

Sermon Notes – January 13, 2019

Review

- ⇒ Matthew presents Jesus as “the Christ” – the anointed One, the long-awaited & often-promised Messiah, and as “the Son of David” – the Davidic King promised in II Samuel 7.
- ⇒ We’ve seen that the ministry of Jesus is a preview of a renewed creation and restored humanity that will only have its full realization in Christ’s future reign.
- ⇒ In last week’s text, we saw Jesus’ divine authority to forgive sins, to command obedience, and to make all things new – truly a “foretaste of glory divine” (as in Revelation 21:6!).

Today’s Text: Matthew 9:35-10:42

Today’s preaching section begins with a “transition verse” that is nearly identical to 4:23, marking chapters 5-9 as a sub-unit that introduces us to Jesus’ teaching and establishes His identity & authority. This section is the second of the five major discourses recorded in Matthew’s gospel.

When Jesus “Sees” the Harvest, He Sends Workers

(9:35-10:5a)

- ⇒ How does Jesus see people? How does the text describe them?
- ⇒ Jesus sends out the twelve regardless of their _____, their different _____ and temperaments, and future failures.

When Jesus Sends, He Provides What is Needed

(10:5b -10:42)

- ⇒ This sending is “_____,” not specifically intended as a pattern for how God sends us today. That is, it is *primarily* “_____,” not _____.” How do we know this?
 - This mission trip is focused on the _____ crowd (5-6); our call is to go into all the world.
 - The spartan travel & living described here are for this trip only; other trips were different – Luke 22:35-36.

Matthew 9:35-10:42
True Compassion = Truth + Service
Pastor Jay Mosser

- ⇒ Why the restriction to focus on the Jewish audience? Carson suggests some reasons:
 - Practical – the disciples are not at this point prepared for effective ministry to a non-Jewish crowd (see Luke 9:54).
 - Theological – “to the Jew first”; Jesus came as the Jewish messiah, the long-awaited Son of David, who THEN opened the door of faith to the nations in a whole new way. The gospels are set in a theological _____. See Acts 10, 15 & Ephesians 3.
- ⇒ At the same time, however, some of Jesus’ warnings seem to transcend the immediate setting into a more distant future. Like some OT prophecy, there is often a “_____ fulfillment” and a “_____ fulfillment.” (17-42; Peter will later write, “Do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes...”)
 - Persecution, betrayal, & danger
 - Threat of death
 - Family division
- ⇒ This text illustrates the “M_____ Principle”: God will provide the grace I need to love & obey Him today. I need to trust Him for the grace I need tomorrow.
- ⇒ Can you imagine the disciples at this point? “*I thought we were just heading out on a short-term mission trip. What’s all this talk about persecution & possible death?*”

Response to God’s Word

- ⇒ Then as now, Jesus sends His disciples to meet practical needs, but not *ONLY* practical needs. He says, “Proclaim as you go” (10:7). Meeting physical needs *alone* is shortsighted, and from long experience, the Church has learned that there is always a tension between “giving sandwiches” and giving the gospel. True compassion = truth + service!
- ⇒ Jesus is very clear that there is often a high personal cost to follow & serve Him. It may be as simple as you daily fighting the battle against sin or choosing to serve in a ministry instead of pursuing personal comfort. For some, following Christ involves clear persecution, betrayal, danger, threat of death, or family division.
- ⇒ Christ and His gospel are worth it all...every price...every struggle. Eternity will bear this out! We must not grow weary in doing good! (I Peter 1:13)

Community Group Notes

Getting Started

Have you or other members of your group been on a short-term mission trip? Where did y'all go, and what did you learn from your experience?

Talking It Through

1. Review the sermon from Sunday: Read the entire text (Matthew 9:35-10:42) and review the main sermon points from your notes. What was it about?
2. Jesus "saw" the crowds (9:36). Describe how Jesus sees people, and how different that is from how we typically see people.
3. Jesus says, "Proclaim as you go" and He gives this particular group special authority to act on His behalf in healing the sick and demon-possessed. That is, they are supposed to preach AND address practical needs. As a group, talk about the practical tension between those two important aspects of ministry. Why is there sometimes stress between them? How might a church maintain the true priority of spiritual ministry, and still address practical needs?
4. Think through all the warnings Jesus gives His disciples as He prepares them for ministry. What promises do you personally find most comforting? What warnings do you see most sobering? (Take time on this one)

Taking It Further & Taking It Home

5. Think through people in the Bible who suffered in some way for following the God of the Bible. Who comes to mind? How did they suffer, and what was the outcome for them & for God's story in history? How can we be encouraged by them? (If you're not sure where to start, think of Hebrews 11 for some examples).
6. Getting personal: Is there a place in your life currently where following Christ is coming with a cost of some sort – either personally in terms of struggle or discipline or consequences, or in your relation to others? If you see such an area, PRAY for grace to persevere, for joy instead of a complaining spirit, and for patience to wait for God's deliverance.

Time to PRAY

(Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs.

Next Sunday Worship: January 20, 2019

"When God Doesn't Meet Your Expectations"

(Matthew 11:1-30)

Pastor Jay Mosser

Answer Key: ▪ inexperience ▪ giftedness ▪ occasional ▪ descriptive ▪ prescriptive ▪ Jewish ▪ crossroads ▪ near ▪ distant ▪ Manna