

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Matthew 28:16-20

3/9/25

Nic Gibson

All Authority

Trip went well

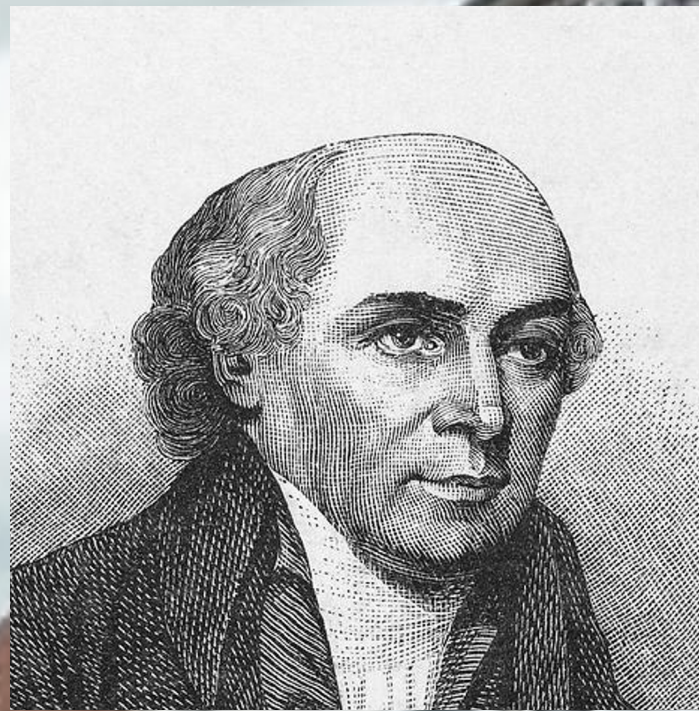


India has the most unreached people groups of any nation
Then Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, China, Japan, Iran..



