

7/19/15

SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR  
HAS COME, WEEK 75

TITLE: THE MASTER'S MESSENGERS

TEXT: LUKE 10:1-16

INTRODUCTION: (1) PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN IN HIS COMMENTARY ON LUKE 1-12 WRITES ABOUT THE CHINA GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP ALSO KNOWN AS TANGHE.

\* THIS FELLOWSHIP IS A LARGE NETWORK OF CHINESE HOUSE CHURCHES.

\*\* EARLY IN 1994 THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES BEGAN COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR A SPECIAL MISSIONARY TRIP.

**\*\*\* SINCE MOST OF THE GROUP'S MEMBERS LIVE IN POVERTY, THEIR GIVING WAS TRULY SACRIFICIAL.**

\*\*\*\* I MEAN PEOPLE SOLD THEIR CHICKENS OR GAVE UP MONEY THEY HAD BEEN SAVING IN MARRIAGE. NO MATTER WHAT THE COST, THEY WANTED GOD TO BE GLORIFIED IN CHINA, AND PASTOR GREG KNOWS ABOUT HOW SACRIFICIAL SOME OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE HAVING MADE 7 TRIPS TO CHINA WITH AN 8<sup>TH</sup> SCHEDULED FOR LATER THIS YEAR.

(2) WELL, WHEN SUFFICIENT FUNDS HAD BEEN RAISED, THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES HELD A WORSHIP SERVICE AT WHICH THEY COMMISSIONED 70 YOUNG EVANGELISTS TO GO OUT TWO BY TWO AND PREACH THE GOSPEL IN THE FAR PROVINCES OF CHINA.

\* THE MISSIONARIES WERE YOUNG AND SINGLE, SOME OF THEM STILL IN THEIR TEENS.

\*\* THEY WERE GIVEN ONLY ENOUGH MONEY FOR A ONE WAY JOURNEY, AS THEY WERE TOLD TO TRUST GOD TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR NEEDS.

\*\*\* THIS TRUST WAS WELL PLACED, FOR THE LORD WAS FAITHFUL TO PROVIDE.

\*\*\*\* SIX MONTHS LATER ALL OF THE MISSIONARIES RETURNED HOME SAFELY, HAVING ESTABLISHED NEW CHURCHES IN 22 OF **CHINA'S 30 PROVINCES.**

(3) NOW IN SPONSORING THIS MISSION, THE CHINA GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES WERE CARRYING OUT THE CORPORATE MANDATE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS AND WE SEE IT BEING CARRIED OUT IN THE BOOK OF ACTS, PLANTING CHURCHES.

\* AND THOSE DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHINA WERE ALSO FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO IN OUR TEXT TODAY APPOINTED 70 MISSIONARIES - MESSENGERS, AND SENT THEM OUT AHEAD OF HIM, TWO BY TWO, GOING OUT IN FAITH, PREACHING THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR YOU.

\*\* AND THAT EVENT IS COMMUNICATED IN OUR TEXT TODAY IN LUKE 10:1-**16 WHICH I'VE** TITLED THE MASTER'S MESSENGERS.

**\*\*\* AND BY GOD'S GRACE WE'LL GLEAN SOME** TRUTHS THAT HOPEFULLY WILL ENCOURAGE AND CHALLENGE US.

**\*\*\*\* AND WE'LL DO THAT BY LOOKING AT 6 MAIN** POINTS AS WE NEED TO COVER A LOT OF GROUND TODAY.

(4) NO. 1 THE PLAN AND PRAYER, VV. 1&2; NO. 2 THE PROTECTION AND PREREQUISITE, VV. 3&4; NO. 3 THE PEACE, VV. 5&6; NO. 4 THE PROVISION, VV. 7-9A; NO. 5 THE PROCLAMATION AND PERIL, VV. 9B-15; AND NO. 6 THE PROMISE, V. 16.

\* AND THOSE 6 POINTS WILL BE THE LENS **WE'LL LOOK THROUGH TO SEE THE MASTER'S** MESSENGERS.

\*\* AND WITH THAT OUTLINE BEFORE US, LOOK **AT V. 1 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE** OUR FIRST POINT, THE PLAN AND PRAYER.

I. THE PLAN AND PRAYER, (READ V. 1)

A. NOW THE PHRASE AFTER THIS OR AFTER THOSE THINGS, INDICATES THAT THE SENDING OF THE 70 TOOK PLACE AFTER THE EVENTS OF LUKE 9, WHICH MARKED THE CLOSE OF THE **LORD'S MINISTRY IN GALILEE AND THE** BEGINNING OF HIS JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM.

