

Questions for Gospel Harmony #61

Matthew 9.35-11.1; Mark 6.6-13; Luke 9.1-6

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. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. **And He called the twelve disciples together to Himself and gave them power and authority over all demons**, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. These twelve Jesus sent out **two by two to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick**. **He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belts – but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics**, and commanded them, saying, "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. **And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey**, provide neither gold nor silver **nor money** nor copper in your money belts, **neither staff nor bag** for your journey, **nor bread; and do not have two tunics apiece**, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.

Also He said to them, "Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out. And when you go into a household, greet it. And if the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. **In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place. And whoever will not receive you nor hear you**, when you depart from that house or city, **shake of the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them**. 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!

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. 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; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

"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. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. 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.

"A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like 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! Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. 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. Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“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.

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. 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’; and ‘a man’s enemies *will be* those of his *own* household.’ 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. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

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

So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and preached that people should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, healing everywhere. Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished commanding His twelve disciples, that He departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities.

1. Why did Jesus send out the twelve? [Matthew 9.35-10.5; Mark 6.7; Luke 9.1-2]
2. Explain the restrictions Jesus placed on His disciples during their journeys. [Matthew 10.5-10; Mark 6.8-9; Luke 9.3]
3. What was the difference between a "worthy" city and one that was "not worthy?" [Matthew 10.11-15; Mark 6.10-11; Luke 9.4-5]
4. What demeanor did Jesus instruct the twelve to have while they did this work? [Matthew 10.16-22]
5. Explain the saying, "You will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes." [Matthew 10.23]
6. Explain the relationship between Jesus and His disciples, both before men and before God. [Matthew 10.24-33]
7. What did Jesus mean when he said, "I did not come to bring peace but a sword?" [Matthew 10.34-39]
8. What does it mean to "receive" one of the disciples, Jesus, a prophet, and a righteous man? [Matthew 10.40-42]

9. Where did the disciples go from there? Where did Jesus go? [Matthew 11.1; Mark 6.12-13; Luke 9.6]