

## **THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 9/6-7/2021 *Matthew Chapter 10***

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!**

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)  
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN**

**!!!! CLASSROOM HS107!!!! (NEW ROOM LOCATION, 4 DOORS DOWN TO THE WEST), CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484**

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile

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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).**

**THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340**

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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies - [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com)

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Objectives of Study – Jesus Christ: His Calling and Instruction to the Ministry**

***Mat 10:19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak.***

***For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;***

***Mat 10:20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.***

**THIS WEEK'S STUDY: The Gospel According to Matthew! *Chapter 10:***

**The Twelve Apostles – (vs. 1- 4)**  
**Sending Out the Twelve – (vs. 5-15);**  
**Persecutions Are Coming – (vs. 16-26);**  
**Jesus Teaches the Fear of God – (vs. 27-31);**  
**Confess Christ Before Men – (vs. 32-33);**  
**Christ Brings Division – (vs. 34-39)**  
**A Cup of Cold Water – (vs. 40-42)**

*(Mat 9:35-38) Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. [36] But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. [37] Then He said to His disciples, "The **harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.** [38] **Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**"*

### ***The Twelve Apostles***

***Mat 10:1 And when He had called His twelve disciples (learners) to Him, He gave them power (exousia – ability, privilege, authority) over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.***

- **Christ gave to His disciples the power.** As a disciple of Christ, He gives unto us *power*. There are forces of darkness in this world, powers of evil, and they are opposed to the child of God. Our real battles are spiritual battles, We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against these principalities and powers, these spirit entities." In our self, we are no match for them. I cringe when I hear people challenging Satan. I want nothing to do with him. But "Greater is He that is in me and in you, than he that is in the world." Through Jesus Christ we have victory! We have power over the forces of evil and darkness. We don't have to submit to those attacks of the enemy. You have victory through Jesus! *He gave them power over unclean spirits!* You have that same *power over unclean spirits*. He gave the *power* to heal all manner of sickness and disease.

***Mat 10:2 Now 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;***

- **There were many disciples, but He called twelve of them as His *apostles*.** Twelve is the number in the Bible of government. There were twelve tribes of Israel. Thus, twelve *apostles*. The word "*apostle*" means "one who is sent out." This is the start of the church! Jesus is to send these twelve men out as more or less, as an advance team, into the areas where He would be going and ministering. Of the many, probably hundreds of disciples, twelve He called *apostles*. The gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, all list the names and the calling of the twelve to be *apostles*. As you study the list and the names, you find slight variations: In the order in which they are listed, but most of them follow the same order but on a few there's a reversal of some of the names. Here we have the name of *Thaddeus*. In the gospel of Luke, he is called Jude, the brother of James. In the listing, we have three sets of brothers: *Simon and Andrew; James and John; James and Jude*.
- **First, there is Simon, who is called Peter.** Jesus sort of developed for some of these fellows nicknames, which somewhat represented characters. Simon is called little stone, *Petros*.
- **There was Andrew his brother;** who was always bringing people to Jesus. In every account that we have of Andrew in the New Testament, he's bringing people to Jesus. What a good kind of a reputation!
- **Then there was James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother.** Jesus called them the sons of thunder. These are the fellows who are ready to call down fire on the enemies of Jesus, who sort of nicknamed them sons of thunder.

***Mat 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew (probably Nathaniel); Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;***

- **Philip, the evangelist.** He was also bringing people to Jesus with *Andrew*. There was *Bartholomew*, of which we know very little. There was *Thomas*, who was known for his doubting. There was *Matthew*, who was a tax collector.
- **There were two James.** The first was mentioned above in verse 2, as the son of Zebedee and brother of John. The second was *the son of Alphaeus*.

- **Four men in the NT are named James:** (1) the apostle James, brother of John; (2) the disciple mentioned here, also called "*James the Less*" (*Mar 15:40*); (3) James, father of Judas (not Iscariot, *Luk 6:16*); and (4) James, the Lord's half-brother (*Gal 1:19; Mar 6:3*), who wrote the epistle that bears the name and who also played a leading role in the early Jerusalem Church (*Act 12:17; Act 15:13; Gal 1:19*).
- **Then Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus,** Elsewhere he is called Judas, son of James (*Luk 6:16; Act 1:13*).