\* AND THAT JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM WOULD LAST FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND TAKE PLACE MAINLY IN JUDEA AND EAST OF THE JORDAN IN PEREA.

\*\* AND WE KNOW FROM SCRIPTURE THAT THIS TRIP ENDS WITH JERUSALEM FOR THE EVENTS OF PASSION WEEK, WHICH WOULD LEAD TO **CHRIST'S DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION AND HIS ASCENSION TO HIS FATHER'S RIGHT HAND.**

\*\*\* WELL, EARLY ON, IN HIS JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM, JESUS APPOINTS 70 MESSENGERS AND SENDS THEM OUT TWO BY TWO IN PAIRS TO PREPARE THE WAY TO WHERE JESUS HIMSELF WOULD GO ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM.

\*\*\*\* AND A COUPLE OF FOOTNOTES HERE BEFORE I MOVE ON TO V. 2. NO. 1 IF YOU HAVE AN ESV OR NIV, IT SAYS 72 MESSENGERS WERE **APPOINTED. AND FROM WHAT I'VE STUDIED** THE MANUSCRIPTS FOR V. 1 ARE EQUALLY DIVIDED WITH SOME SAYING 70 AND SOME SAYS 72.

**1. SO I'M JUST GOING WITH MY FAVORITE** TRANSLATIONS THE NAS, THE KJV AND NKJV WHICH SAY 70, NOT SOMETHING TO ARGUE ABOUT.

\* AND NO. 2, SENDING THEM OUT IN PAIRS **SHOWS THE LORD'S WISDOM, IN SENDING OUT** 35 OR 36 TEAMS.

\*\* THERE IS MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY, MUTUAL ENCOURAGEMENT, PROTECTION, TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE AND THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES TRUTH IS ESTABLISHED AS THEY WILL COME BACK AND REPORT TO JESUS.

\*\*\* SO THESE TEAMS ARE SENT OUT. AND THE LORD INSTRUCTS THEM IN THE FOLLOWING VERSES, FROM WHICH WE CAN GLEAN SOME INSIGHT TO THOSE WHO ARE CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST.

\*\*\*\* **AND VERSE TWO'S INSTRUCTION IS PRAY** FOR LABORERS INTO THE HARVEST. LOOK AT V. 2 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 2. NOW AS JESUS CALLED THE 12, AND ON ONE OTHER OCCASION, SO ALSO NOW, JESUS TELLS THE 70, THAT THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL AND THE LABORERS, ARE FEW, QUOTE MATTHEW 9:37&38 AND JOHN 4:35.

\* NOW WHEN JESUS SPOKE OF THE HARVEST, HE **WAS SPEAKING ABOUT PEOPLE'S SOULS. THE** WORLD IS LIKE A FIELD, AND EVERY PERSON IS LIKE A PLANT - EITHER A FRUITFUL BLADE OF WHEAT THAT GOD WILL GATHER TO HIMSELF, HIS ELECT OR A WEED THAT WILL BE BURNED.

\*\* AND GOD IS GATHERING A GREAT HARVEST OF SOULS FOR HIS SON FROM EVERY TIME IN HISTORY AND EVERY TRIBE AMONG THE NATIONS.

\*\*\* **AND IN GOD'S PLAN, LABORERS, PEOPLE** WHOM PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL, US, ARE CALLED TO SOW THE SEED OF THIS GOSPEL, AND GOD BRINGS FRUIT.

\*\*\*\* FOR GOD ALMIGHTY IS THE LORD OF THE HARVEST, QUOTE I CORINTHIANS 3:6&7&8.

1. NOW THE LORD WILL BRING FORTH HIS HARVEST, BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW, SO WE PRAY TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO BRING



FORTH LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST.

\* WE ARE TO PRAY FOR WORKERS, LABORERS. FOR GOD IN HIS PLAN USES THE MEANS OF PEOPLE TO SOW HIS SEED WHICH IS THE WORD IN THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS WHICH WE HAVE ALREADY STUDIED IN LUKE.

\*\* AND THE LABORERS ARE FEW, BECAUSE IT IS LABOR, IT IS FOR LABORERS AND NOT LOAFERS. AND THE LORD WILL BRING FORTH HIS HARVEST.

\*\*\* BUT WE HAVE THE PRIVILEGE TO PRAY AND GO, AND WE CAN BE A PART OF THE HARVEST, WHAT A PRIVILEGE TO PRAY AND GO. AND THE MESSENGERS, THE 70 WOULD GO, **FOR THAT'S** WHAT JESUS TOLD THEM TO DO, LOOK AT V. 3 **PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR 2'D** POINT TODAY, THE PROTECTION AND PREREQUISITE.

