

# The Sending of the Seventy

Luke 10:1-16

02-19-2017

# Outline

- Introduction –
  - The Preachers
  - The Message
  - The Kingdom
- Be Content With What the Lord Provides
  - Desire What God Desires
  - Seeking His Resources
  - Obeying His Command
  - Being Confident in His Protection
  - Being Willing To Do With What He Has Provided

# Outline

- Be Faithful to the Lord's Message
  - Peace be upon this house
    - Be content
    - Receive what is given
  - Heal the sick
  - Preach the Gospel
- Be Diligent to Declare Judgement
  - If rejected...
  - Some sin deserves greater judgement
  - Scripture confirms comparative judgement
  - Each person is individually responsible

# Introduction – The Preachers & the Message

- Most of Jesus' disciples left Him – Mt 7:14; 19:25*f.*; Lk 13:23*f.*; Jn 6:66
- True disciples refused to leave Jesus – Jn 6:67-69
  - These 70 were willing to follow Jesus
  - These 70 were ordinary men...just like the 12
- The Message – the Kingdom of Heaven has come near (10:9)
  - John the Baptist's message – Mt 3:2
  - Jesus' message – Mt 4:17,23; 9:35; Lk 4:43
  - The Apostle's message – Mt 10:7

# Introduction – the Kingdom

- The King – Sovereign over all – 1 Tim 6:15
  - The Universal Kingdom – Ps 103:19; Php 2:9-18
  - The Kingdom of Salvation – Eph 2
    - The Kingdom of the Beloved Son – Col 1:13
  - The Kingdom of the World – Rev 11:15
    - Under Satan’s rule – Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Ac 26:18; 2 Cor 4:4; Eph 2:2
- After this – after the events of Chapter 9
  - Jesus appointed 70

# Introduction – Oh Yeah...the Preachers

- Jesus appointed 70 and divided them into pairs – cf. Moses choice of 70 Elders to help him govern Israel; Num 11:16*f*, 24*f*.
- Why dilute their reach by pairing them up? – cf., the twelve also, Mk 6:7
  - There is wisdom in having built-in support and encouragement – Ecc 4:9-12
  - The Law requires the testimony of two or more witnesses – Deut 19:15

# Introduction – 3 Things Jesus Required

- Be Content with what the Lord provides
- Be Faithful to the Message He entrusts
- Be diligent to declare impending judgement

# The Gospel in Galatians – Craig's Notes

- God created (& owns) everything
- Man is accountable to God
- God's has requirements for righteousness: falling short is SIN
- God will judge for ALL sin
- God gave Israel a law which defined righteousness and prescribed how man could attain righteousness through works
- No one is able to keep Israel's law
- God sent His son Jesus to fulfill works of righteousness and die so as to exchange His righteousness for the sins of the world
- Man appropriates Jesus' righteousness by faith alone
- The believer receives God's H.S. enabling him to exercise faith through good works
- God's grace and power enables the believer to endure in faith



# The Appointment & the Provision

The Sending of the Seventy, Part II

Luke 10:1-16

02-26-2017

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:2*b*

- Desiring what God desires – 10:2*b*
  - We do not naturally care for the souls of others
  - We need to let God shape our desires so that we share in His desires
  - The Lord has compassion on those in need – cf. Mt 9:35-37; 15:14; 15:32; Mt 209:34; Mk 1:41; 6:34; Lk 7:12-15
  - “compassion,” *spl angnizomai*, *splangnizomiai*; from “intestines” is refers to an intense emotional response, i.e. to feel it in the pit of the stomach – cf. Is 53:3; Jn 11:33-38; Lk 19:41

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:2b

- Desiring What God Desires – 10:2b
  - Jesus was well aware of the doctrines of sovereignty, divine election, predestination, etc., and knew that many of those in need would reject him, yet He still grieved over them – Rev 13:8; 21:27; Mt 23:37; Jn 1:11; 3:19; 5:40; 12:37
  - Paul understood God’s sovereignty (Ro 9:14-24) and still grieved for those who reject God’s offer of salvation – Ro 9:1-3
  - Knowing what awaits those who reject God
    - The **Harvest** is plentiful – those headed toward judgement are many
    - The **laborers** are few – those who recognize the plight of unbelievers, and are willing to work to reach them with the Gospel that saves

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:2-4

- Seeking His Resources
  - Yes, we are to pray for those who do not believe in Christ – cf. Ro 10:1
  - But that is not what is in view here
  - We need also to pray that the Lord would raise up laborers in His harvest to bring the Gospel to those who are as yet unbelievers
  - Jesus, the Lord of the harvest – Jn 5:22, 27-29; cf. 2 Thess 1:5-10
  - desires that we should join with Him – Lk 10:2-4
- The amazing paradox
  - Jesus, the Judge, commands desires to send His people out to save those upon whom He must execute judgement
  - He Himself was executed in order to save others from being executed by Him

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:3*a*

- Obeying His Command
  - Go, *ὑπάγω*, *hupago*, present imperative, “go now and keep on going”
  - This was not a time to seek training, though further training would come
  - The imperative is that they GO
  - Notice how effective even an untrained, newly converted, evangel can be – Lk 8:26-39

