

## Bosch part 3: The Emerging Paradigm

CTM202  
Mission in Context  
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## The Unravelling of Modernity

- Seeds sown, ironically by modernity's most successful child: science
- Einstein, Bohr, Plank, Heisenberg
- Uncertainty and relativity: role of observer restored

## The Unravelling of Modernity

- Reason is not enough
- Man (sic!) over nature failed
- Cause and effect inadequate: quest for purpose and meaning
- Humans are the problem, not the planet
- "Objective" knowledge called into question

## The Unravelling of Modernity

- The world is fundamentally different
- So new understanding of mission essential
- What constants remain?

## Six Constants of Mission

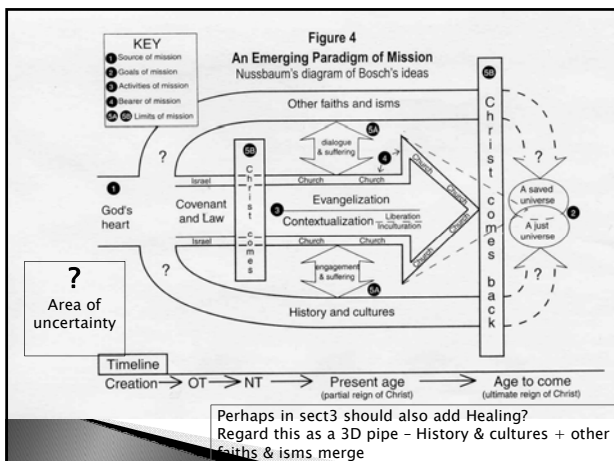
- |                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Who is Jesus?            | Christology  |
| 2. What is the Church?      | Ecclesiology |
| 3. What about the future?   | Eschatology  |
| 4. What is salvation?       | Soteriology  |
| 5. How do we value people?  | Anthropology |
| 6. How do we value culture? | Culture      |

From *Bevans & Schroeder*

## The Five Marks of Mission

1. To proclaim the good news of the kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation & sustain & renew the life of the earth

*ACC 1984: Lambeth 1988: General Synod 1996*



## The Source of Mission

“Mission has its origin in the heart of God. God is a fountain of sending love. This is the deepest course of mission. It is impossible to penetrate deeper still; there is mission because God loves people”

*Bosch pg 392*

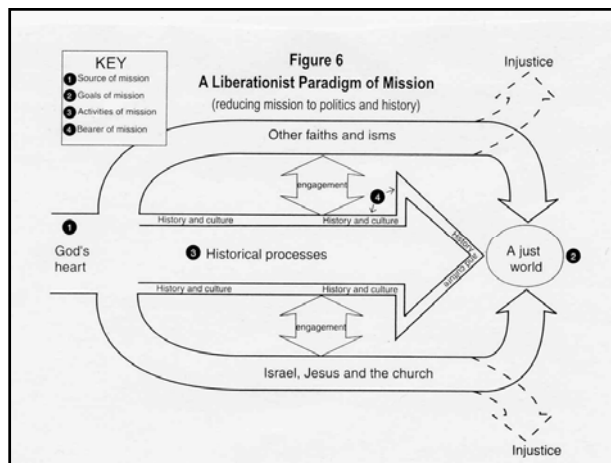
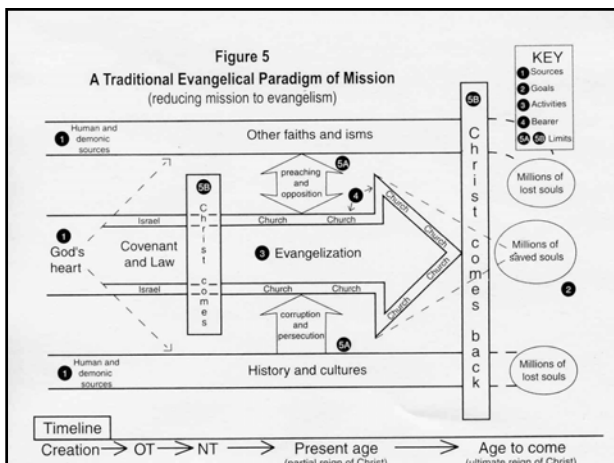
## Missio Dei

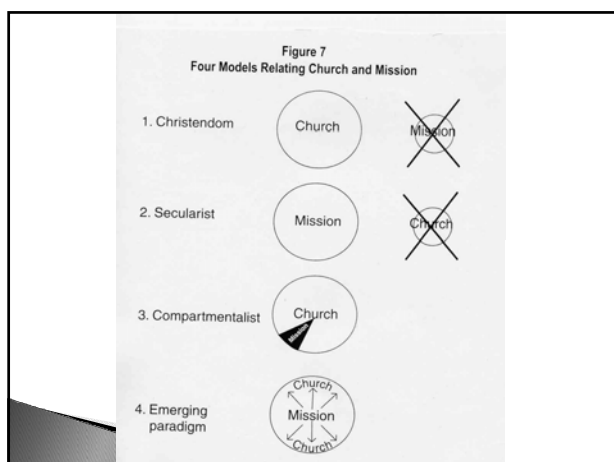
1. Mission is bigger than the church.
2. The church is derived from mission. Mission cannot be incidental to the church.
3. Mission cannot be reduced to conversions and church membership. God is bigger.
4. Mission is the church's DNA

## But some problems . .

Two contradictory takes on *Missio Dei*

1. God is used in a generic sense: so all expressions of a god must be included
2. The Triune God revealed in Jesus: particularist (?)





## Some problems

1. Treating mission as one compartment of the church's activity
2. Treating church and mission as separable concepts
3. Accepting denominational divisions as inevitable
4. Missionary apartheid: sending & receiving
5. Treating the laity as second class members

## Some limited success?

- › Break down of compartmentalisation?
- › Newbiggin "the local congregation as the only effective hermeneutic of the gospel"
- › Lausanne covenant / evangelical awakenings
- › Salvation involves vocation as well as justification & sanctification [Barth]