***Mat 10:4 Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.***

- ***Simon the Canaanite was called a Zealot in Luke.*** The Zealots were the most fanatical of all of the Jews. They were real nationalists. These fellows were always willing to stir up any kind of strife against the Roman rule.
- ***Finally, another Judas - Judas Iscariot.*** In *John 14:22*, when Jesus was talking to His disciples, it said that *Judas (not Iscariot)*, said, How is it, Lord, that you will not show Yourself to us and not unto the world? A major distinction. This was the other Judas or Thaddeus. So, we have two Judases; two James, and two Simons; two sets of brothers. Keeping that in mind, it is rather easy to memorize the names of the twelve apostle.

***Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles***

***Mat 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans.***

- ***Jesus sent them out! That's the name "apostle"***, one who is sent forth. Jesus gave them *the power* (authority) to cast out evil spirits, to heal all manner of sickness and disease." He sent them out! Jesus calls them to be *apostles*. Jesus is commissioning them.
- ***His calling! First principal of ministry*** – They are way over their head, **but God always enables us to do His calling!** The calling is everything! He calls them, then He empowers them (and us!) After calling, He always adds to one's life to be successful in that calling, with success being defined on His terms.
- ***He calls ordinary people! Second principle of ministry – ministry*** He gets away with using ordinary people, because we are ordinary people with an extraordinary God! If He calls us, we are to obey His call! (*1Co 1:26-27*) *For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.*  
[27] *But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;* He uses the ordinary so that when He manifests Himself through them, producing something that is supernatural, God is noticed! God gets the glory!
- ***The Gospel was first presented to Israel*** because God gave to them the promise of the Messiah. Later, after His crucifixion, after His rejection by the chosen people, in Matthew, chapter 28, Jesus will say, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." In Mark's gospel, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." But this is a mission now, to really announce to the Jews that the Messiah has come. The kingdom of God is among you! The King is here! The mark of the Messiah would be the healing of the sick, and of the diseased. Jesus is sending them out with this power that they might proclaim to the people the fact that the Messiah is here. It's presenting now to the Jews. They were not to go in the ways of the Gentiles. They were not to go to the cities of Samaria,

***Mat 10:6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.***

- ***The lost sheep of the house of Israel.*** Some people try to identify the Anglo-Saxon nations with Israel, of the lost tribes of Israel. The Bible doesn't speak anything about the lost tribes. They are not lost, God knows exactly where they are. There are lost sheep of the house of Israel. The Lord is telling them to "*go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel,*" (***Rom 1:16***) *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

***Mat 10:7 And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'***

- ***Notice what they are to do, first of all, you're to preach,*** *The kingdom of heaven is at hand!* The message is that the King is here! The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Jesus is the access to that kingdom! If they would receive and accept, the kingdom could be established.

***Mat 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.***

- ***They were to Heal the sick They were to cleanse the leper.*** They were to *raise the dead and to cast out demons!* This was the ministry of the apostles to Israel. The signs and wonders to follow the preaching!

- *Freely you have received, freely give.* Here is **another important principle of ministry!** You're not to use these powers in any way to enrich yourself. You're not to use them for your own benefit. **But you are to freely give.**
- (*Rom 3:23-24*) *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24] being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. (Rev 22:17) And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.*

**Mat 10:9 Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts,**

- **You are not to:** *Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts.* The coins were made of gold, silver and the lesser value coins of brass, but you're not to take the money with you.

**Mat 10:10 nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.**

- **Nor are you to take, a bag for your journey. Not two tunics.** You don't need to take any of those things. As I work through you, you're going to be provided for. You are to travel light. Not staffs or walking sticks. Go out, don't take anything with you. **Another beautiful ministry principle – When God guides us to do what He calls us to do, He will provide!** **"Where God guides, God provides!"**

**Mat 10:11 "Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy (good reputation), and stay there till you go out.**

**Mat 10:12 And when you go into a household, greet it.**

**Mat 10:13 If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.**

- **This did develop in time, as you would meet someone and say, Bless you, brother!** Then, if you realize the guy's a scoundrel, they would run to him and say, I take that blessing back! We too, likely would like to remove a few blessings that we've pronounced. **"If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it: But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.**

**Mat 10:14 And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet.**

- **A symbolic action that the Jews did this when they would come to Jerusalem,** at the outskirts of the city. They would take their sandals and shake the dust off from any of the Gentile areas they had walked through. They didn't want to bring any Gentile dust into the city of Jerusalem. They also were emphasizing the importance, really life or death, of refusing to respond to the Apostles' message that the kingdom is at hand!

