

Matthew #9 (9:35 - 10:4)

I. Let us Look at 9:35 - 38

- A. Verse 35 - This would be the villages and cities of Galilee- 4:23
 - 1. Jesus' response to Pharisees' criticism in verse 34 -keeps doing
 - a. When people criticize our good works-best response- keep doing them
 - 2. Teaching and preaching emphasized over the works that He did
- B. V. 36- Compassion- Strong word- From "intestine" - we say "stomach"
- C. Condition of people described as "harassed and helpless"
 - 1. Idea is that they were burdened with excessive religious regulations
 - 2. They were "sheep without shepherd" - From I Kings 22:17
 - 3. Current shepherds not helping but burdening sheep- Mat. 23:4; Jn 7:49
 - a. But Jesus is the good Shepherd - John 10:11; Psalm 23:1, 2
 - 4. People wearied- needing rest- but shepherds failed- Jer. 23:1; Ez. 34:2
 - a. But Jesus fulfills Moses' prayer- Num. 27:15-17; Matt. 11:28, 29
- D. V. 37- Harvest is plenteous- much elect in these cities- Acts 18:10
 - 1. John 4:35 - There are set times for harvest
- E. V. 38- Pray Lord to send forth laborers- this is neglected prayer
 - 1. Only the Lord can call and equip the laborers for the harvest
 - 2. Luke says Jesus prayed all night before calling disciples - Lu. 6:12, 13
 - 3. When God is preparing to do something- stirs people to pray-Ps. 10:17

II. Let us Look at 10:1 - 4

- A. Mark says Jesus sends these disciples forth two by two- Ecc. 4:9, 10
- B. They are not commissioned by Lord till they have been with Him a while
 - 1. I Timothy 3:6 (elders); I Tim. 3:10 (Deacons) I Timothy 5:22
- C. They are referred to as both "disciples" and "apostles" in these verses
 - 1. Word "disciple" means "learner" - we must first be a learner
 - 2. "Apostle" means "one sent forth"-used of others besides 12-Ac. 14:14
- D. Appoints 12-same number as the tribes of Israel- Mat. 19:28; Rev. 21:12
 - 1. Various listings of 12 tribes in OT- Various listings of 12 apostles
 - a. Matthias takes Judas' place- Some think Paul belongs in 12
 - b. Paul last apostle -I Cor. 15:8- out of last tribe- Benjamin
- E. Gives them authority - V. 1- Jesus gives us authority for our calling
 - 1. Not everyone in those days was given authority over demons
- F. Vs. 2-4- Jesus lists 12 disciples- Peter is listed as "first"

- 1. Not in charge over all disciples- but foremost-(Pentecost, Cornelius)
 - a. First 4 are 2 sets of brothers- united in family and in gospel- blessing
- 2. In other gospels Matthew listed before Thomas- Shows humility
 - a. Thomas means "twin" - John 11:16 - Probably Matthew's partner
- 3. Last 4 disciples not well known- or else known for wrong reason
 - a. Thaddeus (warmhearted) probably same as Judas brother of James
 - 1. Perhaps changed his name from Judas because of stigma
- 4. Judas "Iscariot" - Perhaps man of Kerioth - geographical reference
 - 1. Some think from Hebrew word for "strangulation" - way he died

III. What Can We Learn About Ministry From Jesus Here?

- A. Preach the gospel in all places- Matthew 28:18-20
- B. Preach gospel in places where people gather to worship God (Synagogues)
- C. Preach the good news - to everyone - with compassion