

The Gospel of Matthew #83

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

THE CLIMAX OF CRITICISM AND COMPASSION

Matthew 9:18-38

I. Three _____ a picture of Gospel Compassion

These healings are physical pictures of Gospel transformation:

- Hopeless
- Unclean
- Dead
- Blind
- Mute

This was you without Christ
Some of you still?
Your family? Friends?

II. Four or five _____ a picture of unbelief vs. faith

- “Blaspheme!” (9:3)
- Associates with sinners! (9:11)
- Doesn’t fast! (9:14)
- Laughed at Him (9:24)
- Is in league with the devil! (9:34)

They *refuse* to believe He Messiah
(note emphasis on faith in v22 and 28-29)

Do you?

See the extremes unbelief will go to in denying evidence
Nothing will overcome it except regeneration (new birth from death)

Your family? Friends?

III. The _____ of criticism and compassion

A. Jesus answers His critics by simply _____ to do good
Lesson for you and me

His critics will hound Him to death, which will become His ultimate act of compassionate healing on the cross

B. He has _____ on the people, who are like sheep without a shepherd

The Pharisees are not true shepherds
The people are harassed and helpless

C. He _____ His disciples to pray to the Lord of the Harvest for workers

New idea: others will join Him in gathering sheep into His Kingdom
Chapter 10 develops this in the first commissioning of His disciples to also preach and heal

You and I follow in this train.
That is what February was about
The call to see and pray!