**Mat 10:15 Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!**

- **This is the commission!** They are to go only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. They are to preach the message that the kingdom is at hand. They are to heal the sick, cleanse the leper, raise the dead. They are to cast out demons! They are to go with just the clothes that they have. The people where they go are to take care of their needs while they are there for the servant or the workman is worthy of his hire. Thus, the people were to provide for their needs. They were to go in the house, blessing the house if the people were worthy, ministering to them. Whoever receives them will receive Christ and be blessed of the Lord.
- (*1Ti 5:18b*) **THE LABORER IS WORTHY OF HIS WAGES.** The workman is not to demand so much, he is to go just trusting in the Lord. Jesus said, (*Mat 10:8b*) **Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.** Don't become a mercenary! Don't make a charge for the ministry. Don't make people feel they are obligated in any way! God doesn't want our giving to ever be out of pressure or out of constraint! God loves a cheerful giver! He wants you to give to Him cheerfully. He never wants you to resent that which you have given to Him. Always give cheerfully to the Lord. They are to go forth with power, proclaiming the Word of God. Wherever their word is rejected, the judgment of that city will be worse than the judgment that will come upon Sodom and Gomorrah in that final day of judgment!
- **The sin of rejecting Christ is far greater than any wickedness done by Sodom and Gomorrah!** The single thing that we can do to bless the heart of God is to receive His Son; to receive His Savior! There is nothing we can do, greater than that! And the opposite of that, to reject His Son, is the greatest thing we can do to hurt the heart of God! It is the single most serious sin a person can commit because there is no forgiveness for that sin. There is no solution for that sin. So that when they left that city, they were not to do anything that confused people about how serious what they were doing in rejecting Christ.

## ***Persecution Will Come***

***Mat 10:16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.***

- **No militant action!** This really doesn't speak of militant action by the disciples of Jesus. He is sending them forth as sheep among wolves! Have you ever heard of attack sheep? Go, attack them! Yet it seems like there is a spirit of militancy that has come into a portion of the church. ***Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves***
- ***Therefore be wise as serpents!*** Some naturalists have said, Well, that proves the Bible could not be inspired because serpents aren't really very smart. They're not really wise. I heard someone who answered this fellow and said, "I like to see how you could survive in the desert without any arms or legs." Maybe they are wise. "*Wise as serpents,*"
- ***Harmless as doves!*** That's the way we're to be.

***Mat 10:17 But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues.***

- **He is going now beyond just the immediate ministry of the apostles.** Paul the apostle, who later went out, found himself scourged, beaten with rods and more. He experienced all of these things, as he was *delivered up to the councils.*

***Mat 10:18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.***

- ***You will be brought before governors and kings.*** Paul was brought before the governors, Felix and Festus; before King Agrippa and eventually, even Caesar Nero! ***For My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.***
- **Paul did just that, when he was brought before the council.** He gave his testimony of his conversion on the road to Damascus. Later when he was brought before Felix, Festus and King Agrippa, he gave his testimony of his conversion. He used these opportunities to testify of the grace of God that he had experienced in his life. They will bring you before the courts, before the governors, kings, but don't worry, it will become a testimony.

***Mat 10:19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;***

***Mat 10:20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.***

- **You don't have to worry about your defense, the Spirit of God will anoint you and give you the words to speak.** In Acts chapters 6 & 7, when Stephen is brought before the council, the defense that Stephen gave the council was absolutely classic! Being truly anointed by the Holy Spirit, his face looked like an angel from heaven as he was speaking to them. There was power! There was an anointing of the Spirit and surely, an inspired message by Stephen to those of the council. In his message, he pointed out to them how that they were constantly boasting of their heritage, that their fathers, the Jewish people were so righteous, so wonderful, so glorious. But he also pointed out the flaws of their fathers, the blindness of their fathers to spiritual things. How that their fathers sold their brother Joseph into slavery in Egypt. They didn't recognize that God had ordained Joseph to be the ruler over them. Thus, they sold him for twenty pieces of silver to the slave traders going to Egypt. Your wonderful fathers. But later, the second time around, they recognized that Joseph was indeed ordained of God.
- **Your wonderful fathers similarly rejected Moses** when Moses first came as their deliverer. Moses thought that they would understand that God had chosen him to deliver them from the bondage of Egypt. But they didn't. He fled, spending spent forty years in the wilderness, and they didn't recognize him until the second time around.
- **Can you see what he's leading up to?** Your fathers missed it! When God's leaders were sent to them, the first time around they missed it. He said that you are far worse than your fathers! You really missed it. You missed the One that the Father sent. What's the implication? The second time around, you'll recognize Him. That this was God's ordained leader. When Jesus comes again, they will recognize that He was God's ordained leader. ***For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.*** You don't have to worry, the Spirit of God will give you the thought, the ideas, the witness, the testimony, that you are to give.

