

A Declaration of The Fourth International Consultation of the Back to Jerusalem Movement, BJM IV

June 1-4, 2010, Jerusalem

In June 2010, despite challenges and difficulties, about 100 co-workers from mainland China and other countries, including many overseas Chinese, attended the Fourth International Consultation of the Back to Jerusalem Movement (BJM IV). This timely Consultation was held in Jerusalem about 200 years after the arrival of Robert Morrison in China and 100 years after the 1910 Edinburgh Missionary Conference. Participants in this Consultation affirmed their Evangelical beliefs and the Lausanne Covenant and, through much prayer, sharing and discussion, arrived at the following common understandings with regard to the BJM:

1. **We firmly believe** that it is God's promise and the undeniable mission of the Church to share the good news with all nations in the end times. As God has prophesied through the prophet Isaiah: "it is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth" (Isa. 49:6).

2. **We firmly believe** that God has blessed the Chinese people with increasing global status and influence "for such a time as this" (Esth. 4:14). Therefore, we believe that "spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth" is also the responsibility of the global Chinese church. Following Christ's example, with a humble and diligent attitude, we should wisely use the present opportunities to serve the peoples of all nations.

3. **We firmly believe** that Chinese believers should repay the gospel debt to the descendants of both Ishmael and Isaac and other unreached people groups residing along the Silk Road so that they will pattern after the faith of Abraham and receive the gospel of justification by faith. For centuries, the Silk Road, both the land and the sea routes, has served as the link between the East and the West through which Chinese goods were brought to the West. Likewise, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam were spread to China by means of the same routes. We pray that these routes will now become the "Gospel Highway".

4. **We firmly believe** that we need to proclaim the gospel of peace. We encourage all people to first be reconciled with God (2 Cor. 5:18-20), so that reconciliation between individuals and people groups, especially descendants of both Ishmael and Isaac, will be possible. Only then, will those who have been living in conflict or abusive situations find genuine peace in God. Thus, we should become Christ's peacemaking ambassadors.

5. **We firmly believe** that as we bring the gospel to Muslims, Jews and other unreached people groups the spiritual struggle will become more intense, probably similar to what the apostle Paul has encountered (Phil. 1:30). Therefore, we need to train ourselves to be godly (1 Tim 4:7), "to put on the full armour of God" (Eph. 6:10-12), "to be alert and to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests" (Eph. 6:18).

6. **We firmly believe** that Chinese churches in China and overseas should place high priority on sharing the gospel with Muslims and other numerous unreached people groups in China. Before His ascension into heaven, Jesus Christ commanded His disciples not only to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth, but also to their neighbouring people groups (Acts 1:8). Therefore, as the global Chinese church participates in global mission, it should also focus on the unreached people groups within China.

7. **We firmly believe** that collaborative partnership among all members of the global church is essential to the fulfillment of the Back to Jerusalem vision and that such collaboration will bring about the maximum glory to God. Thus, we will partner with like-minded churches and mission agencies to share the BJM vision and to recruit, train and send mission workers. We will also support each other in the mission field.

We praise God for His guidance and protection for this Consultation. Following the will of God, we will continue to advance the Kingdom through the vision of Back to Jerusalem Movement.

To God be the glory, Amen!