

Matthew 10th Chapter (2nd Discourse-missionary service)

1. The Twelve Apostles (1-4)
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3. Coming Persecutions (16-25)
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1.The Twelve Apostles (1-4)

- Jesus purposely selected twelve of them for a special relationship with Him and a special assignment.
- What is the difference between disciple and an Apostle?
 - a. A disciple is simply a “learner,” a “student” if you will.
 - b. A disciple is someone who attaches himself to a teacher in order to learn from that teacher.
 - c. An apostle, though, is someone who carries authority.
 - d. They have both the power and the right to act on behalf of the one that sent them.
 - e. Jesus gives them authority over unclean spirits (i.e. demons) that they might cast them out. He also gives them authority to heal every kind of disease and sickness.
 - f. Jesus had the authority, both the power and right, over these things and He gives it to His apostles.
 - g. The word “apostle” specifically refers to someone sent with the authority of the sender.
 - h. The apostles carried the authority of Jesus.
- Who were these men that Jesus would entrust to represent Him with such authority?
 - a. They must have been extraordinary men of high standing, integrity, will, and courage.
 - b. Jesus had spent all night praying about the decision. Certainly He picked only the best.
 - c. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong.

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1. Simon Peter

- a. The first apostle also called Peter. He is mentioned more often throughout the New Testament than any other Apostle. He is praised for confessing that “Jesus is the Christ, the son of God,” . Jesus saying to him, “Get thee behind me, Satan.” Peter took out his short sword and began swinging and managed to slice off Malchus’ ear. After His resurrection the Lord told Simon Peter and the other Apostles to wait in Jerusalem, but after some time had passed, he decided to return to fishing (John 21:3). Tradition tells us about Peter’s death. After he was forced to witness the crucifixion of his wife he was also crucified, though it was upside-down at his request because he felt unworthy to die as Jesus died.

2. Andrew

- a. Simon Peter’s brother. Fishermen from Bethsaida. He had been a follower of John the Baptist.

3. James and John
 - a. The next apostle is James, the son of Zebedee. James also applies to John, where James is mentioned, so is John. Whatever one did, the other was also involved.
4. Philip
 - a. He was a friend of Simon, Peter, and Andrew. He also became a martyr. It is said he was stripped, hung upside down by his feet.
5. Nathanael (Bartholomew)
 - a. Known as Bartholomew. He too, likes Philip.
6. Thomas
 - a. We often call him “doubting Thomas” because he said he would not believe the Lord was raised from the dead until he saw Him and touched Him.
7. Matthew (Levi)
 - a. Lord’s call to him in Matthew 9:9. What a wonderful example of the change the Lord makes in a life. A man considered to be a traitor to his nation, and worse than thieves and prostitutes, is changed into the apostle whose primary ministry is to the Jewish nation.
8. James
 - a. Son of Alphaeus, who is also called James the lesser.
9. Thaddaeus
 - a. He is also called Judas, the son of James.
10. Simon the Zealot
 - a. Called as “Canaanite”. This title gives us some insight into him as probably a member of radical political party of the Zealots.
11. Judas Iscariot
 - a. The last apostle is Judas Iscariot which means “Judas, man of Kerioth” which was a small town in Judea. Here is a man controlled by self-desire. His greatest act of covetousness was his betrayal of the Lord for thirty pieces of silver.

2.The Mission of the Twelve (5-15)

1. Matthew 10:5-15 includes Jesus’ instructions to the Apostles of the ministry they would perform.
2. The first principle that we find is that ministry needs to be focused.
 - a. “These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them, “Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
 - b. They are sent only to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel.” They were not to go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans.
 - c. Even in the Apostle Paul’s ministry, he went to the Jews first, then the Gentiles (Romans 1:16). Israel is God’s chosen nation and they were to take the knowledge and understanding of God to all the other nations.
 - d. The message of the kingdom needed to go to them first. That is why Jesus focused His ministry upon the Jews.
3. The second principle is that we need to give a clear message. “And as you go, preach, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
 - a. God loves and determined to redeem man by paying the penalty of sin Himself through the death of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary.
 - b. The apostles were to “go and preach, saying, “The kingdom of heaven was at hand.”

4. The third principle is that “Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons; freely you received, freely give.”
 - a. These are the elements that proved their apostleship.
 - b. These signs were part of the confirmation that Jesus was the Messiah and they also confirmed that the apostles were sent by Jesus.
 - c. “Freely you received, freely give.” All that you have, your spiritual gifts, your natural talents, even the things you own, have come because of God’s grace to you.
5. The third principle is a heart that trusts God.
 - a. “Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts, or a bag for your journey, or even two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for the worker is worthy of his support.”
 - b. This was part of their training to see that God would meet their needs.
 - c. The reason, “the worker is worthy of his support.” They would earn their living as they ministered.
6. The fourth principle is that we need to concentrate on those who respond.
 - a. “And into whatever city or village you enter, inquire who is worthy in it; and abide there until you go away. And as you enter the house, give it your greeting. And if the house is worthy, let your greeting of peace come upon it;”
 - b. The idea of a greeting of peace being received is that the “shalom” given by the apostle, the wish for those in the house to have total well-being in mind, body, and spirit, would be confirmed by their receptiveness to the apostles message.
7. The fifth principle is that we remove ourselves from those who do not listen.
 - a. “But if it is not worthy, let your greeting of peace return to you. And whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake off the dust of your feet. Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment, than for that city.”
 - b. The apostles were directed to give an outward sign of shaking the dust off their feet.
 - c. This sign arose from the practice of Jews who had traveled in a Gentile land. When they returned to Judea they would shake off the dust from that country. The idea was an outward sign of protest against the people who had rejected God’s message. Paul and Barnabas actually did this when leaving Pisidia of Antioch.
8. The gospel is too precious and there are too many that have not heard to waste time on those that reject it. We need to move on and spend the time with those that are responding to it. Have a heart that trusts the Lord.