***Mat 10:21 "Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.***

**Mat 10:22** *And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.*

- There is yet to come a time among the Jews of the last seven years when there will come a great division over Jesus Christ. The antichrist will put to death those that refuse his mark and refuse to worship him. At that time, families will be divided. **Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.**
- **Even now there is a rising climate of hatred towards Christians.** It has become a popular thing to bash Christians in social media and in movies and TV sitcoms. In the editorials in the paper, there is much Christian bashing. It's going to increase. You are going to be hated because of your faith and belief in Jesus Christ. We are going to be considered and are considered a threat by those who are seeking to bring in the new world order. Because of your fundamentalist belief, because you believe that Jesus is indeed the Son of God and the only way to salvation, you see that marks you as narrow and bigoted. Persecution is going to rise more and more against those who firmly believe in Jesus Christ as "*the way, the truth and the life,*" and *the only way* to the Father.
- **But He who endures to the end will be saved!** - He who holds fast faith and a good conscience to the end, till the punishment threatened against this wicked people be poured out, he shall be saved, preserved from the destruction that shall fall upon the workers of iniquity. This verse is commonly understood to refer to either the end of time and live, or the destruction of Jerusalem. It is also true that they who do not hold fast faith and a good conscience till death have no room to hope for an admission into the kingdom of God.

**Mat 10:23** *When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.*

- **When they persecute you,** don't fight it. We make a mistake in thinking that we have to argue people into the faith. All you have to do is witness. That's your responsibility. To be a witness of Jesus Christ and after you have done that, you have delivered your soul. You really don't have any further obligation or responsibility. It's just to be a witness. Thus, if you're persecuted in one place, just go to another.
- **Before the Son of Man comes!** Jesus is going to be following up on this advance team. He will be visiting these cities throughout Israel. They will not make the circuit until He comes and ministers to them also.

**Mat 10:24** *"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.*

- **A disciple is not above his teacher.** Now the disciple was the student, the pupil. The master was the teacher. What He is saying is the student or the pupil is not above his master or teacher,
- **Nor a servant above his master.** This shows us really sort of a two-fold relationship that we have with Jesus Christ. First of all, we are to learn of Him! We are His disciples. Secondly, we are servants. He is the Lord. He's the Master, the Teacher! He is the Lord! It is enough for the disciple that He be as his master. That is the goal and the desire of every true believer; to be like Jesus!

**Mat 10:25** *It is enough (more than enough) for a disciple that he be like (exactly) his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! (Mat 9:34) But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons."*

- **It is more than enough just to be like Him, not greater than Him;** but *to be like Him.* In the last chapter, Jesus was accused by the Pharisees of casting out devils through Beelzebub, the prince of devils. If they treated our Lord with this disdain, how we cannot expect to fare better! I want to be filled with His Spirit, influencing all of the people around me and then somehow to believe that the world will treat me better than it treated Jesus!
- **We must not only keep our minds on those who persecute us in our witness,** but to consider all those who desperately need to hear the gospel. To them, it truly is a matter of life and death.

**Have No Fear**

**Mat 10:26** *Therefore do not fear them (councils of the wolves). For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.*

- **Do not begin to fear them! In the end, the truth will win out.** They were to be willing to be unknown, despised, persecuted for a time, with the assurance that their true characters would yet be understood, and their sufferings appreciated. The truth does not change. It will come out!

**Mat 10:27** *"Whatever I tell you (the gospel for us, the kingdom for them) in the dark (in our own private times with Him), speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.*

- I'm teaching you these things, telling you about these things in these private sessions, but you're to go out and to proclaim them, publicly *on the housetops!*

**Mat 10:28** *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

- **Fear should not be the thing that drives us!** Fear God! Don't fear man! The fear of God is the answer to the fear of man!
- **Who kill the body but cannot kill the soul?** There is a separate, definite distinction between body and soul. Don't be afraid of those who can kill your body but can't kill your soul.
- **But rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell!** That's the one to fear. The fear of man, the Bible says, brings a snare. Jesus is saying, don't be afraid. You're going to be facing some real hardships. They will take you into the synagogues and beat you. Some of you may be slain for your witness. And many of, of course, were. But don't fear them, they can't touch your soul. But rather fear God. (story of ministering in very dangerous place – "a great day to die!")

