



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



To Be Like Christ

Matthew 10:24–25



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Sheep Among Wolves

Matthew 10:16–23

1. Street smarts with a pure heart (10:16–18)
2. Peace in the face of judgment (10:19–20)
3. Perseverance until the end (10:21–23)



1. Crucify your expectations (10:24, 25b)

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The Power of Expectations



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- Your expectations reveal your *beliefs*.
- Your expectations control your *preparation*.
- Your expectations determine your *contentment*.
- Your expectations affect your *endurance*.



1. Crucify your expectations (10:24, 25b)

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Servants of Christ

- Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus (Rom 1:1)
- James, a **servant** of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ (Jas 1:1)
- Simon Peter, a **servant** and apostle of Jesus Christ (2 Pet 1:1)
- Jude, a **servant** of Jesus Christ (Jude 1)



Galatians 1:10

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God?
Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to
please man, I would not be a **servant** of Christ.



Matthew 9:34

But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”



John 16:33

“In the world you will have tribulation.”



Acts 14:22

...through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.



2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life
in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...



1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.



Revelation 1:9

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.



2. Renew your aspirations (10:25a)

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The aspiration of the disciple and slave is to be like the teacher and master, nothing more. Suffering persecution like Jesus is thus a privilege. Jesus's disciples should be honored to share even in his sufferings.

— Chuck Quarles



Matthew 5:10–12

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”



1 Peter 4:13

Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ...



Philippians 3:10

...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...



The disciple desires nothing more and settles for nothing less.

— John MacArthur



1 John 3:2–3

² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.



2 Corinthians 6:4–10

⁴ ...as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷ by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise.



2 Corinthians 6:4–10

We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.



❖ **The goal of God’s eternal plan is to make all believers like Christ (Rom 8:28–29)**

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...



❖ **The goal of church activity is to make believers like Christ (Eph 4:13)**

¹³ ...until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...



❖ **God's purpose in our suffering is to make believers like Christ (James 1:2–4)**

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, **that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**



❖ **The highest aspiration of every true believer is to become like Christ (Phil 3:10)**

¹⁰ ...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...



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