgiveness and eternal hope in Christ so they bought one way tickets for their families to the mission field. Instead of packing their goods in suitcases, they packed their few belongings in coffins. As they sailed away they said "good-bye" to everyone and everything they knew because they assumed they would never return. God used their lives significantly as seen on one of their tombstones: *"When they came there was no light; when they left there was no darkness."* When/why did following Christ start becoming a safe, easy cruise rather than sacrificial, dangerous and radical lifestyle (radish/root)? At what point does a follower of Christ become an **ALL IN** active missionary?

A missionary is not someone who **crosses the seas**; A missionary is someone who helps others **see the cross**.

**SENT** Jesus considered Himself as One who was **sent** by the Father and His disciples as **sent** by Him. When is a follower of Christ **"sent"**?

### Jesus considered Himself as the "SENT ONE" (Gospel of John)

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 4:34 | 7:16  |
| 5:24 | 7:18  |
| 5:30 | 7:28  |
| 6:29 | 7:29  |
| 6:38 | 8:29  |
| 6:39 | 11:42 |
| 6:44 | 17:25 |

### ALL IN men see themselves as being "SENT" by Jesus their Lord

- John 17:18; 20:21
- Acts 9:17
- Acts 13:1-4; 20:24
- Col 1:28-29
- I Thess 3:2
- Matt 28:18-20

**THE SIN OF THE DESERT** A Bedouin one day responded to his persistent friend who repeatedly told him about Jesus. "I understand now why you are so determined. You do not want to commit the sin of the desert which is knowing where there is water but refusing to tell others." (II Kings 7:1-9; I Thess 2:1-12)



**ACTS 1:8** Jesus promised living water to all who repent, believe in and receive His gift of eternal life (Jn 4:13-15; 28-29; 7:37-39; Mark 1:14-15). In His last recorded words on earth He sends His men to be His ALL IN living water bearers in 4 different types of situations.

**Jerusalem** place of greatest failure, fear, opportunity (ch 1-12).

**Judea** place of greatest familiarity with religion, Jewish culture, family. People most like me! (ch 13-19).

**Samaria** place of greatest enemies, confusion, prejudice (ch 8).

**Remotest parts** place of greatest unknown circumstance + people most unlike me spiritually, mentally, socially, culturally. (ch 20-28).

Can you identify an example of each of these four situations in your own life? To which has He currently sent you? Please know that God loves you and desires to use you though He doesn't need you! So your responsibility is to enjoy responding to His ability in each situation.

**ASSIGNMENT** To which one of these four audiences do you currently feel "sent" by God? Stop and thank Him for sending you. Find one other man sent to the same audience and pray together.



**TAG TEAM** When/why did following Christ start becoming a safe, easy cruise rather than sacrificial, dangerous and radical lifestyle? In what ways have you packed your coffin?