

SERMON MANUSCRIPT

Message Title: The Harvest

Theme: The Month of Rebuilding – Temple and Its Walls

Date: August 17, 2025

Main Text: Matthew 9:36–41, 47–49 (KJV)

INTRODUCTION

Picture with me for a moment a golden wheat field at sunset, the stalks swaying gently in the wind, ripe and ready for gathering. The farmer knows that if he delays, the grain will spoil. Likewise, Jesus looked upon the multitudes and saw a field, not of wheat, but of *souls*. And His heart was “moved with compassion” (Matt 9:36), for they were weary, scattered, and in desperate need of shepherding.

In **Matthew 9:37–38**, Yeshua [Jesus] declared:

“The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.”

Here, Jesus shifts the focus from the abundance of the harvest to the scarcity of willing labourers. The challenge is not the absence of souls ready for the Gospel, but the shortage of disciples ready to go. This is both an urgent call and a prophetic reminder: the time is now.

Evangelist Reinhard Bonnke once said, *“The Gospel is only good news if it gets there in time.”* The harvest season is short; delay can lead to eternal loss.

Illustrative Hook: If a farmer misses his harvest window, the crops will rot. In the same way, every day that passes without us sharing Christ is a day someone could be lost without hearing the truth.

MAIN BODY / KEY POINTS

1. The Heart of the Harvest – Compassion of Christ

- **Matthew 9:36** – Jesus first *saw* the people and *felt* compassion. Harvest work begins with a heart that feels what God feels.
 - **Cross-Reference:** John 4:35 – *“Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”*
 - **Audience Interaction:** *“Church, what do you see when you look at people, problems or potential?”*
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2. The Urgency of the Hour – The Harvest is Plenteous

- **Matthew 13:38** – *“The field is the world.”*
- The issue is not shortage of souls; the issue is workers.

- **Illustration:** D.L. Moody said, “*I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And that which I can do, by the grace of God, I will do.*”
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3. The Workers are Few – The Need for Discipleship and Mobilization

- **Luke 10:2** – The same harvest principle is repeated.
 - True labourers are those who are trained, equipped, and sent.
 - Link to rebuilding the temple walls: Nehemiah’s workforce was *willing and positioned* (Nehemiah 4:6).
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4. The Lord of the Harvest – Our Source of Workers

- **Matthew 9:38** – Prayer is the first labour of the labourer.
 - God calls, equips, and sends (Isaiah 6:8).
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5. The Nature of the Harvest – Separation and Judgment

- **Matthew 13:39–43, 47–49** – Angels as reapers; wheat separated from tares; good fish from bad.
 - The harvest is not just about gathering, it’s about sorting.
 - **Ecclesiastes 3:2b** – There is “*a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.*”
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6. Our Part – Go, Sow, and Reap

- **Matthew 13:31–33** – Mustard seed and leaven: small beginnings lead to great impact.
 - **John 15:16** – We are chosen to bear *fruit that remains*.
 - **Practical Application:** Every believer is a seed sower, waterer, and harvester.
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CONCLUSION / SUMMARY

The harvest is here. The question is not *if* God is calling, but *will we respond*? In this month of rebuilding, God is raising up labourers to repair walls, restore lives, and reap a final harvest before Christ’s return.

Final Charge:

Be the labourer who hears the Lord’s call and answers, “*Here am I; send me.*” The field is waiting. The time is now.

SEVEN PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, open my eyes to see the harvest fields around me (John 4:35)
2. Give me Your heart of compassion for the lost (Matt 9:36)

3. Raise and equip labourers in this generation (Matt 9:38)
 4. Anoint me with boldness to share the Gospel (Acts 4:29)
 5. Help me sow seeds of truth faithfully (Gal 6:9)
 6. Protect the harvest from the enemy's schemes (Matt 13:25)
 7. Let me be a vessel that brings in fruit that remains (John 15:16)
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SUGGESTED POWERPOINT VISUALS / BACKDROP

- Golden wheat fields under a radiant sunrise with a cross in the background.
- A globe overlaid with harvest imagery to represent Matthew 13:38 ("The field is the world").
- Silhouettes of workers in a field, symbolizing evangelists and disciples.
- Overlay of Matthew 9:37–38 in bold, calligraphic style.