40°N

10°N

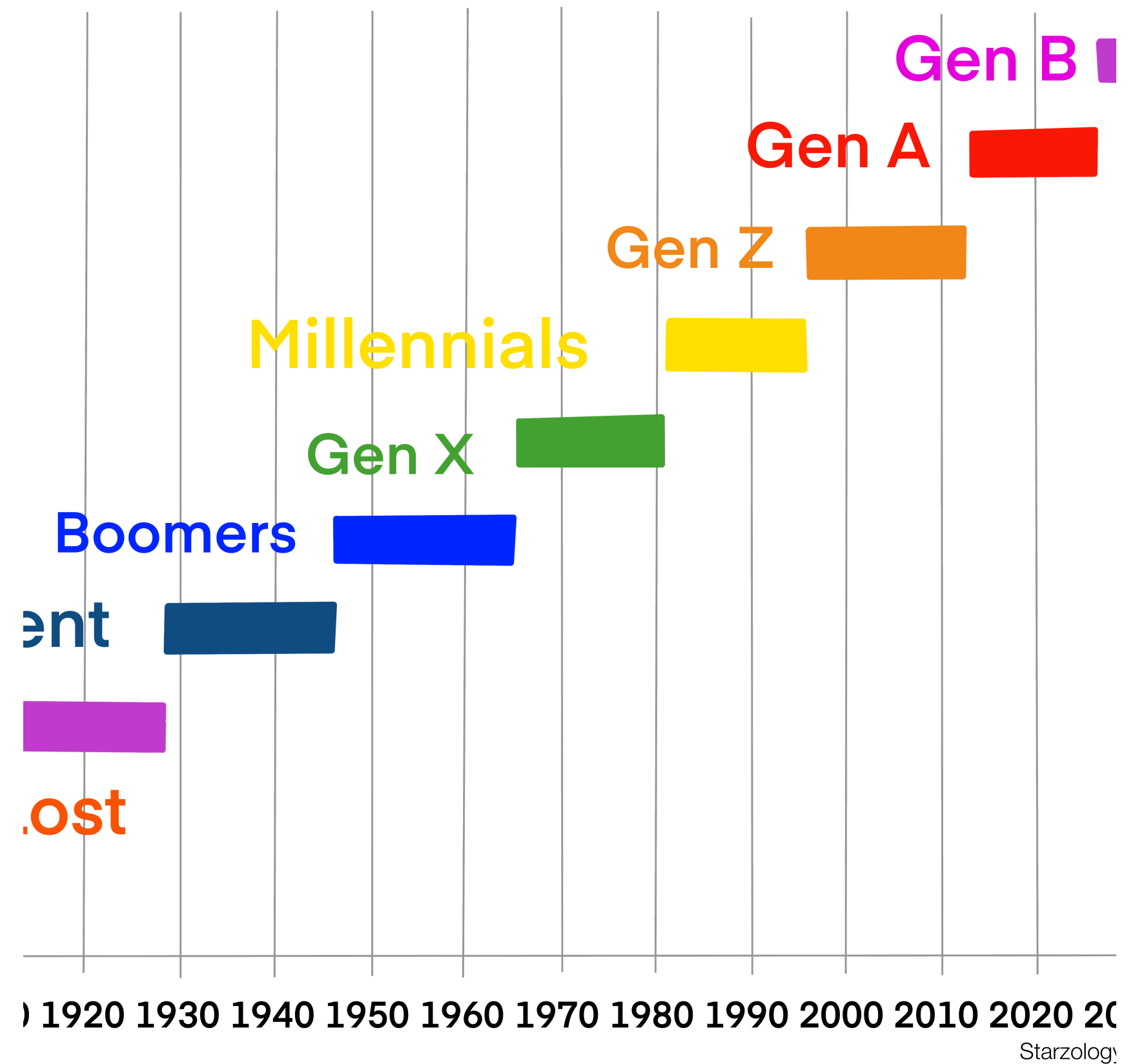


Baptists:

- Religious Liberty 1663
- Against Nominalism
- We can learn Scripture
- Priesthood of all believers

- We are Christ's ambassadors everywhere and to everyone

Every Christian
in every generation
must become a
truly universal
Christian and find
honor in being
Christ's
ambassador



POINT 1

**Jesus has
sent us**

“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you!”

John 20:21

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. **And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.** We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

Jesus believed that

lostness

was the world's biggest
problem in every place
and in every generation.

(Not poverty, injustice, racism, sexism, partisanism, debt, migration, consumerism, homophobia, patriotism, elitism, mental health, living wages, militarism, health care...)

Missionaries in 2001: 1,135,000

Will the church lose its nerve
right when the world seeks to
close us out (again)?

Missionaries in 2024: 430,000

75% of missionaries quit for "preventable reasons"