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:3*b*

- Being Confident in His Protection
  - As lambs among wolves
  - The 70 had no strength of their own to withstand threats and attacks
    - They would be only as strong as the strength of the Shepherd
    - Cf. Mt 10:16-18; Jn 16:1-4, 33
  - Innocence – a lamb is no threat to a wolf
  - Vigilance – while not being a threat, the lamb must be wise and attentive
  - All would be protected until their job was finished
    - Cf. Perpetua – even through martyrdom, God sustained her

# Be Content with What the Lord Provides – 10:4

- Being Willing to Do With What He Has Provided
  - Carry no provisions – cf. the 12 in Lk 9:1-3
  - Greet no one – cultural greetings as with Moses & Jethro, Ex 18:5-12
  - They were not to seek relationships wherein they might gain support
  - They were to trust the power of the Gospel, rather than the power of their relationships
  - This was to be a time of learning of God's power to provide – cf. Php 4:19
  - These strict limits were temporary...for training – not permanent restrictions
    - God can supply – Lk 22:35
    - In the future, plan and prepare – 22:36

# Be Faithful to the Lord's Message – 10:5-9

- Peace Be to This House
  - Look for someone who is receptive to the Gospel
    - A Jew inwardly – Ro 2:29
    - Awaiting the Messiah – cf. Simeon, Lk 2:25
  - ...a man of peace... - lit. “son of peace” – cf. Ro 5:1
    - Having a nature consistent with, being disposed toward
  - If the message is rejected, leave...look for those who are receptive – cf. Mt 10:13 and 7:6



# Be Faithful to the Lord's Message – 10:5-9

- Peace Be to This House
  - Stay in that house – do not be greedy
    - This would distinguish those who are true preachers of the Gospel from those who are preaching falsely, out of greed
    - It is a matter of integrity
  - Eat what is put in front of you
    - Putting no price on your ministry
    - Even if it means eating a gentile diet (which Jesus had already okayed – Mk 7:18*f.*)
  - Healing those who are sick – see also 10:17
    - Their power authenticated their message, just as it did for the apostles – Lk 9:6
    - This was needed as the NT had not yet been written

# Be Diligent to Declare Judgment – 10:10-16

- If rejected, they were not to just slip away
  - Wipe off the dust, declare the rejection of the Kingdom
    - A public expression of disdain – cf. the rejection of Jesus, 9:52*f.*; 9:5
  - This was a reminder of their guilt at rejecting the Gospel that had been brought before them
  - Understanding the Good News follows understanding the Bad News
    - Cf. Ps 96:13; Jn 5:28*f.*; Ac 17:31; 24:25; Ro 2:5; w Thes 2:12; 2 Tim 4:1; Heb 9:27; 2 Pet 2:9; 3:7; Rev 20:11-15
  - In emphasizing the principle of comparative judgment, Jesus is emphasizing that those who reject the message of the 70 will face a more severe judgment than those who have never heard the truth

# Be Diligent to Declare Judgment – 10:10-16

- Some sin deserves greater judgment – 10:12*a*, 14*a*
  - “I say to you...” declaration of the importance of the following message – cf. Mt 5:18,20,22,26,28,32,34,39,44
    - This is not hearsay, it is straight from the Judge’s mouth
- Six cities listed – three Jewish, three Gentile
  - The Jewish cities judgment would be more severe than that of the Gentile cities
  - The eternal judgment will vary, according “to what they had done” – Rev 20:11-15
  - To hear the Gospel and reject it is to incur greater guilt and deserve greater punishment
  - Rejection of the truth is an insult to the Spirit of grace, and deserves the greatest penalty – Heb 10:29-31; Lk 12:47*f*.

# Be Diligent to Declare Judgment – 10:10-16

- Scripture Confirms Comparative Judgment – 10:12-15
  - Ex #1...Sodom vs. “that city” – any city that rejected the message of the 70
  - Ex #2...Tyre & Sidon vs. Chorazin and Bethsaida
    - Tyre & Sidon, OT cities in Phoenicia would have mourned over their sin and repented if they had seen what C and B saw – Is 23; Ezk 28
    - Chorazin (Galilean village near where Jesus HQ’d and taught) and Bethsaida (home of Andrew, Peter, and Philip; Jn 1:44)
  - Ex #3...Capernaum, never “rejected” Jesus...seemed to have simply tolerated Him and His ministry
    - Hades – generally refers to the place of the dead – Lk 16:23f.
    - Indifference to Christ is just as damning as outright rejection
      - Choosing “not to choose” is in and of itself a choice against Christ – Mt 12:30; Rev 3:15

# Be Diligent to Declare Judgment – 10:10-16

- Each Person is Individually Responsible – 10:16
  - Because each of the 70 represented Jesus, to reject them and their message is the same as rejecting Jesus Himself – cf. Jn 13:20; Lk 9:48; Mt 10:40; Mk 9:37
  - To think that you can honor God without accepting and honoring Jesus is an eternally damning lie – Jn 5:23; 8:42; 15:23; 1 Jn 2:23; 2 Jn 9
  - If you have the Son, you have the Father also – Ro 8:9-11

# Summary Thoughts

- How can we follow this scriptural pattern of evangelism?
  - Depend upon the Lord
    - Don't wait for further training when the opportunity is in front of you
  - Be faithful to the Gospel message
    - Don't add to it, or take away from it
  - Do not forsake the declaration of warning concerning the cost of rejecting the message and the proceeding judgment of hell
    - Don't think that you are being more loving if you don't declare the consequences
- There are other patterns as well, each consistent with the context surrounding the opportunity...