**Mat 10:29** *Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will.*

**Mat 10:30** *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

**Mat 10:31** *Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

- **This speaks of how intimate and current God's knowledge is of us.** How many hairs do you have on your head? He is interested in His creation, in the birds and all, but He is much more interested in you. He knows and is concerned with every detail of your life. We need not be afraid! (*Isa 41:10*) *Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*

### **Confess Christ Before Men**

**Mat 10:32** *"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.*

- Now He's sending them out. Share the things that I have told you. Jesus is the Messiah, the promised Messiah! If you confess me before men, I will also confess you!
- **If You confess Me before men, I'll confess you before My Father.** Don't let fear silence you, much less, to deny Christ!

**Mat 10:33** *But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.*

- **What strong words! Really heavy-duty words!** You want Him to confess you before the Father? Then you better be confessing Him before men. Do you want Him to deny you before the Father? Then you better be careful concerning denying Him before men. You remember, that was sin that Peter was guilty of. Of course, the Lord dealt with him and restored him, but that denial of Christ.

### **Christ Brings Division; Not Peace, but a Sword**

**Mat 10:34** *"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.*

- **The angels said when Jesus was born, "Peace on earth, good will toward men".** But prior to His second coming, He is saying not to expect the world to receive the Gospel. Though we preach the Gospel to all men, not all are going to receive or accept it. The Gospel is going to create a sharp division between men.
- **We are not going to bring the kingdom of God to the earth.** Paul said, (*2Ti 3:13*) *But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.* It's not to be expected that we should bring the world to Jesus Christ and gradually bring the kingdom of God in. Jesus said, *I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.* This is a verse with which the pacifist has had difficulty!

**Mat 10:35** *For I have come to 'SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW';*

**Mat 10:36** *and 'A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THOSE OF HIS OWN HOUSEHOLD.'*

- **It is sad but it is true that Christianity has divided many households.** When a member of the family has faith in the Lord and other members do not, many times there comes a sharp division. This is

understandable considering there are now two kingdoms in the household. Many households are divided over the issue of Jesus Christ. If you have that kind of an issue, we need to be careful not to turn from Jesus Christ, in order to placate the family.

***Mat 10:37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.***

- **It is sad that many times this kind of a decision is forced.** Where the parents will say, If you're going to continue to believe in this Jesus bit, then you're not welcome in this home, especially in the Jewish homes. Sometimes when a Jewish person receives Jesus as his Messiah, the family will hold a funeral service for him, treating him as though he were dead. If under that pressure, you give up your faith in Jesus Christ, your family ties are more important to you than Jesus Christ, then He said, You're really not worthy of me.
- **He who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.** If it's the other way around, and your sons or daughters are seeking to turn you against Christ, and for the sake of peace and harmony, you begin to turn, you're not worthy of Him.

***Mat 10:38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.***

- **Usually, in following Jesus, there is a sacrifice to be made.** If you're not willing to make it to follow Him, *you're not worthy of Him*. Here Jesus first mentions the word, **cross**, to His disciples. To them it would have brought to mind a picture of a violent, degrading death. He is demanding total commitment from them, even unto physical death. He is making this call to full surrender, which is a part of the message they are to proclaim to others. He repeats this same call to life-or-death devotion in (*Mat 14:27, 16:24; Mar 8:34; Luk 9:23*). Those who come to Christ with self-surrendering faith, receive true and eternal life.

***Mat 10:39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.***

- **He is contrasting the life which we have here in the flesh with the gift of eternal life** which comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! It is possible that when a person comes to Christ, he may be put to death because of his faith. A man who loses his physical life for Christ shall find eternal life which takes him into the presence of Christ. (*2Co 5:8*) *We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.*

## **Rewards**

***Mat 10:40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.***

- (*Mat 25:35, 39, 40*) *for I was hungry, and you gave Me food; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; [39] Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' [40] And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.*
- **Jesus so identifies with those who are His disciples who are proclaiming His truth** to a hostile world.
- He so identifies with you in your witness for Him, that the rejecting of you because of your witness, is paramount in His reckoning to the rejecting of Him. Many times, because of your Christian witness, you'll find that people will turn against you. Often, we may take that quite personally. They're saying all of these horrible things about me. They're telling lies about me and all of this, and they take that personally. It's not you that they are rejecting, it's Jesus Christ of whom you are bearing witness that they are rejecting. Jesus is saying, *He who receives you receives Me*. As we receive each other in Christ, we are receiving Christ!

