

# **KINGDOM COME**

**- 14 -**

## ***Called To Courage***

Modus operandi – mode of operation

### **Matthew –**

- ❖ an outcast Jew
  - ❖ Tax collector
  - ❖ Turned disciple of Jesus
  - ❖ He writes about the things he lived and saw in the life of Jesus.
  - ❖ Tradition tells us that he was martyred for his faith in Christ, likely in Ethiopia.
  - ❖ The disciples were all martyred
  - ❖ John is the only exception who lived to an old age but was persecuted and exiled to Patmos and boiled in oil.
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- Courage is not the absence of fear.
  - Courage assumes that fear exists.
  - Courage is choosing faithfulness over fear when obedience carries a cost.

**Matthew 10:26** So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.

- Jesus is not warning them so they can avoid persecution but to be ready for it.
- Their lies will not remain hidden forever
- Their accusations will not have the final word
- God will expose the truth.
- Their judgment is temporary.

**Matthew 10:27** What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.

- What is in the dark will be exposed by the light; not just evil.
- God meets with us privately so that we can proclaim publicly.
- Your faith in Christ is meant to be shouted from the housetop, not observed quietly, even in the face of persecution.

**Matthew 10:28** And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

- When we face persecution, they can kill our body.
- God can destroy the body and soul.
- The soul is immortal.
- Fear of God - Recognizing God as the highest authority and giving Him ultimate allegiance, obedience, and weight in your decisions.

**Matthew 10:29-31** 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. 30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

### **Sparrows:**

- customarily were the smallest, most insignificant, and least valuable of all creatures.
- 1 penny least valuable roman coin.
- If God notices sparrows suffering, he notices yours.
- He takes the time to number the hair on your head.
- God is sovereign.

**Matthew 10:32-33** 32 So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, 33 but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

- Peter denied.
- Thomas doubts.
- Both are restored.