

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ **The 1st Mission Trip, Part 1**

Last time...Jesus began His 3rd Preaching Tour of the Galilee...a big harvest with few laborers
Pray the Lord of the harvest send laborers into His harvest...
Prayer changes our hearts and minds to be in one accord with God's...
Here I am Lord, send me.

This time...the 1st Mission Trip “without” Jesus Christ
The 12 disciples are given power and authority, the mission, the message, and
operational instructions

We will be in Matt 10, Mark 6, and Luke 9

Matt 10

v1 He gave them power...unclean spirits...heal all manner:
In Matt 9:35-38, Jesus saw the multitudes as only God can...
inwardly and outwardly
He saw their physical, emotional, and spiritual condition...ragged, uncared for...
and it broke His heart
He was moved with compassion to shepherd them...because He loves them

Now, toward that end, He

- calls the 12 unto Himself
- gives them (His) power (“authority”)
 - in the spiritual realm – to cast out demons
 - in the physical and emotional realm – to heal all manners of sickness and diseases
- to send them to minister...in His name/authority

Luke 9:1 a more complete accounting of how Jesus equipped the 12
power = “dunamis”, supernatural miraculous power of God ala Acts 1:8
authority = “delegated influence, privilege, capacity, competency, strength”

Mark 6:7

power = “authority” (as in Matt 10:1)

sent 2x2, in pairs (an organizational detail not in Luke 9 or Matt 10)
the work of God is organized, not disorderly;
there is no haphazard “winging it”

As mentioned last week, Jesus sends

1. the 12
2. the 70 (Luke 10)
3. all His disciples (Matt 28:18-20)

to the multitudes He sees

with the same mission for which He was sent (John 20:21)

1 John 3:18 to love in deed and in truth

1 John 4:9-12 to love others as He loves us – first, selflessly

Therefore, we have **all** been equipped

- called...there is a calling on our lives, a calling from Jesus Christ
- given power and authority...to execute that calling

Being so equipped, we are sent

- as His ambassadors...of His love for the lost and hurting
- in Jesus' name/authority
- in the power ("dunamis") of the Holy Spirit...Matt 28:18, Acts 1:8
- 2x2, at a minimum...Matt 28:20

v2-4 the names of the twelve apostles:

This is the 1st time the 12 disciples ("followers") are called the 12 apostles

- "sent one"
- holders of the office of

All disciples (including us) are "sent ones" but these 12 are the only office holders of "Apostle" (in time: Judas is out, Paul is in)

There are no Biblical office holders of "Apostle" today (Acts 1:22)...

only unbiblical ones who usually wield it with false authority for self-gain

These 12 are common men...not "spiritual elites" or intellectuals having a special knowledge that the common man does not

The Gospel and Great Commission are not given to "elites" but to common folk

1 Cor 1:20-21, 26-29

In the wording (Greek), assisted by the English punctuation (semi-colon), we see how Jesus organized the 12 into 2x2

Team 1	Peter and Andrew (brothers)
Team 2	James and John (brothers)
Team 3	Philip and Bartholomew
Team 4	Thomas and Matthew
Team 5	James and Thaddaeus (brothers)
Team 6	Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot

Thoughts

- the national zealot is teamed with the betrayer who seemingly had national “plans” for the Messiah
- the national zealot and the publican/tax collector/traitor were in fellowship...because of Jesus

v5-6 Go not...Gentiles...Samaritans...go...Israel:

They have their mission (v1), they have their team assignments (v2-4), now Jesus defines the mission field into which they are to go:

- Not to the Gentiles
- Not to the Samaritans, a mixture of Jew and Gentile
- to (the lost sheep of) Israel, the house of Jacob (12 tribes)

Is Jesus Christ a racist?

Does Jesus Christ play favorites, is He a respecter of persons?

No, Jesus Christ is faithful to His promises to AI&J and the children of promise via the prophets

Ezk 34:11 I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out

Ezk 34:16 I will seek that which was lost

Ezk 34:22 Therefore will I save my flock

Later, when Jesus returns to the right hand of His Father,

Acts 1:8 to the Samaritans and the Gentiles

Rom 1:16-17 the order of the God of order

The Apostle Paul, a “Jew’s Jew” is apostle of the...Gentiles

v7 as ye go, preach:

As the 12 go to minister to the Jews spiritually, physically, and emotionally, they are to preach.

The message is clear and simple: The Kingdom of heaven is at hand

They know the “Constitution” of the Kingdom...SoM (Matt 5-7)

They know the nature of the Kingdom...Kingdom Parables (Matt 13)

They know the heart of the King of the Kingdom...they are in their 2nd year of seminary, sitting at His feet

Their message to Israel is

John the Baptist’s (Jesus’ forerunner) message (Matt 3:2)

Jesus Christ’s message (Matt 4:17)

Jesus’ Bride’s message today before the DoL and Israel’s message during the DoL (Luke 21:31)

v8 Heal...cleanse...raise...cast out...freely:
 Preach in v7 is a verb...an action to be taken
 Jesus instructs the 12 with 5 more verbs in v8, actions to also be taken

