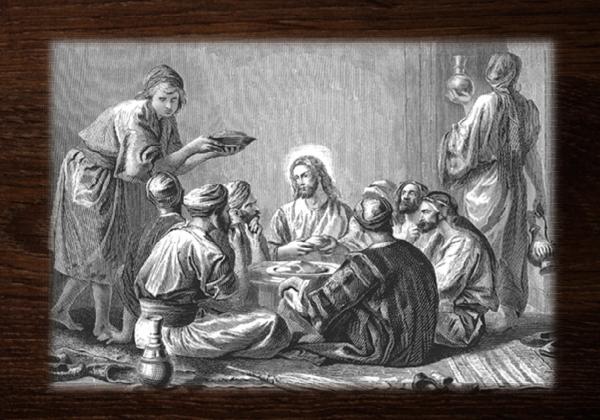
Jesus In The Manuscript of Matthew

MESSAGE #30: TAX COLLECTORS & SINNERS

MATTHEW 9:9-13

The BIG Idea: The tax collectors and sinners in *your* life need mercy.



What Is Mercy?



"Mercy is the kind, sympathetic, and forgiving treatment of others that works to relieve their distress and cancel their debt...In the mirror of mercy, all of us tend to look the same."

Profile #1 – Matthew

- o AKA: Levi.
- o Name Meaning: "Gift of God."
- o Occupation: Tax Collector.
 - o Traitors...
 - o Thieves...
 - o Terrible...



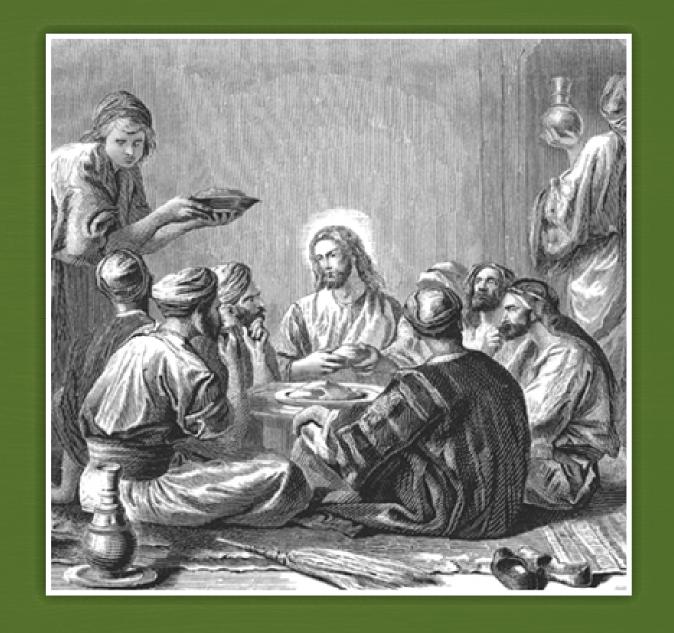
"Matthew stands as a vivid reminder that the Lord often chooses the most despicable people of this world, redeems them, gives them new hearts, and uses them in remarkable ways."

Profile #2 – Tax Collectors & Sinners

Fact #1: The term "sinners" refers to harlots, criminals, and the dregs of society...

Fact #2: Tax collectors were ranked underneath all these sinners...

Fact #3: From a humanistic-cultural point of view, you're significantly better than these tax collectors and sinners...



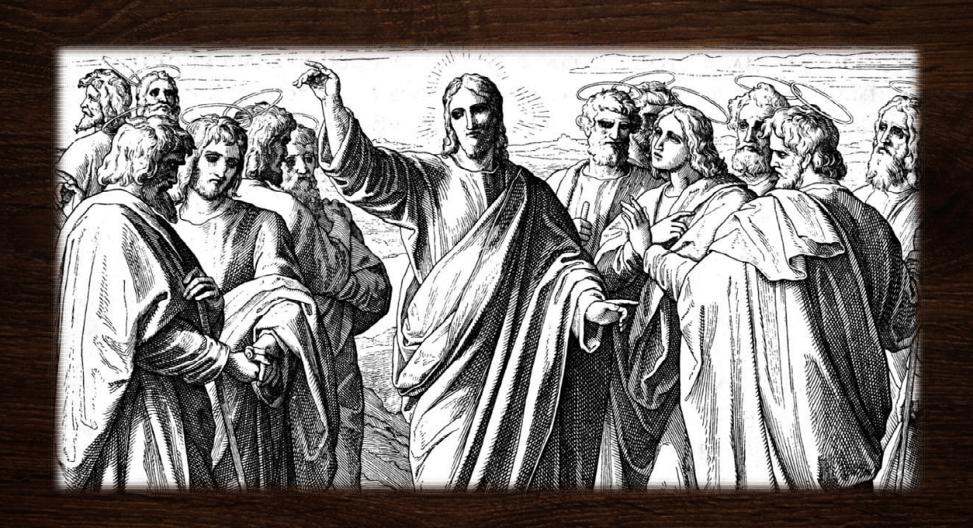
Profile #3 – Jesus

- o Jesus Choose Matthew.
- o Jesus Associated With Tax Collectors & Sinners.
- o Jesus Extended Mercy.

Profile #4 – Pharisees

- o Positive Exterior: Passionate; Generous; Devoted.
- o Dark Interior: Self-Righteous; Proud; Legalistic.
- o Did You Know? The pharisees in your life need mercy too...

Profile #5 – Disciples



Conclusion/Profile #6 - You



The BIG Idea: The tax collectors and sinners in *your* life need mercy.