

KINGDOM COME

– 12 –

Laborers Sent into the Harvest

Matthew 9 –

- Jesus looked at the crowds they were harassed, helpless, sheep without a shepherd.
- His heart filled with compassion.
- “Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”
- And now in Matthew 10, the prayer gets answered.
- The ones who prayed become the ones who are sent.

Matthew 10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.

- They’re given the same as what Jesus has been doing.
- God equips those he calls.
- You are not called to be a consumer.
- He called you to send you.

Matthew 10:2-4 2 The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3

Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

- Notice all 12 are named.
- 4 fishermen.
- Tax collector.
- Zealot – political revolutionary
- Most of them we don't know anything about them.
- Judas – The only non-Galilean. Cultural outsider.

Matthew 10:5-6 5 These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, 6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

- The Lord instructed them.
- The Lord will guide you in what he calls you to.

Matthew 10:7-8 And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.

- The message never changes.
- Don't manipulate people as you go.

Matthew 10:9-10 9 Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, 10 no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food.

- Go now.
- You don't need anything extra.
- Provision follows obedience and faithfulness.

Matthew 10:11-13 11 And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. 12 As you enter the house, greet it. 13 And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.

- “Worthy” is speaking of those who receive the gospel.
- Traveling ministers would often stay in homes because hotels were filled with prostitutes and licentiousness, alcohol.
- If they receive the message, bless the home.
- If they don't take your blessing away and go.

Matthew 10:14-15 14 And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. 15 Truly, I say to you,

it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

- “More bearable” – levels of punishment.
- Preparing them for rejection.
- Some people who won’t receive the message.
- Let the Lord deal with them and you keep moving on.