

9/13/20

The Twelve Commissioned

Mk. 6:6b-13

One day a bunch of young people were talking about if they believed there was a heaven and hell. and Satan came next to one of them and started talking to him. The young man said, “I don’t believe in a God that punishes people”, Satan said, its ok, “I don’t believe man is bad”, Satan again said, “Its ok”. The young man said, “I don’t believe in hell”, Satan said, “its ok”.

* You see to go to hell you can believe anything, but to go to heaven, you must believe Jesus died for you and rose from the dead and repent from your sins!

Mark presents the account of Jesus when He commissioned the twelve apostles to preach the gospel, which is laid out in three movements. Mk. 6:6b-13

- I. The preparation for preaching the gospel. vs. 6b-7
- II. The instruction for preaching the gospel. vs. 8-11
- III. The proclamation was the preaching of the gospel. vs. 12-13
* The parallel passages. Matt. 10:1, 5-15;
Lk. 9:1-6

I. The preparation for preaching the gospel. vs. 6b-7

- A. The activity of Jesus prior to sending out the twelve. vs. 6b-c
 1. The time was after the departure from Nazareth. Mk. 6:1-6a
 - a. Jesus had returned to Nazareth after the raised from the dead the daughter of Jiarus with His twelve disciples. vs. 1
 - b. Jesus on the Sabbath taught in the synogogue and astonished many with His words, wisdom and mighty works. vs. 2
 - 1) This was the custom of Jesus, as He came to Nazareth for the second time.
 - 2) The first time Jesus read from Isaiah, and said to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing” and they rejected Jesus.” Is. 61:1-2a;
Lk. 4:15-21
 - c. The people had comtempt for Jesus to stating He was only a carpenter, the Son of Mary and knew his brothers and sisters, being offended at Jesus. vs. 3
 - 1) The rumors of Jesus being illegitimate were still believed.
 - 2) The Catholic Church teaches they are cousins because they teach the perpetual virginity of Mary.
 - d. Jesus knowing their unbelief in Him declared to them that a prophet is not

without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives and his own household. vs. 4

- 1) Joseph was not mentioned, so was probably dead.
- e. Jesus stated their condemnation due to unbelief, He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. vs. 5
 - 1) Familiarity breeds contempt.
 - 2) Their view of the coming Messiah was unbiblical, they were looking for a conquering Messiah to destroy Rome.
- f. Jesus marveled because of their unbelief. vs. 6a
 - 1) He was sent to His own, the Jews, but they received Him not. Jn. 1:11
 - 2) Unbelief is the greatest sin, it is sin against the love of God!
2. The response of Jesus was to continue in His consistent practice, “Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.” vs. 6b
 - a. The villages “kome” were the less populated areas of the common people.
 - b. The method of Jesus was to make a circuit to visit all them around the area of the Galilee. a Jesus continues to minister all around the area of Galille.
 - c. The pattern of Jesus was teaching “didaslo”, which means to hold discourse

with others, teaching the word of God, about the arrival of the Kingdom of God.
* Completely opposite to the traditions of the elders.

- B. The activity of Jesus to send out the twelve. vs. 7
 1. The twelve were summoned by Jesus, “And He called the twelve to *Himself*.” vs. 7a
 - a. The disciple were with Jesus, but He called them unto Himself.
 - b. Just as Jesus had done to chose the twelve apostles, “And He went up on the mountain and called to *Him* those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons.” Mk. 3:13-15
 2. The twelve were paired up to be sent out, “and began to send them out two *by two*.” vs. 7b
 - a. The twelve were broken down into six groups of two.
 - 1) We do not know the name of each pair.
 - 2) But we do know Judas Ischariot was paired up with one of the twelve.
 - 3) Mark is the only one that tells us they were sent out “two by two”.

- * Jesus commanded them not to go to the **Gentiles** not enter a city of the Samaritans. Matt. 10:5
- 4) The seventy were also sent out two by two. Lk. 10:1
- b. The arrangement of pairs served several purposes.
- 1) To be productive, as one is preaching, the other one is praying.
 - 2) To be protected, in the event of being accused falsely, solicited or attacked.
 - 3) To be accountable, lest one be tempted to compromise their witness.
 - 4) The pattern is confirmed in the Scriptures and I think it is prudent and wise, Peter and John, Barnabas and Saul, Paul and Silas.
3. The twelve were enabled by Jesus to be instruments of the miraculous, “and gave them power over unclean spirits.” vs. 7c
- a. The word power “exousia”, means the authority delegated to them.
- 1) The authority was not from them, but rather imparted to them.
 - 2) The authority given to them was divine permission from heaven, not the earth.
- b. The power imparted was for the purpose of casting out demons.
- 1) The phrase “unclean spirits” refers to demons that possessed people.

- 2) These unclean spirits are fallen angels that rebelled against God to follow Lucifer, who is Satan the devil.
- 3) That means the Judas Ischariot was imparted this divine power over unclean spirits and he cast them out as the others and yet he would not abide in Christ, but rather betray Him for thirty pieces of silver.

