



# THE FOUR CIRCLES

A Spiritual Journey from the  
*Holy Land*

## INTRODUCTION

The Land of Israel is a place rich in history, but it is also rife with challenges unparalleled anywhere else I have traveled. *The Four Circles* is a Bible study done from the perspective that Israel in general and the Jewish people in particular play a special role throughout time.

There are Christians who disagree—maybe you're one of them. Whichever way you lean, don't let it be a hindrance to experiencing this study. Our primary purpose is to use the setting of the Holy Land to drive home the personal application of Scripture and the responsibilities God has given to believers.

There is nothing in the Bible about there being “four circles”; it is merely used in this study as a visual to help provide understanding. You have a calling to each of these circles. This is something that we should all be able to agree on.

Each 5 ½-minute video in this four-part series is accompanied by a study guide. In it, you will find verses to read, facts to understand, questions to ask, and thoughts to ponder. Our hope for you with this study is simple: that you may grow closer to God, obey His Word, and do your part to reach the nations for His glory.





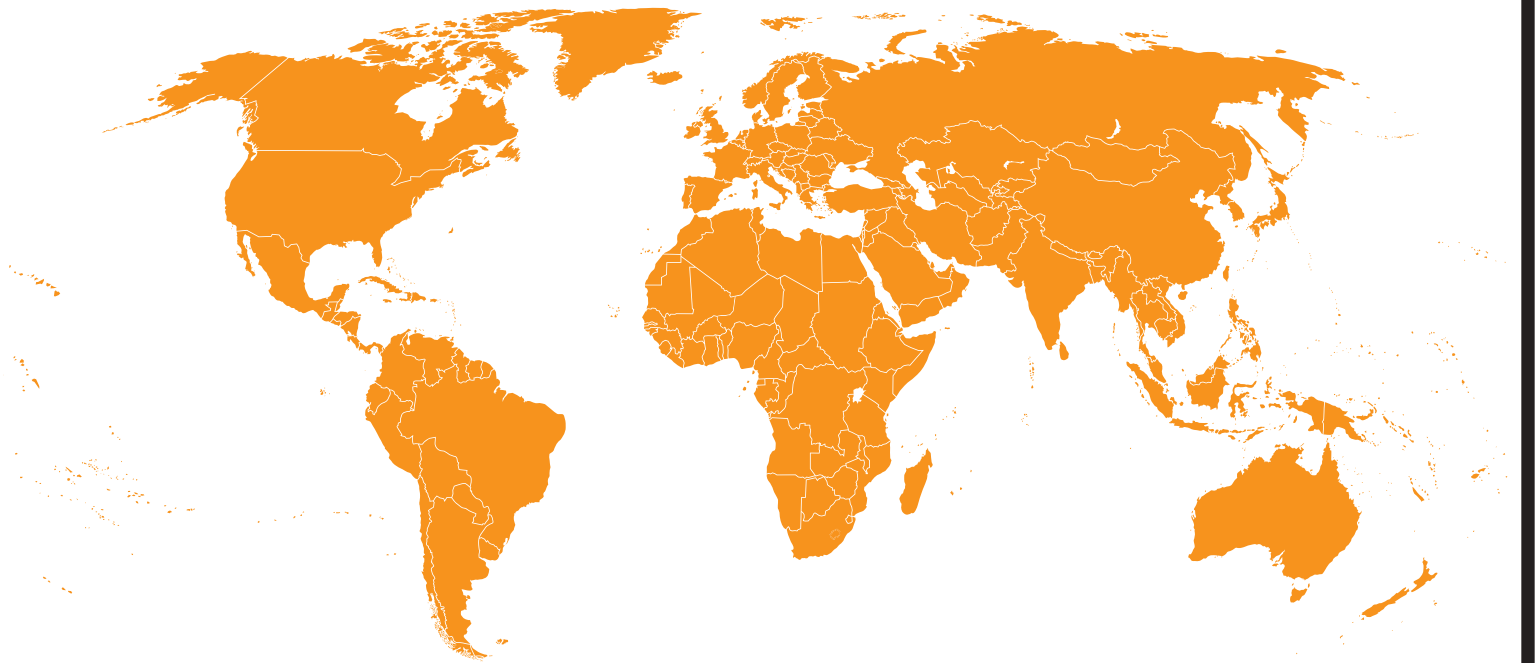


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## CIRCLE ONE: THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

This Bible study covers four circles, starting with the widest circle: our planet, or “the ends of the earth.” God loved and loves the whole world, so He sent His Son to bring salvation to everyone. But before reaching the ends of the earth with the Gospel, Jesus focused on one people group in particular. As mentioned, this study is done from the perspective that the Jewish people have a special role to play in the past, present, and future. But, so do you.



### ***For further understanding***

When Jesus came, He instructed His disciples to go only to Jewish towns (Matthew 10:5–6). Read [Matthew 15:21–28](#), the story of the Canaanite woman.

- Why do you think Jesus said He only came for the Jews?
- Does it surprise you or even bother you that Jesus said this? Why or why not?
- Why do you think the Jews heard the Gospel *before* it was taken to the ends of the earth?

### ***The widest circle***

A transition happens at the end of Jesus' earthly ministry. Read Matthew 24:14 and Acts 1:8.

The disciples, and especially the Apostle Paul, further advanced the Gospel outward from the Jews to the Gentiles, which includes everyone else (Romans 1:16).

- Did God have to extend salvation to the Gentiles (John 3:16)?
- How does this verse in Matthew 24 say we will know when the Gospel has been “preached in the whole world”?
- Even though these quotes from Jesus in Matthew 24 and Acts 1 were a directive from Him to us, list some reasons why you think so many believers live as if the “Great Commission” is optional? (see *quote below*)

### ***What about you?***

- Have you clearly accepted Jesus as your Savior? If so, do nonbelievers see it demonstrated in your life?
- Are you ready at this and any other moment to share the Gospel as the Lord provides you with opportunities? This witness should be done in both word and action—no continual exclusion of one or the other.
- What can you do to help spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth (outside of your nation)?
- How can this be manifested to immigrants and refugees living close to you?

### ***Things to pray for***

- World evangelization through both missionaries and the indigenous church
- Your personal role in God's master plan for the nations
- That Revelation 7:9 would be fulfilled soon

Hudson Taylor, missionary to China:

*The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed.*

### ***Additional resources on efforts to reach the ends of the earth:***

[joshuaproject.net](http://joshuaproject.net)

[peoplegroups.org](http://peoplegroups.org)

[finishingthetask.com](http://finishingthetask.com)