***Mat 10:41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.***

- **Now you're going to go out, don't take anything with you.** If a home is worthy, stay there. Let your peace be there. He who receives you receives Me. He who receives you as a prophet will receive the prophet's reward. In other words, they will share in the reward of your ministry because of their support of you while you are there, their acceptance.
- **Paul, writing to the Philippian church who had sent a gift to him** while he was there in prison in Rome, thanked them for that gift. I don't appreciate it because of the need that I had. That isn't really the big issue in me, but I desire that fruit may abound to your account. Paul's life was very fruitful for Jesus Christ. How wonderful it would have been if we would have been able to contribute to Paul's ministry because of the tremendous fruit of his ministry. Paul is saying that in the contributions, you will share in the fruit. If you *give a cup of cold water to a disciple* in the name of the Lord, then you will receive a



reward. You won't lose the reward. Thus, the identity of Jesus with His servants, with His disciples, with His apostles, with those that have been sent out to do His work.

***Mat 10:42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."***

- **Now you're going to go out, don't take anything with you.** If a home is worthy, stay there. Let your peace be there. He who receives you receives Me. He who receives you as a prophet will receive the prophet's reward. In other words, they will share in the reward of your ministry because of their support of you while you are there, their acceptance.
- **Paul said, (Php 4:17-19) Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.** [18] *Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.* [19] *And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* I don't appreciate it because of the need that I had, that isn't really the big issue in me, but I desire that fruit may abound to your account. Now Paul's life was very fruitful for Jesus Christ. It would have been a blessing to have been able to contribute to Paul's ministry because of the tremendous fruit of his ministry.
- **Paul is saying that in the contributions, you will share in the fruit.** If you give a cup of cold water to a disciple in the Name of the Lord, then you will receive a reward. You won't lose the reward. Thus, the identity of Jesus with His servants, with His disciples, with His apostles, with those that have been sent out to do His work.

### **SUMMARY POINTS:**

#### **The Twelve Apostles – (vs. 1- 4)**

- How many of the instructions to the Twelve Apostles apply to us believers today?

#### **Sending Out the Twelve – (vs. 5-15);**

- God often calls the ordinary. Whom He calls, He enables. What is your calling?

#### **Persecutions Are Coming – (vs. 16-26);**

- Do I want to be like Jesus? Of course! Do I want to be Spirit filled, influencing all those around me being a witness for Him, and then expect the world will treat me better than it treated Him? **(2Ti 3:12) Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.**
- We must not only keep our minds on those who persecute us in our witness, but to consider all those who desperately need to hear the gospel. To them, it truly is a matter of life and death.

#### **Jesus Teaches the Fear of God – (vs. 27-31);**

- Fear should not be the thing that drives us! Fear God! Don't fear man! The fear of God is the answer to the fear of man!
- How do I handle Jesus' statement? - Don't be afraid of those who can kill your body, but can't kill your soul? Do you believe that for a Christian every days is a "great day to die"!

#### **Confess Christ Before Men – (vs. 32-33);**

- How do I respond to these two verses? **(Mat 10:32-33) "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**
- What strong words! Really heavy-duty words! You want Him to confess you before the Father? Then you better be confessing Him before men. Do you want Him to deny you before the Father? Then you better be careful concerning denying Him before men.

#### **Christ Brings Division – (vs. 34-39)**

- Though we preach the Gospel to all men, not all are going to receive or accept it! The Gospel is going to create a sharp division between men, even within one's own family. How well do I handle that?.

#### **A Cup of Cold Water – (vs. 40-42)**

- Jesus so identifies with those who are His disciples who are proclaiming His truth to a hostile world, that to your witness of Him is paramount in His reckoning to the rejecting of Him. It's a matter of life or death.
- But *whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."*

**Mat 10:15** *Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!*

**Mat 10:23** *When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.*

**Mat 10:42** *And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."*

### **Closing Song:**

*(Mat 10:8) Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. **Freely you have received, freely give.***

#### **FREELY, FREELY** – Maranatha Singers

*God forgave my sin in Jesus' name I've been born again in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His love as He told me to  
He said, "Freely, freely you have received Freely, freely give  
Go in my name, and because you believe Others will know that I live"*

*All power is given in Jesus' name In earth and Heaven in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His power as He told me to  
He said, "Freely, freely you have received Freely, freely give  
Go in my name, and because you believe Others will know that I live"*

### **Closing Prayer:**

**Assignment for next week: Read Matthew Chapter 11**