

## “The Provision of the Son of Man” – Luke 9:1-17

Please Stand and Open Your Bibles to Luke 9:1-6

As we have just read, we are coming to another section of Jesus ministry. He has sent out the twelve to all the neighboring cities in Israel. This is what we would call a short-term mission trip. It is what is needed to help train people to know if they are called and to discover what people group Jesus might have them reach out to. These twelve are called to preach and need some training. This rag tag bunch of fishermen, tax collectors and Zealots needed to be shown the way of the Lord and the road they will be traveling once Jesus has gone back to Heaven. Right before His ascension he tells them...

Matthew 28:18-20

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.

The first thing we read is:

Luke 9:1

Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.

The first thing He provides for them is the ability to do the work. To verify their message, they needed to be able to prove it. They only had the Old Testament Prophets, which is good and important, but confirmation was needed. You need to know if God is calling you, He will equip you. No ands, ifs or buts. We are told in Mark:

Mark 16:15-18

And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

And that He did:

Luke 9:2

He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

They were to be emissaries of the Messiah. Doing the work for Jesus as He walked the earth and was presenting Himself as the Nation's promised Messiah. We will come back to the what in a minute but we need to be reminded that He not only Promised to equip you but also to provide for your needs.

Luke 9:3-4

And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece. 4 "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart.

In other words, do not worry about being taken care of. You know there does come a time when one must take a step of faith. God was telling me one time to leave a job, and I ignored it thinking that the job was what was providing for me. Well, that didn't end well as He gave me a back injury to end the job. And guess what? He provided! And what was the outcome? I learned to trust Him more! That is why Jesus is sending them out now so they can learn. In Matthew's account Jesus said this:

## Matthew 10:9-10

Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.

Jesus knows that you have needs and promises to meet them if you serve Him.

He will not only equip you and provide for your needs, but He will give you confidence in the work:

## Luke 9:5

“And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them.”

What is being said here is don't worry about those that won't receive the message. Shaking the dust off your feet is a Hebrew Idiom of ridding yourself of a problem. It is also showing someone that they had made their decision, and you are no longer responsible for them. Do you know you are not responsible for results?

## 1 Corinthians 3:5-6

Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.

All you are responsible for is the message. If a person rejects it, that is on them not you. Yes, it breaks our heart and yes, we pray but if they refuse it is not on you. It does not mean we give up or just forget about them, but we move on to those that will receive as there is a world full of people that need the gospel.

Luke 9:6

So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

Wait a minute? What gospel? Jesus had not yet died and rose again so what was the message? This needs to be remembered as a unique time when Jesus walked the earth. The Old Testament looked forward to the cross and we look back but what about this time that we are reading about? The gospel for the nation of Israel was that their King had come. That is the good news. Their promised Messiah is here, and they needed to believe in Him. Jesus said it Himself during His time here:

John 5:24

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

And in Matthew's account Jesus told them...

Matthew 10:40

“He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.”

That was the message at that time, to believe in whom the Father had sent. Of course, they as a nation would reject Him and He would die for the sins of the world and make it possible for all to be saved.

John 1:10-13

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

I always laugh when I hear people say, “Nowhere in the bible does it say that people can just receive Jesus into their hearts”.

What does it say right here? You have to receive Christ to be born again! But then they will come and say there is more to it than that because look at Mark's account...

Mark 6:12

So they went out and preached that people should repent.

But before we try to apply that to today what did it mean back then? The Greek word for repent is to simply change your mind. It really has nothing to do with the origin of the English word that comes from the French to "Do Penance". That is a Roman Catholic idea that has crept into protestant circles. What were they to change their mind about? Their bad behaviors? Their drug use? How about their bad language? No. it is their self-sufficiency. That it was their pedigree that made them right before God. No, only belief in the Messiah could and will save them. Same message today. You cannot save yourself. Only Jesus can. If repentance meant to forsake my sins or to turn from them to be saved, then what do I need Jesus for? I might as well join a twelve-step program. Every time I leave a meeting I can be reminded "It works if you work it" Sorry it doesn't work that way. You must receive and believe. That is your only hope. Jesus wants you to be able to forsake your sinful behaviors, but He has to do it, and it can only be done by being born again.

The Holy Spirit will transform you and then Jesus gets all the glory!

Herod Seeks Jesus

Luke 9:7-9

Matthew and Mark take the time in this section to delve into the arrest of John the Baptist and his beheading. Luke just reminds us that He seeks to meet Jesus. (Expand on Herod quickly) We will read in a little bit...

Luke 13:31-33

On that very day some Pharisees came, saying to Him, “Get out and depart from here, for Herod wants to kill You.” And He said to them, “Go, tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.’ Nevertheless I must journey today, tomorrow, and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet should perish outside of Jerusalem.

Wow, Jesus where’s the love? Didn’t someone tell Him that He needs to keep politics out of the pulpit? I always marvel at Christians who say they are not interested in politics. Why? Because if you don’t politics will be interested in you! Here the king wants to kill him after he already killed John. And why did



John die in prison? Because he dared to point out the deficiencies of the political leaders of the time. I don't know if you heard this, but someone sent me this article this week...

<https://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/irs-clears-way-churches-endorse-political-candidates>

IRS clears way for churches to endorse political candidates  
The IRS made its case jointly with the very plaintiffs who lodged a case against it last year

Do you know who one of those plaintiffs were? Pastor Jack Hibbs! The American church has always been a place where issues and candidates are discussed. It should not push us away but draw us together as we use the Bible to guide us through the choices we get to make.

The return of the twelve and the feeding of the five thousand  
Luke 9:10-17

Here is a story that is in all four gospels. But Luke makes sure to point out it is in the time when they had got back from their short-term mission trip. Jesus wanted them to get a break but as in almost any time in ministry work breaks are hard to come by. This is where we are continually being tested to see what

we have learned. The idea of this story is not that Jesus can perform miracles but that He will provide. They just got back from traveling from town to town and just as He said, they were provided for. That is supposed to be the thought as Jesus says to them “you give them something to eat”. But we find out in John’s gospel...

John 6:5-7

Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”

Why would He test them? Because they needed to be confident that He will provide for them when He is gone. The moral of this story is that God will provide. How does it end?

Luke 9:17

So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.

The word filled is “Glutted” meaning they were so full they could not take another bite. And what was left over? Just

enough for each of the twelve to take home a lunch. Isn't God good? Do you doubt His ability to provide?

Romans 8:31-32

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Matthew 6:25

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Matthew 6:31-33

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

God is good and will provide for you. Will you trust Him? Will you take that step of faith? What has He called you to? Do not fear but follow Him and He will guide and provide!