II. THE PROTECTION AND PREREQUISITE, (READ V. 3)

A. NOW THE 70 ARE TOLD TO GO. AND THE VERB GO IS A PRESENT ACTIVE IMPERATIVE IN THE GREEK WHICH MEANS THIS IS A COMMAND TO THE 70, AN IMPERATIVE, AND THE PRESENT TENSE MEANS TO GO AND KEEP GOING.

\* SO THERE IS AN URGENCY HERE TO GO AND KEEP GOING THERE WAS NO TIME FOR DELAY. AND GOING IS WORK, IT IS LABOR, BUT ALSO IT WILL BE DANGEROUS.

\*\* FOR BY LIKENING THE 70 TO LAMBS IN THE MIDST OF WOLVES, JESUS COMMUNICATES AS HELPLESS LAMBS THEY ARE GOING OUT TO DANGEROUS PLACES WHERE THERE ARE WOLF PACKS READY TO DESTROY THEM.

\*\*\* FOR WHEN MESSENGERS GO OUT INTO A DARK HOSTILE WORLD AND CONFRONT THE FALSE PHILOSOPHIES AND RELIGIONS OF HUMANISM, POST-MODERNISM, SECULARISM, PLURALISM, COMMUNISM, PAGANISM AND ISLAM, THERE IS GOING TO BE A REACTION.

\*\*\*\* SO WHAT DO LAMBS NEED IN GOING OUT IN THE MIDST OF WOLVES, THE STRENGTH AND CARE OF THEIR SHEPHERD THE LORD JESUS, WHO WILL NEVER LEAVE US OR FORSAKE US, AND WILL WATCH OVER US UNTIL OUR WORK IS DONE, WHENEVER HE HAS APPOINTED.

1. SO WE KNOW OUR SHEPHERD PROTECTS US UNTIL OUR WORK FOR HIM IS DONE.

\* BUT ALSO THERE IS A PREREQUISITE AS WE GO TRUSTING HIM TO PROTECT US SPIRITUALLY BUT ALSO TO RELY ON HIM FOR OUR PHYSICAL NEEDS. LOOK AT V. 4 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 4. NOW AS JESUS HAD DONE WITH THE 12 IN LUKE 9:1-3, WHERE HE SENT THEM OUT, THE LORD DID NOT ALLOW THE 70 TO TAKE EXTRA PROVISIONS FOR THEIR MISSIONS WORK SUCH AS A MONEY BELT, BAG AND SHOES, MOST LIKELY EXTRA SHOES, JUST ONE PAIR.

\* BUT ALSO, THEY WERE NOT ALLOWED TO GREET ANYONE ALONG THE WAY, WHICH DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY WERE NOT ALLOWED TO SAY HI TO PEOPLE, BUT RATHER TO STOP AND INDULGE IN THE ELABORATE GREETINGS THAT WERE A PART OF THE CULTURE IN THAT DAY WHICH COULD LAST FOR HOURS.

\*\* THEY WERE NOT TO BE IMPOLITE, BUT THEY ALSO WERE ON A MISSION AND THERE WAS A SENSE OF URGENCY IN WHAT THEY WERE TO DO.

\*\*\* BUT ALSO THEY HAD TO TRUST GOD FOR ALL THEIR NEEDS AND NECESSITIES. BELOVED THEY NEEDED TO BE DEPENDENT AND URGENT IN ACCOMPLISHING THEIR MISSION, THEY TRULY WERE TO BE MISSIONAL IN THEIR FOCUS.

\*\*\*\* WHICH LEADS TO OUR THIRD POINT TODAY FOR THESE MESSENGERS ARE NOT ONLY MISSIONAL IN THEIR OBJECTIVE, BUT ARE MESSENGERS OF PEACE. LOOK AT V. 5 PLEASE **WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE THE PEACE.**

### III. THE PEACE, (READ V. 5)

A. NOW JUST AS THE 70 WERE TO DEPEND ON THE GREAT SHEPHERD FOR THEIR PROTECTION AND PROVISION, SO THEY WERE DEPENDENT ON THEIR LORD TO SEND THEM TO THE RIGHT AUDIENCE.

\* FOR JESUS TOLD THE 70, WHATEVER HOUSE YOU ENTER, REGARDLESS OF THE LOCATION, SIZE OF THE HOUSE OR THE CULTURE OF THE TOWN, THEY WERE TO BID THEIR PEACE AND

PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM MESSAGE.

