



Title: The Ministry of the King (part 2) – The Disciples of the King

Text: Matt. 4:18-25

18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. 19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. 21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. 24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them. 25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

Introduction:

1. Jesus' preaching was the same as John the Baptist (offer of the Kingdom upon Israel's repentance). The message of repentance is still significant today (for the offer of salvation which will eventually lead to the Kingdom of Heaven).
2. John's disciples followed Jesus (Jn. 1:37) – truly, John prepared a people for the Lord.
3. Soon after many others followed Jesus.
4. Jesus proceeds in His ministries: teaching, preaching, and healing (He is the Messiah/King).

I. John's Disciples Follow Christ: (v.18-22)

- A. This Matthean account is the third time Jesus called His Baptized Disciples.
- B. The First Time – Salvation and Baptism under John's ministry. (Acts 1:22)
- C. The Second Time – Discipleship with Christ (Jn. 1:41-47).
- D. The Third Time – to “full time service.”
- E. The Fourth Time – to Apostleship.
- F. Disciples “straightway” or immediately follow the King.
 - F.1. They were successful fishermen.
 - F.2. They prepared themselves for service to the King.

II. Jesus' Jewish Ministries (v.23) – He went about (regularly) all Galilee

- A. The Lord Jesus taught in their Synagogues (Jewish places of worship).
- B. The Lord Jesus preached “the Gospel of the Kingdom” (of Heaven) (Jewish message).
- C. The Lord Jesus healed the mainly the Jewish “people” (“common people” vs. leaders).

III. Jesus' Gentile Ministries (v.24-25) – His fame went throughout all Syria

- A. Gentiles came to the Jewish Messiah to receive blessings (Zech. 2:10-12; 8:18-23; Isa. 2:1-4).
- B. The Lord Jesus “preached” unto all of them (Jews and Gentiles) the Gospel of the Kingdom – but they were more interested in their bodily condition vs. their spiritual condition. This is fallen human nature – take care of the body to the neglect of the spiritual needs.

Conclusion:

1. Many “disciples” follow for the loaves – BUT not for the love (of the Lord). [Body vs. Spirit]
2. True disciples will be proven – false disciples will fade away.
3. Every true disciple must share the message of the King (Jesus proved His discipleship to John by preserving and proclaiming the very same message of repentance and faith).
4. Nothing should hinder the message of the Gospel.
5. Every true disciple must imitate the apostolic-biblical model.