

The Gospel of Matthew #81

Overview of Matthew 8-9: authority & compassion in action

8:1-17	3 healings	8:18-22	cost of following Jesus
8:18- 9:8	3 miracles	9:9-17	Matt called; a New Day
9:18-34	3 healings	9:35-38	summary of authority & compassion

MATTHEW'S PERSONAL TESTIMONY**Matthew 9:9-13**

Now Matthew becomes very personal and illustrates 3 themes he is developing

The story (with Luke's extra details)

I. _____ : v9
"Follow Me."

II. _____ : v10-11
"What is the matter with Jesus, eating with these scum?"

This is 2nd of 4 criticisms that climax in 9:34. We will come back to this →

III. _____ : v10-13

- He socializes with the rejects of religion
- He came for the sick, not the whole; for the dirty, not the clean
- He came to show Mercy (Hosea 6:6)

This is the climax of Matthew's stories from 8:1 to 9:13:

To show Jesus' authority and compassion in

- Healings
- Exorcisms
- Deliverance from storm
- Forgiveness

→ forgiveness for ME, Matthew, the Great Sinner. Personal
The Gospel is for *broken* people. For you as you *really* are

The Gospel is about **grace**.

Is that personal for you?

Does it deepen for you in its amazement?

Who do you spend time with?

Do you ever spend time with the dirty, the irreligious who live outside the conservative culture?

Eg: CPC's Rte 1 Homeless Ministry (see Steve Green)

Matthew is beginning to show, that with greater authority and compassion, Jesus also receives increasing **opposition**.

This opposition by religious leaders will increase until it climaxes with their crucifying Him!

And there will be displayed the world's greatest irony in His ultimate authority and compassion: He turns their "victory" into the means by which He forgives our sin, thru His own sacrifice on our behalf!

That dare never be simply "interesting."

- It must be **personal**: he left all and followed Him
- It must **cost** you: the giving of the Banquet and the rejection by the important people in Matthew's life.

And he uses this all to illustrate grace!

What is your response to this Jesus?