**\*\* NOW THE 70 DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HOUSES THEY WOULD ENTER AND JESUS DIDN'T WANT THEM TO CARE, THEY WERE TO PROCLAIM PEACE, WHICH WAS ANOTHER WAY OF TALKING ABOUT THE GOSPEL OF PEACE, SALVATION THAT BRINGS PEACE TO THE ONE WHO RECEIVES THE GOSPEL MESSAGE, BECAUSE PEOPLE WOULD RECEIVE IT AND REJECT IT, THE MESSAGE OF PEACE.**

\*\*\* LOOK AT V. 6 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 6. NOW JESUS SAID WHEN YOU GO AND COMMUNICATE THE GOSPEL OF PEACE TO A HOUSE, IF A MAN OF PEACE IS THERE, YOUR PEACE WILL REST ON HIM.

\* FOR THE PHRASE MAN OF PEACE LIT. MEANS SON OF PEACE. AND IN JEWISH VERNACULAR A SON OF PEACE WAS A PERSON THAT HAD A DISPOSITION OR NATURE CONSISTENT WITH SOMETHING.

\*\* THUS A SON OF PEACE WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL PEACE WITH GOD AND ENTRANCE INTO HIS KINGDOM THAT COMES ONLY THROUGH THE MESSIAH, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

\*\*\* ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE MESSAGE OF PEACE IS NOT RECEIVED, BUT REJECTED IT WILL RETURN TO THAT PERSON, AN EXPRESSION OF REJECTION.

\*\*\*\* AND BELOVED, IN THAT CASE, THE 70 WERE NOT TO WASTE ANY MORE TIME WITH THE REJECTERS, BUT TO MOVE ON AND GO SOMEWHERE ELSE.

1. AND IN SUMMARY, I COULD SAY IT THIS WAY, THE 70 WERE TO CAST THE MESSAGE OF KINGDOM PEACE TOWARD THE PEOPLE, SOME WILL RECEIVE IT, A SON OF PEACE, BUT IT WILL BOUNCE OFF OF THOSE WHO HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE KINGDOM, THEN YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE SPEAKING TO AND MOVE ON.

\* AND FOR ONE THAT RECEIVED THE MESSAGE **OF PEACE, THAT'S THE HOUSE THEY SHOULD** STAY IN, WHICH LEADS TO OUR 4<sup>TH</sup> POINT TODAY, THE PROVISION. LOOK AT V. 7 PLEASE.

#### IV. THE PROVISION, (READ V. 7)

A. NOW THE LORD WOULD PROVIDE FOR HIS MESSENGERS OF PEACE, THROUGH A SON OF PEACE.

\* IN OTHER WORDS, STAY AT THE HOUSE THAT RECEIVES THE MESSAGE OF PEACE AND EAT AND DRINK WHATEVER IS SET BEFORE YOU.

\*\* AND THAT WOULD BE ONE OF THE WAYS THE LORD WOULD PROVIDE FOR THEM, THEIR NEEDS ARE TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY THE PEOPLE THEY MINISTER TO, FOR THE LABORER IS WORTHY OF HIS WAGES, THE WORKER IS WORTHY TO BE TAKEN CARE OF.



\*\*\* HOWEVER ON THIS MISSION TRIP, THE 70 WERE TO BE CONTENT WITH THIS PROVISION **AND NOT WANT MORE, SO JESUS SAYS: "DO NOT KEEP MOVING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE."**

\*\*\*\* MEANING THE 70 WERE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN TO KEEP MOVING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE LOOKING FOR AND SEEKING NICER ACCOMMODATIONS AND BETTER FOOD.

1. AND THE WHOLE POINT WAS NOT ONLY **CONTENTMENT WITH GOD'S PROVISION, BUT** ALSO TO DISTINGUISH THE TRUE PREACHERS OF THE GOSPEL AND GREEDY FALSE TEACHERS.

\* FOR FALSE PREACHERS AND TEACHERS WERE CONSTANTLY LOOKING TO STAY IN THE MOST COMFORTABLE AND WEALTHY HOMES AND MOVE UP WHEN A BETTER OFFER CAME ALONG.

\*\* THUS TRUE MESSENGERS WOULD DEMONSTRATE HONESTY, SINCERITY, INTEGRITY

AND CONTENTMENT IN CONTRAST TO FALSE MESSENGERS.

\*\*\* THEN BROADENING THE SCOPE OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS JESUS COMMUNICATED WHAT HE DOES IN V. 8, LOOK AT V. 8 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 8. NOW WHENEVER A TEAM OF TWO, FROM THE 70, WOULD MOVE ON TO ANOTHER CITY, AND THEY RECEIVE YOU, OPEN UP THE DOOR FOR YOU, AND FEED YOU, THEY WERE TO EAT WHAT WAS SET BEFORE THEM.

