

The Gospel of Matthew #77

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 COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS**Matthew 8:18-22**

Matthew now turns from showing Jesus' authority over leprosy, paralysis (at a distance), fever, demons, ALL kinds of maladies...
To show He also has authority over the lives of His disciples.
Not just peripheral matters, but central issues of life.

This authority is highlighted in v18-22 in two ways:

I. His words to two would-be disciples:

A. Too quick to _____: Q of _____

“Jesus, I give You my life! Everything!”

Jesus puts him off. Cf. Matt 13:20-23

You only gradually grow to learn the cost of that, and the faith it will require to follow where He leads

Where are you afraid to trust Him in **your** life?

Will you tithe in October? Pray about deficit?

B. Too slow to _____: Q of _____

“Jesus, I will follow You completely—as soon as I finish...”

He puts Jesus off. Wants to negotiate.

You only gradually learn to obey Him and see His ways are good.

Where are you afraid to obey Him in **your** life?

Ministry involvement not convenient *just now*?

II. His title of Absolute Authority: the _____ (v20)

First of 81x in Gospels; 30x in Matthew; only 1x (Acts 7:56) uttered by anyone but Jesus.

Why did Jesus use this unusual phrase to refer to Himself?

- Not a Jewish Messianic title; avoided nationalistic distortions
- Exalted title from Dan 7:13-14: refers to the Sovereign King of the eternal universal Kingdom of God
- From Dan 7:13-14 it also hinted at deity
- But it also connoted humility and true humanity
- It pictures the Humble One Who will be exalted to Glory in His Resurrection and Return to judge and rule the Nations (17:22-23; **26:64**)

So if you give yourself to this One, you give yourself unreservedly

- Your priorities: lifestyle and daily decisions
- Your plans: Rom 12:1-2 to let Him lead
- His providences: accept His blessings & trials

Where are you afraid to **trust** Him?

Where are you afraid to **obey** Him?