<u>Verb</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Adverb</u>	<u>Comment</u>
heal	the sick		
cleanse	the lepers		only God can
raise	the dead		only God can
cast out	devils		I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out
give		freely	

Common men are commanded to do what only God can do?!
 These actions will be

- evidence/confirmation of the message and the Messenger (Is 35:5-6);
the message and the Messenger are more important than miracles
- done in the name/authority of Jesus Christ with the power of God

The 12 freely received the power and authority of Jesus, they are to freely give it
 (preach, heal, cleanse, raise, cast out) to those whom Jesus loves,
 has compassion for

Therefore, we are to learn that:

- The power and authority behind the verbs is Jesus Christ's
It is NOT the 12's...or the 70's or the all's
- The Word and the work of God is NOT for sale
 Acts 8:9-24
 Simon Magnus, father of Gnosticism..."elite knowledge"
 why 1 John was written
 RCC, Calvinism are rooted in Gnosticism
 i.e. Gnosticism is "alive and well" to this very day
- The preaching of the Gospel is a work of God, it is not a business
 enterprise of man
 For man to "build" a church on business principals is unbiblical...
 the foundation that work of man is a business model,
 not the model set forth by Jesus (He is the Church-builder)
 2 Peter 2:1-3

v9-10 Provide:

For this 1st Mission Trip “without” Jesus, the 12 are instructed to

- not be self-reliant...no money or wallets, no extra clothing or shoes
 - denial of self
 - depend completely upon the Lord
- have no appearance of any other business but the Father’s (multiples were a sign of material wealth)
 - no misconceptions or misgivings about the “business at hand”
 - travel light, holding onto things of God vs things of the world
 - live simple lives

The Lord is sending them to do His work, so He will faithfully

- provide for them
- meet their needs

from His supply (Phil 4:19, Ps 24:1)

All they need is simple faith in Him to go and speak and do as His ambassadors

The same will be true when He sends the 70

The same is true today

v11-13 city or town...house be worthy:

Now the God of order gives His workers an orderly way to “work” a city or town:

- a. enquire/search out/survey the city or town
- b. establish a base of operations...a “worthy” home, one that will receive you, take you in

stay there, be content there, be blessed there as long as you are in
that city or town...no trading up if find a higher class of
home willing to take you in

- c. work the community, one house at a time

welcome, embrace, greet all in the house

if “worthy” (receive, hear you), your peace be upon that home

John 14:27 My peace leave with, give you

1 John 4:6 he that knows God hears us

if not “worthy” (do not receive or hear your message), no peace

1 John 4:6 he that is not of God hears not us

1 John 4:5 they are of the world, speak of the world

- d. move on to the next city or town

v14-15 not receive you...house or city...dust:

The Lord's work is SERIOUS work because the Lord is serious about
sin and salvation and judgment;
eternity is at stake in every interaction

So if a house or a city does not receive the ambassadors of the Messiah or
His words, Jesus instructs the 12 to "shake the dust off their feet"
i.e. as a testimony against them (Mark 6:11)

Those sent are to faithfully

- speak the words of God (vs their opinions or words of the world)
- do God's work (vs their programs or works of the world)

Therefore, those sent are not responsible for the results;
the result is the responsibility (choice) of the individual hearer,
the kingdom of God is a gift to be received, not a wage earned

Preaching the Kingdom of God is

- Not a debate or argument to be won
- an invitation to be given

Those sent are sowing the seed or watering the seed (Word of God)
1 Cor 3:7-9a

The measure of an ambassador of Christ is faithfulness...not the numeric results
Witnessing (the mission and the message) is sharing the truth in love,
reasoning, pleading with, and inviting others to also Matt 16:24,
it is NOT winning the argument, "beating" another intellectually
A rejection is of the Lord and His message, not of the ambassador...
so do not take rejection personally.
In that event, just move on

With this warning, the 12 realize they can expect opposition

If a house or a city rejects the seed, Jesus tells the 12 to have nothing more to do
with them...He will have something to do with them

Woe! And Whoa!

Echoes of Matt 11:20-24

All destinations where Jesus Christ sends His ambassadors are subject to
Deut 18:19

Luke 12:47-48

Degrees of judgment commensurate with degrees of revelation

All men are without excuse and are responsible for the revelation
of God given to them

Sodom and Gomorrah are not the depth of wickedness against which every evil is measured.

There are deeper evils!

The greater the revelation of God that is not believed/received, the greater the evil

- the sin of Israel and Jerusalem
- Capernaum/Korazim/Bathsaida
- the world today

Application

1. Pray the Lord of the harvest send laborers in His harvest...Here I am Lord, send me
2. Receive by faith the Lord's power and authority as a "follower" and a "sent one"
3. Preach the Kingdom of heaven is at hand
Jesus Christ and Him crucified
Jesus risen from the dead, returned to heaven, and imminently to return to earth as the
King to establish His kingdom on earth
The signs of the season
4. Give as freely as you have received
Love others as Jesus' ambassadors of love
 - truth – for the lost
 - touch – for the hurting

Preach, heal, cleanse, raise, cast out
In your sphere of influence...where you have been sent

Depending on the Lord's supply as His worker
5. Be about the Father's business with
Seriousness...the Son and the Spirit are!
Faithfulness...as our God