\* NOW NOT ONLY WERE THEY TO BE CONTENT, BUT ALSO THIS TEACHES THAT THE DIETARY LAWS AS JEWS WERE NO LONGER IN EFFECT.

\*\* FOR AS THESE TEAMS WOULD ENTER TRANS-JORDAN AREAS, THERE WOULD BE A LOT OF GENTILES THERE. AND IF GENTILE FOOD WAS SET BEFORE THEM, NO BIGGIE, JUST EAT WHAT IS SET BEFORE YOU.

\*\*\* AND I WANT YOU TO NOTICE FOR THOSE WHO TRIED TO PUT JEWISH DIETARY LAWS

OVER PEOPLE, THAT JESUS IN MARK 7:18&19 ALREADY DECLARED ALL FOODS CLEAN.

\*\*\*\* FOR MARK 7:18&19 SAYS:

V. 18 - AND HE SAID TO THEM, "**ARE YOU SO** LACKING IN UNDERSTANDING ALSO? DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND THAT WHATEVER GOES INTO THE MAN FROM OUTSIDE CANNOT DEFILE HIM,

v. 19 - BECAUSE IT DOES NOT GO INTO HIS HEART, BUT INTO HIS STOMACH, AND IS **ELIMINATED?"** (THUS HE DECLARED ALL FOODS CLEAN.)

1. AND BELOVED, FOR THOSE WHO TRY TO PUT PEOPLE UNDER THE JEWISH DIETARY LAWS FROM 7 DAY ADVENTISTS TO LEGALISTS TODAY, WE NOT ONLY HAVE THIS CLEAR STATEMENT FROM JESUS, BUT ALSO ACTS 10 WHERE PETER HAD A VISION IN VV. 13-16 FROM GOD WHO TOLD HIM, WHAT I HAVE CLEANSED NO LONGER IS UNHOLY, WHICH CONTEXTUALLY WAS FOOD, WHICH IN GREATER APPLICATION IN GOING TO **CORNELIUS' HOUSE.**

\* BUT ALSO IN I TIMOTHY 4:1-5, ALSO ALL FOODS ARE CLEAN, QUOTE IT TIME PERMITTING.

\*\* AND AS WE GO BACK TO OUR TEXT, THE 70 WERE TO EAT WHATEVER WAS SET BEFORE THEM. BUT ALSO THE 70 WERE GIVEN POWER LIKE THE APOSTLES TO HEAL. LOOK AT V. 9A.

C. READ V.9A. NOW THE 70 LIKE THE 12 WERE GIVEN POWER TO HEAL, FOR WHEN A CITY RECEIVED THE PAIRS, THE TEAMS OF TWO OF THE 70, THEY WERE TO HEAL THOSE IN IT THAT WERE SICK.

\* AND OF COURSE HEALING NOT ONLY SHOWED LOVE AND KINDNESS, MERCY TO THE HURTING, BUT ALSO SERVED TO AUTHENTICATE THEIR MESSAGE THAT THEY WERE SENT BY CHRIST AS THEY DID NOT HAVE THE NEW TESTAMENT.

\*\* SO IT AUTHENTICATED THEIR MESSAGE THAT THEY WERE SENT BY CHRIST AS THE APOSTLES ALSO HAD THIS POWERFUL ABILITY TO HEAL AND PREACH THE GOSPEL.

\*\*\* WITH THAT SAID, THEY WERE TO PROCLAIM THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM AND SOME WOULD NOT RESPOND.

\*\*\*\* **LOOK AT V. 9 AGAIN PLEASE WHERE WE'LL** START TO SEE OUR 5<sup>TH</sup> POINT TODAY, THE PROCLAMATION AND THE PERIL.

V. THE PROCLAMATION AND THE PERIL, (READ V. 9)

A. NOW NOT ONLY WERE THE 70 TO HEAL IN TOWNS THAT RECEIVED THEM, BUT ALSO WERE TO PROCLAIM TO THOSE THAT WERE HEALED THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR YOU.

\* AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAD COME NEAR BECAUSE JESUS THE KING, JESUS WAS PRESENT. AND HE WOULD BE COMING TO TOWNS THAT RECEIVED THE 70.

\*\* FOR IF YOU RECALL FROM V. 1, JESUS SENT **OUT THE 70 IN PAIRS, "AHEAD OF HIM TO EVERY CITY AND PLACE WHERE HE HIMSELF WAS GOING TO COME."**

\*\*\* SO THE KINGDOM OF GOD WAS NEAR, BECAUSE THE KING WAS PRESENT AND COMING TO TOWNS THAT RECEIVED THE TEAMS THAT WERE SENT OUT.