The world is closing its doors

Read: the Powers and Authorities and Elites

Totalitarian



China
Iran
Jordan
Saudi

Dicta-ethno



India
Pakistan
Nigeria
Mali

Org Crime & Klepto



South Africa
Palestine
Mexico

Burea-woke



Scotland
UK

The world has always done it

The Authorities and Elites distrust the evangelical Church



Authoritarian

Traditionalism

Elitism

Dislike

Prejudice

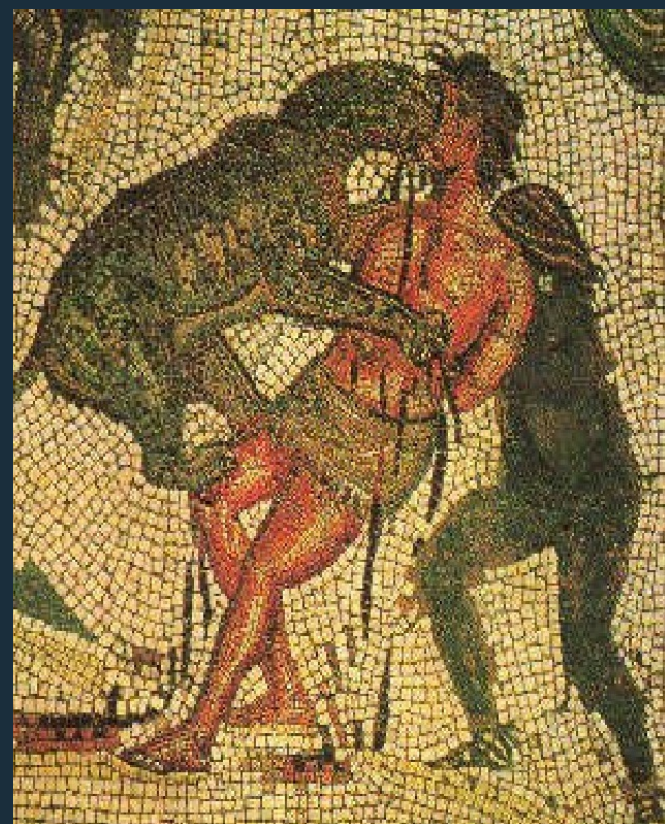
Militarism

Humiliation

Intellectualism

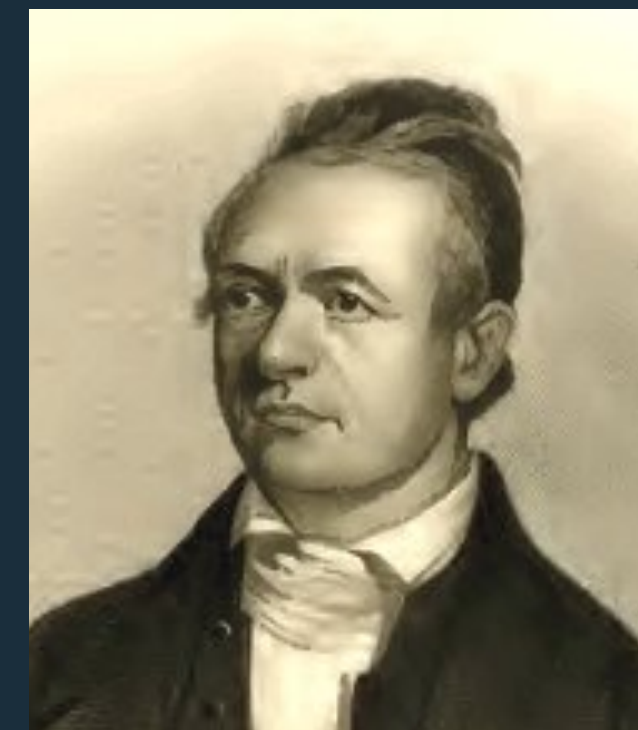
Commercialism

Corruption





The 2 Prongs



Intimidation
(Fear)

Invitation
(Desire)

Persecution

Temptation

"Your life will be ruined..."

"If you can be flexible..."



POINT 2

**Jesus gave us
authority**

**We don't need anyone else's
permission to obey him.**

Matthew 28:18-19

“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...’”

Matthew 28:18-19

*"Then **Jesus** came to them and said, '**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been **given to me**. **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...**'"*

Deductive Implication

Where higher authority meets lower authority,
the extent of **the lower authority is limited.**

Authority of Jesus

Commission &
Commands of
Jesus

Governance

Civil Society and
Personal liberty

Tyranny

Personal Spheres

Limitations on Governing authority:

1. Right to speak
2. Right to movement
3. Right to assembly
4. Right to conscience
5. Right to exercise
6. Right to be free of interference

Equally true for
empires or
democracies

Transgressing these liberties is tyranny.

General Godliness:

Concerning Authorities



Respect, obey
and support
instituted
authorities

Rom 13, 1 Tim 2:1, Titus 3:1, 1 Peter
2:13-14, Mk 12:17, Matt 22:21



Do not be servile
to tyranny, esp. in
divine commands

Acts 4:16, 5:29, Acts 23:2-5, Daniel
6:1, Mk 12:17, Matt 22:21, Matt
28:19-20, Jn 20:21...



Morality of Hierarchy:

Disobeying authority is **rebellion**

Failing to govern is **remissness**

Ruling w/o authority is **tyranny**

Obeying tyranny is **servility**

Accepting tyrannies as limitations
on our commission is servility.

Responses to Tyranny

1. Obedience
2. Civil Disobedience
3. Ignore illegitimate action
4. Subversive or deceptive action
5. Violent revolution

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SCYLLA & CHARYBDIS

A desperate fight

All is lost