Illustration

God prepares every person to preach the gospel, like Gideon and the earthen lamp that need to be broken for the light to be seen and defeat the enemy. Judges 7

Application

1. The Lord Jesus desires all sinners to believe and be saved.
 - a. But not all will believe He is the Messiah and Christ the Savior of the world. Jn. 4:42
 - b. Jesus will not meet the criteria of many who have created Him after their own sinful likeness and say the Scriptures are unreliable and untrustworthy.

* “He who believes in Him is not **condemned**; but he who does not believe is **condemned already**, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” Jn. 3:18
2. The principle of pairs is of great benefit and wisdom for all of life.

- a. For doing ministry.
 - b. For doing work.
 - c. For travel, we as ministers never travel alone.
 - d. For living life with a wife or husband.
- * “**Two are better** than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him *who is* alone when he falls, For *he has* no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm *alone*? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” Eccl. 4:9-12

3. The enablement to deal with and cast out demons has to be by the Holy Spirit.

- a. We are told, “For we do not **wrestle** against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.” Eph 6:12
- b. We also know, “**He** who is in you is **greater** than **he** who is in the world.” 1Jn. 4:4c
- c. We know without the power of Jesus people are playing with fire when it comes to demons, “Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.” Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And

the evil spirit answered and said, “**Jesus I know**, and Paul I **know**; but who are you?” Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.” Acts 19:13-16

This was the preparation for preaching the gospel!

II. **The instructions for preaching of the gospel . vs. 8-11**

- A. The provisions for their journey. vs. 8-9
 - 1. Jesus told them to travel light, “He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff.” vs. 8a
 - a. The word commanded “paraggello”, means to order or charge.
 - 1) The word is used in various ways, a general giving orders to his soldiers.
 - 2) A friend calling for help.
 - 3) A teacher giving principles to a student.
 - b. The plural pronoun “them” were the ones Jesus had selected out of the crowd of disciples.
 - 1) A disciple “mathetes” is a pupil or learner.
 - 2) An apostle “apostolos”, means one sent out as an ambassador of God.
- c. The apostles could take a staff.

- 1) The word staff “rhabdos”, a walking stick.
- 2) It would be used to lean on as they travelled on their journey.
2. Jesus enumerated the things they were not allowed to take with them to preach the gospel. vs. 8b-d
 - a. No bag “pera”, a wallet or leather sack which travelers carried provisions. vs. 8b
 - b. No bread “artos”, in the form of an oblong round cake, like peta bread. vs. 8c
 - c. No copper “chalkos”, brass coins, in *their* money belts “zone” a girdle belt to carry money. vs. 8d
3. Jesus enumerated the things they were allowed to take with them to preach the gospel. vs. 8e
 - a. They were to wear sandals “sandalion”, were of leather, wood or matted grass to protect their feet and walk long distances. vs. 9a
 - b. They were not to put on two tunics, “chiton”, was an under-garment, only one was to be taken. vs. 9b
 - 1) The outer-garment was thicker and needed only if they were to take shelter outdoors.
 - 2) The twelve were to have complete trust and dependency on Christ!

B. The provisions for their lodging. vs. 10-11

1. Jesus told them they were to appreciate the hospitality given to them as they went out to preach the gospel, “Also He said to them, “In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place.” vs. 10
 - a. They were to go to houses and preach the gospel without preference or respect of person.
 - b. The location nor the house they entered was not to be rejected by them, but to except the lodging graciously.
 - c. The house was not to be despised and left to go to one with better accommodations.
 - d. Contentment is the focus in the provisions.
 - e. The labor worthy of hire. 1Cor. 9:7, 14; 1Tim. 5-18; “Deut.25:4”
2. Jesus told them they were to warn those who rejected the gospel. vs. 11
 - a. They would be rejected by some as well the message, “And whoever will not receive you nor hear you.” vs. 11a
 - b. They were to very demonstrative in their display for their rejection, “when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them.” vs. 11b-c
 - 1) The phrase to shake dust off your feet was well know, the Jews would dust themselves off before entering

- Jerusalem lest they defile it by gentile dust.
- 2) It meant to give them over to their rejection, like at Antioch. Acts 13:46
 - c. They were to understand the severity of judgment over that person, “Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!” vs. 11
 - 1) This is Judgment according to the measure of light a person has received.
 - 2) The one rejecting both the messenger and the message had a higher privilege having been sent by the Messiah Himself with the invitation of salvation.

Illustration

Many say they are called to the mission field or the ministry, yet they send letter for support and do not go out till they get the amount it will take for them to live on, preachers are always pressing and begging for money from the people.

* The greatest evidence that God has called or sent a person is that God will provide, if not He has not called or sent you!