\*\*\*\* AND SINNERS THROUGH JESUS THE KING WOULD BE DELIVERED FROM THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS INTO **THE KINGDOM OF GOD'S** BELOVED SON.

1. HOWEVER FOR CITIES THAT REJECTED THE MESSAGE OF THE KING THERE WOULD BE CONSEQUENCES. LOOK AT V. 10 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 10. NOW THE 70 COULD NOT EXPECT TO FIND A FAVORABLE RECEPTION INTO EVERY TOWN THEY VISITED.

\* FOR WE LEARNED TWO WEEKS AGO, AN ENTIRE SAMARITAN VILLAGE REJECTED JESUS FOR COMING THERE IN LUKE 9:52&53.

\*\* SO THE 70 WERE GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT WHAT TO DO IN TOWNS THAT REJECTED THEIR MESSAGE AND IT WAS NOT TO CALL FIRE DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO INCINERATE THAT TOWN AS JAMES AND JOHN REQUESTED IN OUR STUDY TWO WEEKS AGO TO A SAMARITAN VILLAGE.

\*\*\* NO. HOWEVER THEY WERE TO MAKE A PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENT, GO OUT INTO THE STREETS AND SAY. AND SAY WHAT? WELL LOOK AT V. 11 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 11. NOW THE PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENT OF JUDGMENT WAS A SYMBOLIC ACTION OF WIPING OFF THE DUST OF THEIR FEET IN THE CITY.

**\* AND WIPING OFF DUST FROM ONE'S FEET WAS** A PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF DESPAIR IN JEWISH CULTURE.

\*\* FOR WHEN A JEW RETURNED FROM TRAVELING IN A GENTILE COUNTRY, HE WOULD SHAKE THE DIRT FROM THAT LAND OFF HIS CLOTHES AND SANDALS AS A SYMBOLIC GESTURE OF SHAKING OFF THE PAGAN INFLUENCES THAT COULD CONTAMINATE THE **JEWISH PEOPLE'S LIVES AND LAND.**

\*\*\* THUS IT BECAME AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF REJECTION AND DESPAIR. THUS BY DOING THIS, TEAMS FROM THE 70 WERE COMMUNICATING A DECLARATION OF DIVINE DISPLEASURE AND JUDGMENT RESTING ON ANY PLACE THAT REFUSED THE GOSPEL.

\*\*\*\* AND IN ESSENCE, AT THE END OF V. 11, THE REJECTER WAS REMINDED THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAD COME NEAR THEM, IN JESUS, SO THEY WERE REJECTING THE KING.



1. FOR TO REJECT AN ENVOY, A MESSENGER OF THE KING IS TO REJECT THE KING, AND TO REJECT A KING IS TO INVITE HIS WRATH, HIS JUDGMENT, AND THIS IS ILLUSTRATED IN V. 12. LOOK AT V. 12 PLEASE.

D. READ V. 12. NOW THE DEGREE OF JUDGMENT TO A CITY, A TOWN, A PEOPLE THAT HAS THE KINGS ENVOY PERSONALLY COME TO THEM IS HUGE, BIG TIME, TERRIBLE. ESPECIALLY WHEN THE KING WAS NEAR THEM AND WILLING TO COME TO THEIR CITY.

\* FOR JESUS WILL COMMUNICATE THAT IT WILL BE MORE TOLERABLE, BEARABLE FOR SODOM IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT THAN IT WILL BE FOR THEM.

\*\* NOW SODOM WAS JUDGED WITH FIRE AND BRIMSTONE FOR THE PERVERTED HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR IN GENESIS 19. AND THE SODOMITES WERE JUDGED PHYSICALLY AND ARE BEING JUDGED ETERNALLY IN THE LAKE OF FIRE.

\*\*\* AND SODOM IS USED IN II PETER 2:6 AND JUDE VERSE 7 AND ARE SET BEFORE US AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF THOSE WHO ARE UNDERGOING THE PUNISHMENT OF ETERNAL FIRE, BECAUSE THEY WENT AFTER STRANGE FLESH AND INDULGED IN GROSS IMMORALITY.

\*\*\*\* JUDE V. 7 SAYS: JUST AS SODOM AND GOMORRAH AND THE CITIES AROUND THEM, SINCE THEY IN THE SAME WAY AS THESE INDULGED IN GROSS IMMORALITY AND WENT AFTER STRANGE FLESH, ARE EXHIBITED AS AN EXAMPLE IN UNDERGOING THE PUNISHMENT OF ETERNAL FIRE.

1. NOW SODOM IS BEING SEVERELY JUDGED, YET IT WILL BE MORE TOLERABLE FOR THEM AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE, THE FINAL SENTENCING OF THE LOST TO THE LAKE OF FIRE.

