

**Mission Impossible—Part 1**  
**“The Apostles”**  
**Matthew 10:1-15**

**I. The Apostle’s Commissioning (vs. 1-4)**

- a. Jesus prayed an entire night to discern the Father’s will of whom He should choose, call, and equip to be His Apostles (cf. Luke 6:12-13)
- b. **summoned = proskaleō** (προσκαλέω) = “call someone to oneself in order to confront him face to face,” or “to call to a task” (cf. John 15:16; cf. 17:6; Acts 2:39; 13:2; 16:10)
- c. **His twelve** = we think Apostles; Jews thought the Twelve Tribes of Israel
- d. **disciples = mathētēs** (μαθητής) = “pupil, student, one tutored, implying a closer relationship than mere information” (i.e., Elijah & Elisha; Paul & Timothy)
- e. **authority = exousia** (ἐξουσία) = “a supernatural power...authority, lordship, ruler” (cf. Acts 2:43; 5:12; 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:1–4)
- f. **apostles = apostolos** (ἀπόστολος) = “to send forth with a commission.”
  - i. The criteria for biblical Apostles is impossible to fulfill today, so there are NO NEW APOSTLES; beware the New Apostolic Reformation [NAR] (cf. Acts 1:21-22; 1 Cor. 9:1; Eph. 4:11; 1 Peter 1:8)
- g. Jesus sent out His Apostles in pairs of two (cf. Mark 3:16–19; 6:7; Luke 6:14–16; Acts 1:13)
  - i. **Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother** (cf. Matt. 16:16-17, 22-23)
  - ii. **James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother** (cf. Luke 9:51-56)
  - iii. **<sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew** (cf. 2 Sam. 13:37; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14; John 1:43-48; 21:2)

- iv. **James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus** (cf. Mark 15:40; John 19:25; Luke 6:16; Acts 1:13; John 14:22)
- v. **<sup>4</sup> Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.** (cf. Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13; Jos. 15:25; Matt. 26:47-50)

**II. The Apostle’s Instructions (vs. 5-15)**

- a. **instructing = parangellō** (παραγγέλλω) = “to command, charge, give orders”
  - i. These instructions directly apply only to this particular mission of the Apostles, but its principles apply to Believers of every age
- b. **go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel** = Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promises to Israel, but we are called to take His Gospel to all the nations (cf. Gen. 12:3; Deut. 4:6–8; Ps. 67; Isa. 42:6–7; 49:6; 53:6; Jer. 50:6; Ezek. 34:23ff.; Zech. 12:10; cf. John 4:22; 19:37; Rom. 10)
- c. **The kingdom of heaven is at hand** = Jesus genuinely offered the Messianic Kingdom directly to Israel; they sadly rejected Him, but the response that was required is the same for us today: repent and believe that Jesus is the Christ! (cf. Gen. 12:3; Isa. 60:3; Matt. 25:31; Acts 3:19–21; Rev. 11:15; 20:4)
- d. **Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons** = the same sign gifts that Jesus displayed were given to the Apostle to prove they came from Him; we do not have them today, but we are still to display Jesus’ Gospel with miraculous transformed lives (Matt. 11:4–5; cf. Is 29:18, 19; 35:5–10; Mark 16:17–18; Acts 5:12, 16; 8:6-7; 14:8-10; 28:8-9; Rom. 15:18–19; 2 Cor. 5:20-21; 12:12)
- e. **Freely you received, freely give** = the Apostles were not supposed to use their FREE gifts to enrich themselves, but to rely solely on God’s Provision; we are to rely on God and we are also Blessed to be a Blessing (cf. Mark 6:8-9; Luke 9:3; 1

Cor. 3:12–15; 9:24–27; 2 Cor. 5:10; Phil. 3:7–21; 1 Cor. 9:14; 1 Tim. 5:18

- f. ***who is worthy in it, and stay at his house until you leave that city*** = stay with a godly/worthy (*axios* / ἄξιος) household to protect God's reputation, and stay there not looking for better arrangements; today we must be content with our circumstances
  
- g. ***give it your blessing of peace...take back your blessing of peace...shake the dust off your feet*** = this was for the houses they will evangelize, not stay at, so if someone is hostile to Gospel, they were to move on because their mission was extremely time sensitive; for us our time, talent, and treasure are also limited, so we must be good stewards, while remaining gracious and patient, knowing that God is the ultimate Judge and Master of the harvest (cf. Gen. 19; Luke 17:29; 2 Pet. 2:6)