

Have you ever missed an opportunity?

“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” II Peter 3:9

It is said that one of the greatest disasters in the history of Christianity took place in 1271. Nichelo and Matteo Polo, the father and the uncle of Marco Polo, were visiting the Kubla Kahn. At that time, Kubla Kahn was a world ruler. He ruled all of China, all of India, and all of the East.

Kubla Khan was attracted to the story of Christianity as Nichelo and Matteo told it to him. So he said this to them, “You shall go to your high priest and tell him on my behalf to send me 100 men skilled in your religion, and I shall be baptized. And when I am baptized, all my barons and great men will be baptized, and their subjects will receive baptism too, and so there will be more Christians here than there are in your parts.”

So Nichelo and Matteo Polo went to the highest religious authority, requesting 100 missionaries. The pope responded, “Those barbarians don’t deserve the gospel.” Nothing was done for about 30 years, and then only two or three missionaries were sent.

Too few. Too Late.

As a result of this delay, Buddhist monks, who were pleased to come, converted the largest empire history has ever known- from China into the Middle East and Europe to Buddhism.

Have you ever looked back at an opportunity that God has sent you and you think- Wow- that was a lost opportunity? I think we all have. God gives us opportunities to be witnesses to those around us. It is up to us to reach out at the Right- God- Timed Moment and do a work for him.