

Not the Righteous, but Sinners

Matthew 9:9-13



A Sinner is Called (9)

Who is this man? - *a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth*

Jesus' simple call - *and He said to him, "Follow me."*

Matthew's immediate response - *And he rose and followed him.*

A Feast is Held (10)

Whose house and why? - *And as Jesus reclined at table in the house*

The people gathered - *behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples.*

An Accusation is Cast (11)

Who are Pharisees? - *And when the Pharisees saw this*

The “question” asked of the disciples - *they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”*

The real issue - the self-separating nature of self-righteousness

A 3-Fold Answer is Given (12-13)

A proverb - *Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick*

A command - *Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ (Hos6:6)*

His mission - *For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”*

His intended result - affirm and reveal

Application

Matthew’s call - a great commission change from “come and follow me” to “as you follow Me I will come with you.” But no less radical.

Matthew’s example - hospitality, use of resources, and personal connections with non-Christians

Matthew’s critics - warning of the enduring temptation of self-righteousness and self-identification blindness

Matthew’s Savior - His example, His command, His associations (or not), His mission which is ours