\* THAN IT WILL BE FOR THE TOWNS THE 70 GO **TO, FOR THEY REJECTED CHRIST'S MESSENGERS** AND CHRIST HIMSELF WHO WAS ALIVE AND COMING TO THEIR TOWNS.

\*\* AND CERTAINLY THIS TEXT AND OTHERS REFER TO THE DEGREE OF PUNISHMENT DROPPED ON UNBELIEVING SINNERS AT THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.

\*\*\* FOR IN THE LAKE OF FIRE, A PLACE OF ETERNAL TORMENT THERE WILL BE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF PUNISHMENT.

\*\*\*\* AND TO BE EXPOSED TO THE GOSPEL AND EVEN JESUS HIMSELF IS TO INCUR GREATER JUDGMENT AND PUNISHMENT ONE DAY.

2, AS JESUS SAID IN SPEAKING OF THE PHARISEES AND SCRIBES, THEY WILL RECEIVE **THE "GREATER CONDEMNATION," GREATER** JUDGMENT THAN OTHERS, IN LUKE 20:47.

\* AND IN MATTHEW 26:24 SPEAKING OF JUDAS ISCARIOT WHOM WOULD BETRAY JESUS, THAT **IT WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD FOR HIM THAT "HE HAD NOT BEEN BORN."**

**\*\* ALSO HEBREWS 10:29 SAYS:** "HOW MUCH SEVERER PUNISHMENT DO YOU THINK HE WILL DESERVE WHO HAS TRAMPLED UNDER FOOT THE SON OF GOD, AND HAS REGARDED AS UNCLEAN THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT BY WHICH HE WAS SANCTIFIED, AND HAS INSULTED THE SPIRIT OF GRACE?"

\*\*\* AND WHILE ALL WHO REJECT CHRIST AND REFUSE TO REPENT OF THEIR SINS WILL FACE ETERNAL PUNISHMENT IN HELL, THE DEGREE OF THEIR PUNISHMENT WILL DEPEND ON THE EXPOSURE THEY HAD TO THE GOSPEL.

\*\*\*\* AND THESE PEOPLE HAD JESUS NEAR AND HEARD HIS PERSONAL ENVOYS, BUT YET REJECTED HIS GOSPEL. MORE JUDGMENT AT THE JUDGMENT DAY THAN SODOM. WOW!

3. NOW VV. 13-15 GIVE FURTHER ILLUSTRATION OF THIS PRINCIPLE. LOOK AT V. 13 PLEASE.

D. READ V. 13. NOW TO ILLUSTRATE THE POINT THAT JESUS JUST MADE TO THE 70, HE GIVES 2 MORE EXAMPLES OF CITIES WHOSE JUDGMENTS WOULD BE DIFFERENT BASED ON THEIR LEVEL OF THEIR EXPOSURE TO THE GOSPEL.

\* AND THE FIRST ONE, THE FIRST WOE IS TO THE CITIES OF CHORAZIN AND BETHSAIDA.

\*\* AND THESE TWO CITIES WERE CLOSE TO **CAPERNAUM, THE HEADQUARTERS OF JESUS'** GALILEAN MINISTRY, SO MIGHTY MIRACLES AND PREACHING WERE DONE BY JESUS ALL OVER THAT AREA, THEY HAD HUGE EXPOSURE TO JESUS AND THE GOSPEL, SO MUCH WAS GIVEN.

\*\*\* BUT BECAUSE OF THEIR WHOLESALE REJECTION OF JESUS, HE PRONOUNCED SEVERE JUDGMENT, A WOE UPON THEM.

\*\*\*\* FOR IF THE MIRACLES HE DID IN CHORAZIN AND BETHSAIDA WERE DONE IN TYRE AND SIDON THEY WOULD HAVE REPENTED IN SACKCLOTH AND ASHES, SYMBOLS OF DEEP MOURNING AND CONTRITION.

1. AND TYRE AND SIDON WERE SEAPORT TOWNS AND THOSE TWO CITIES EPITOMIZED EVIL. YET IF THOSE TWO TOWNS WOULD HAVE HAD THE GOSPEL EXPOSURE THAT CHORAZIN AND BETHSAIDA HAD, THEY WOULD HAVE REPENTED. BECAUSE OF THAT SEVERER JUDGMENT FOR CHORAZIN AND BETHSAIDA. LOOK AT V. 14 PLEASE.

E. READ V. 14. NOW THE REPEATING TRUTH IS, IT WILL BE MORE TOLERABLE ON THE JUDGMENT DAY FOR TYRE AND SIDON, WICKED VILE TOWNS THAN FOR THE TOWNS THAT REJECT THE 70 AND THE NEARNESS OF CHRIST, WHO WOULD HAVE COME TO THEM.