Application

1. The mission of every believer is to labor in the harvest for the Kingdom of God.

- a. There is no limitation or exclusiveness on who we are to reach out to during the age of grace, both Jews and Gentiles are lost, separated from God, dead in trespasses and sins. Eph. 2:1-2
- b. The gospel makes Jew and Gentile one in Christ, Jesus is our peace, who broke down the middle wall of partition. Eph. 2:14
 - * “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. “Go therefore and make disciples of **all** the **nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.” Matt. 28-18-20
2. The enablement to be a witness is by the grace of God.
 - a. Through the power of the Holy Spirit to bring illumination to the sinner as he or she hears the gospel to convict them of their need of repentance to be saved. Rom. 10:17
 - b. Through trusting the atoning work of Jesus for their justification. Rom. 5:1-2
 - c. Through the imparting of a divine nature to be able to live the life of Christ. 1Pet. 1:3-4
3. The challenge for the church in every generation is to obey and depend totally on Jesus for what He wants to do.
 - a. To proclaim the preaching of the gospel where He sends us in the power of the Holy Spirit.

- b. To teach the word of God to the people of God.
- c. To pray for people to be healed, as God wills.
- d. To depend on God to provide all things and not give the idea that God is broke!
* God will provide and supply their needs as worthy workers! Lk. 10:7; 1Tim. 5:18

This was the instruction for preaching the gospel!

III. The proclamation of the preaching of the gospel . vs. 12-13

- A. The uncompromised declaration of the gospel was carried out. vs. 12
 - 1. The obedience to their gospel commission, "So they went out and preached."
 - a. The twelve apostles set out on their charge given by Jesus.
 - 1) Six groups.
 - 2) Two by two.
 - b. The twelve preached wherever they arrived.
 - 1) The village or town.
 - 2) The various houses.
 - 3) The people living in the particular house.
 - c. The twelve understood their part in their mission.
 - 1) The word preached "kerusso", means to herald or proclaim.

- 2) The word was used of professional heralds hired by kings or the state to make certain proclamations.
* So Jesus had sent them out to make a proclamation of the gospel!
- 3) The herald knew the message was not his own, but it was given to him.
* So the apostles had been given the gospel message by Jesus.
- 4) The herald knew the authority was not his, but vested to him.
* So the apostles knew Jesus had vested them with the authority to make the proclamation!
- 5) The herald knew he was not responsible for the response of his proclamation, each person hearing it was responsible.
* So the apostles knew they were not responsible for the person's rejection or acceptance of the gospel!
- 2. The faithfulness to the condition of their gospel commission, "that *people* should repent."
 - a. Often we hear preachers say salvation is unconditional, but that it not true.
 - 1) Salvation has a clear and important condition, repentance from sin.
 - 2) The preaching of the gospel brings illumination by the Holy Spirit to

- convict the sinner of their sin and need of salvation.
- 3) Faith to be saved come by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Rom. 10:17
 - 4) The sinner at that point is enabled to repent from their sins of their own free will, God does not force him.
 - 5) The word repent “metanoeo”, means to change one's mind and heart about being a sinner and ask God to forgive and save them, to be able turn around.
 - 6) The source is grace, the means is faith and the gift is salvation. Eph. 2:8-9
 - 7) There is no preaching of the gospel if there is no call to repentance, “metanaeo”, means to change of mind and heart, turn around.
 - 8) Jesus said, “I have not come to call the righteous, but **sinner**s, to **repentance**.” Lk. 5:32
- b. At times some preacher and evangelist say all you have to do to be saved is believe in Jesus.
- 1) The person answers an altar call out of an emotional response.
 - 2) The sinner is never directly confronted about sin, but a watered-down cultural gospel, that is no gospel at all.
- b. The gospel is the “good news” from heaven.

- 1) “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Rom. 3:23
 - 2) “God made Jesus to be sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” 2Cor. 5:21
 - 3) Peter preached the gospel at Pentecost and then asked them to repent, “Then Peter said to them, “**Repent**, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:38
- B.** The unlimited benefits through the gospel. vs. 13
1. The apostles delivered those possessed, “And they cast out many demons. vs. 13a
 - a. Again demons are evil spirits that need to possess a human body.
 - * Jesus delivered the demoniac at Gadara. Mk. 5
 - b. These demons are fallen angels.
 - * They were once in heaven serving God, until they rebelled with Lucifer!
 - c. Demons are also called unclean spirits.
 - * One third of the angels followed Lucifer!
 2. The apostles were used to heal those having various physical maladies, “and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.” vs. 13b-c

- a. There is nothing magical about the oil, it simply is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
Zech. 4:1-6
- b. Oil was also used for medicinal purposes, like in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Lk. 10:34
- c. James tell us if anyone is sick they should call the elders to anoint the sick in the name of the Lord that God heal them.
Ja. 5:14-15

Illustration

God saved Nebuchadnezzar, forgave Manasseh the most evil king of Judah and Paul, who persecuted, imprisoned and killed Christians, I think you qualify for salvation, open your heart to the gospel!

Application

1. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."
Rom. 1:16-17
2. "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we **preach**)"
Rom. 10:8
3. "And how shall they **preach** unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who **preach** the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!." Rom. 10:15

4. "Faith come by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17
5. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not **willing** that any should **perish** but that all should come to repentance." 2Pet. 3:9

This was the proclamation of the preaching of the gospel!

Conclusion

Mark has presented to us the account of Jesus when He commissioned the twelve apostles to preach the gospel, laid out in three movements.

- I. The preparation for preaching the gospel!
- II. The instruction for preaching the gospel!
- III. The proclamation was the preaching of the gospel!