3.Coming Persecutions (16-25)

1. This message has one point: Expect persecution and don’t live in fear. And that’s the outline.
2. Disciples are like sheep among wolves.
 - a. Be prepared to live like a sheep among wolves.
 - b. Jesus sends them out as defenseless sheep among evil, wicked, vicious, God-haters.
 - c. This was a promise of difficulty and tribulation and persecution.
3. How disciples should live in a hostile world?
 - a. “Wise as serpents...” :- serpents carried the idea of clever. Be prudent. Sensible. Avoid conflicts and attacks. Have a sense of appropriateness.
 - b. “Innocent as doves...”:- “Innocent” means “unmixed”, Be different from the world, Be holy Prudent and innocent.

4. Persecution will come from four areas:
 - a. "They will flog you in their synagogues. "But the Holy Spirit will direct us as we go.
 - b. Persecution from Family (10:21-22, 34-36).
5. Conflict will come on account of Jesus.
 - a. Persecution from Society, "and you will be hated by all".
 - b. Expect Persecution because Jesus was persecuted (10:24-25).
6. Jesus is telling his disciples to not expect anything less. If the world hates Jesus, and it does, then the world will hate you.
7. Jesus gives three reasons why they need not fear, don't fear people because the truth will prevail (26-27).
 - a. The disciples will be vindicated.
 - b. Teach publicly what you learn privately.
 - c. Jesus describes the coming judgment as a time for disclosing all the secrets.
8. "You are of more value than many sparrows. You are more valuable than the birds!"
9. It gives confidence, even when we are like sheep in the midst of a pack of wolves.

4. Whom to Fear(26-33)

1. Jesus himself is the Light of the world. He – by his incarnation, his suffering, his death, his resurrection, his ascension, and his eventual return – is the fulfillment of all God's promises from the Old Testament, both to Israel and to his people at the ends of the world.
2. We are uncovering the hard truth of the sinfulness of others and shining the light on their need to turn to God through Christ their Savior.
3. Jesus was not making light of the grievous nature of bodily death.
4. Jesus was not calling his disciples to cower in fear before God but to live with hope and in peace because of his sovereign authority. If we have a proper fear of God then we can carry out the mission to which Christ has sent us with courage, knowing that He who is the Lord of heaven and hell will be with us in the face of trials, hardships, persecutions, and even death itself.
5. Jesus gave his disciples to have no fear was because of their standing as sons of God in Him.
 - a. No sparrow falls from the ground apart from God's will. He's attentively sovereign over people as well, knowing the number of the hairs on their heads.
 - b. We are of so much more worth to Him than sparrows (v. 31).
6. The Father's love is sure and secure for all who are in his Son, Christ Jesus because his love for his Son is eternal.
7. Jesus now sits as the Son of Man in authority (Daniel 7:13-14) at the right hand of the Father and makes intercession for us by His blood (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 9:15, 24).
8. If we are united with Christ, we can stand before God with hope and peace, knowing that He loves us because He loves his Son Jesus with whom we are united by grace through faith.
9. If we deny him before others, He will deny us before God (vv. 32-33). Consider Judas, who though he walked with Jesus for three years turned his back on Him and denied that He was the Christ before the Jewish leaders.

5. Not Peace, but a Sword(34-39)

1. In this final part of Jesus sermon in chapter 10 Jesus highlights three major points:

- a. There will be Family Hostility.
 - b. There needs to be Family Priorities.
 - c. There will be Eternal Rewards.
2. Jesus gives some revolutionary and radical instructions for individuals and families.
 3. Family Hostility (10:34-36).
 - a. Jesus will ultimately bring peace, but not right away.
 - i. This has to be one of the most striking statements that Jesus has ever made. Isn't this a contradiction to what the angels said at the birth of Jesus, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased?" Jesus is even called the Prince of peace. Blessed are the peace-makers, for they will be called the sons of God. God is a peace-maker. His gospel is called a gospel of peace. He gave a gospel of reconciliation. It makes reconciliation not only between sinners and God, but between sinners and sinners.
 - b. What is meant by the statement "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? I have not come to bring peace, but a sword."
 - i. It means; "The sword is the effect of His coming, not the purpose of His coming." The return of the Messiah would bring them peace and prosperity. Even though Jesus is the Prince of Peace, people treated Him with hostility and murder. He didn't experience peace, He experienced death. The same thing will happen to His followers.
 - c. The division and hostility that comes from being identified with Jesus.
 - i. There will be hostility in the marriage. There will be conflict and aggression because of the gospel for some marriages.
 4. Family Priorities (10:37-39).
 - a. Ultimate love and loyalty belongs to Jesus alone. Jesus demands this when He summarizes the Law (Mat. 22:34-40). Our priority is to love God above everything. All other relationships, even the family, become idolatrous when Christ is not loved first and foremost. Ultimate love and loyalty belongs to Jesus alone, above family, and above self.
 - b. "Take up your cross..." (38).
 - i. We will live for Christ, or we will live for ourselves. It was a death to the self-life and the beginning of a completely new life.
 - c. "Follow after me" meant follow the teacher. Disciples usually walked behind their teachers. It's a complete life-change.
 - d. "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (39)

6.Eternal Rewards (40-42)

1. The blessings of the future kingdom will offset the sacrifices made here in this life. The persecution experienced is painful. The hostility because of being attached to Jesus is painful, but all of that pain will eventually be offset in the coming Kingdom.
2. The majority of Christians think very little about eternal rewards.
3. Even the smallest gestures towards the Lord's people will be taken into account.
 - a. A cup of cold water was a gift that even the poorest person could give.