\* AND THE TRUTH IS GREATER CONDEMNATION, DEGREES OF TORMENT. LOOK AT V. 15 FOR THE SECOND ILLUSTRATION.

F. READ V. 15. NOW CAPERNAUM AGAIN WAS THE PLACE WHERE OUR LORD HAD HIS GALILEAN HEADQUARTERS, SO THEIR EXPOSURE TO TRUTH WAS HUGE. AND IN THEIR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS THEY WILL NOT GO TO HEAVEN BECAUSE THEY REJECTED THE ONE WHO IS TRUTH, THE LORD JESUS.

\* AND RATHER THAN GOING TO HEAVEN, THEY WOULD GO TO HELL, HADES, THE GREEK WORD FOR HELL, BROUGHT DOWN TO JUDGMENT.

\*\* THE PRINCIPLE AGAIN, GREATER CONDEMNATION TO THOSE WHOM HAVE MORE EXPOSURE TO CHRIST, AND CAPERNAUM HAD GREAT EXPOSURE. AND THEIR DEGREE OF TORMENT IN HELL WOULD BE GREATER. WOE TO THEM!

\*\*\* WHICH QUICKLY LEADS TO OUR LAST POINT TODAY, THE PROMISE. LOOK AT V. 16 PLEASE.

## VI. THE PROMISE, (READ V. 16)

A. NOW TO ENCOURAGE THE 70 WITH ALL OF THIS REJECTION COMING, AND BECAUSE THEY REPRESENTED JESUS AS HIS MESSENGERS, HIS ENVOYS.

\* JESUS TOLD THEM, THE ONE WHO LISTENS TO YOU, LISTENS TO ME. SO IF SOMEONE RESPONDS IN FAITH TO WHAT YOU SAY TO THEM, THEY ARE RESPONDING TO ME.

\*\* HOWEVER, IF THEY REJECT YOU, THEY ARE REALLY REJECTING ME AND THE ONE WHO REJECTS JESUS IS ALSO REJECTING HIS FATHER WHO SENT JESUS.

\*\*\* AND BELOVED, THE 70 COULD SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY, FOR THEY WERE SPEAKING FOR JESUS, MESSENGERS OF THE MASTER, AND TO RECEIVE THEIR MESSAGE WAS TO RECEIVE JESUS BUT THOSE WHO REJECTED THEM WERE REJECTING JESUS, NOT THEM. BUT ALSO **REJECTING CHRIST'S FATHER.**



IN QUICK APPLICATION AND WRAP UP: (1) THE QUESTION OF ALL QUESTIONS IS, WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL MESSAGE? IF YOU **DON'T RECEIVE IT, YOU ARE REJECTING IT.**

\* AND USING THE ILLUSTRATIONS OF OUR LORD, THE DAY OF JUDGMENT WILL BE MOST UNBEARABLE FOR PEOPLE WHO CAME TO GOSPEL PREACHING CHURCHES, WHO REJECT THE MESSAGE.

\*\* WHY? MORE ACCOUNTABILITY, MORE EXPOSURE. AND THOSE WHO HEAR IT WEEK IN AND WEEK OUT, IT WILL BE MORE TOLERABLE FOR SODOM THAN IT WILL BE FOR YOU ON THE JUDGMENT DAY. LET THAT MARINATE IN YOUR HEAD, THINK ABOUT THAT.

\*\*\* AND THERE ARE TWO AND ONLY TWO DESTINATIONS IN ETERNITY. A HEAVEN OF PEACE FOR THOSE WHO RECEIVE JESUS BY FAITH, AND A HELL OF PERIL FOR THOSE WHO REJECT HIM. TURN TO JESUS CHRIST TODAY **AND REPENT AND RECEIVE HIM IF YOU HAVEN'T.**

\*\*\*\* TRUE BELIEVER, WE NEED TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO GET THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS. WE MUST PRAY AND GO.

(2) FERVENTLY PRAYING FOR LABORERS AND PRAYING FOR THE LOST AND GOING TO THOSE THE LORD HAS PROVIDENTIALLY PLACED UPON OUR PATH.

\* PEOPLE ARE DYING AND GOING TO HELL AND HEAVEN EVERYDAY. WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE MESSAGE WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM OUR MASTER?

\*\* WILL WE BE ENVOYS, MESSENGERS OR WILL WE BE ASHAMED OF HIS GOSPEL? HOW WILL **WE LABOR TO PROCLAIM IT TO OTHERS? (LET'S PRAY)**