

Matthew Chapter 10

V: 1 In Chapter 9 Jesus having compassion and seeing the need immediately prayed.

- Jesus' next actions are also based on prayer. He chose the 12 after praying about it.

Luke 6:12-13 ¹²“And it came to pass in those days, that He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. ¹³And when it was day, He called unto Him His disciples: and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named Apostles;” (sent out ones)

Philippians 4:6 “Be careful / be anxious for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

“Called” Notice that they walked with the Lord for a season, then they were called:

1 Timothy 5:22 “Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.”

- Jesus already knew these men better than they knew themselves, but at the same time He had given them time to consider what they were getting into.

Consider:

Luke 14:27-33 ²⁷“And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after Me, cannot be My disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?” - ³³“So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.”

Romans 11:29 “For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.”

- We will see later that this is lived out in the lives of the disciple & the Apostles who didn't repent of their calling even unto death.
- 12 is the number of government, represents “order”.
- Disciples = “learner”(G-3101) mathetes, math-ay-tes'; from G3129; a learner, i.e. pupil:--disciple.
- *“He”* – Jesus gave them power over sickness, evil, etc.

Matthew 28:18 “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.”

Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me.”

V: 1 (cont.)

John 15:5 “I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.”

Matthew 19:26 “But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

1 John 4:4 “Ye are of God little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than He that is in the world.”

- Chronology: 1st they were called, then they were empowered.
 - He empowered them to do the same things that He was already doing:
 - He empowered them to cast out demons, to heal all manner of sickness, and more things that we'll get to in verse 7-8.
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V: 2 Apostles: G-652. apostolos, a delegate; an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ, messenger, he that is sent.

- **Qualifications of an apostle:**

1. Called / chosen by the Lord.

Matthew 10:1 “And when He had called unto Him His twelve disciples...”

Ephesians 4:11-12 “And He gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”

2. Seen the risen Christ.

1 Corinthians 9:1 “Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are ye not my work in the Lord?”

3. Fellowshipped with Him.

Acts 1:21-22 “²¹Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that He was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of His resurrection.”

4. Empowered to do miracles.

Matthew 10:1, 8. “¹And when He had called unto Him His twelve disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them

V: 2 (cont.)

out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.”
– “⁸Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils:...”

- By choosing 12 Jesus was thinning out the ranks somewhat, while still ministering to the multitudes, he specifically poured into a few, building a foundation.

Sometimes a difficult teaching will thin the ranks as well.

John 6:66-67 ⁶⁶From that time many of His disciples went back and walked no more with Him. ⁶⁷Then said Jesus unto the twelve, will ye also go away?”

- Transition from disciples to “apostles”.
- Just as Simon which means “shifting sand” transitioned to “Peter” which means “rock / pebble”, new name for new creature.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- Andrew (manly), always bringing people to Jesus.
- James (Jacob / supplanter) (the greater) & John (Yohanan / God is gracious), “sons of thunder” – “Boanerges”.

Mark 3:17 “And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James, and He surnamed them Boanerges, which is, “the Sons of Thunder.”

V: 3 Philip (lover of horses), Bartholomew (son of Tolmai / Nathaniel - giver of God); Thomas / Didymous (twin), Matthew (gift of Yahweh).

- James (the Less) & Thaddaeus (large hearted, courageous) / Judas (praise, He shall be praised), not Iscariot / Lebbeaus.
- 3 sets of brothers.

V: 4 Listed in pairs, sent out 2 X 2.

- Simon (hearing) “the Canaanite”, also know as Simon “Zelotees”, the zealot. **Acts 1:13** part of a radical faction, revolutionary group, fighting against Rome.
 - Judas Iscariot, always associated with his sin – “who also betrayed Him.
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Peter: According to Jerome (Gnostic / heretic) / church tradition was crucified in Rome at the order of Nero. At Peter's request he was crucified upside down because he was not worthy to die in the same manner as his Lord.

Andrew: (1st disciple) Preached the Gospel in Asia; but upon his arrival at Edessa (city in Turkey) was taken and crucified on a cross, the two ends of which were fixed transversely in the ground. Hence the term "St. Andrew's Cross."

James: 1st Beheaded by Herod Agrippa 44 AD, along with his accuser who seeing James' demeanor prior to being executed, fell at James' feet, receiving Jesus, and was also beheaded for his new found faith.

John: "The beloved disciple" – brother to James the great. He founded the churches in Smyrna, Pergamos, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, Thyatira, and Ephesus. He was taken from Ephesus to Rome where he was cast into a cauldron of boiling oil, but came out with no injury. Domitian then banished him to the Island of Patmos where he wrote the book of Revelation. He was set free by the next Roman Emperor, Nerva; returned to Ephesus where he later died of old age. The only Apostle to die a natural death.

Philip: 2nd Ministering in upper asia, martyred in Heliopolis, in Phrygia. He was scourged, thrown into prison, and afterward crucified in 54 Ad.

Bartholomew: Translated the Gospel of Matthew into Hindu and ministered it in India where he was martyred by being beaten then crucified.

Thomas: Also called Didymus, preached the Gospel in Parthia and India where he was martyred by enraged pagan priests who thrust him through with a spear.

Matthew: Born in Nazareth. He wrote his gospel in Hebrew, which was afterwards translated into Greek by James the less. He ministered in Parthia, and Ethiopia, where he was martyred, being slain with a halberd: (spike & blade on a lance).

James (son of Alpheus): known also as "James the less" - At the age of 94 he was beaten and stoned by the Jews in Jerusalem, and finally had his brains dashed out with a fuller's club.

Thaddaeus / Jude / Lebbaeus: Also called Jude, the brother of James (the less) – was crucified at Edessa in 72 AD.

Simon the Canaanite: Zelotes, the Zealote: preached the Gospel in Mauritania, Africa, and Brittain where he was crucified in 74 AD.

Matthias: Elected to replace Judas Iscariot, he was stoned at Jerusalem, then beheaded.

V: 5-6 Go!

Matthew 9:38 “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into His harvest.”

- Jesus helped them to see the need, charged them to pray, their hearts were changed, and they were sent. I’ll do it...

Isaiah 6:8 “Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: whom shall I send, and who will go for Us? Then said I, Here am I. Send me.”

- Go specifically to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- Many Jews are surprised to see this verse, then to realize that most of the NT was written by Jews – often times they wrongly assume that the Bible is a Gentile book in an exclusive sense.
- The Gospel was to go to the Jews, “the lost sheep of the house of Israel” first, then to the rest of the world.

Acts 1:8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

- Later they are “re-commissioned”, to “all nations”. **Matthew 28:19-20.**

V: 7 Preaching the same message as John the Baptist and Jesus.

- A simple & direct message.

Matthew 3:2, 4:17 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
(Jesus’ first words in His public ministry)

“The kingdom of heaven is here!” - Messiah is here, Jesus is here, Salvation is here!

1 Corinthians 1:21 “For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

Romans 10:13-15 ¹³For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. ¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the

feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

Not long after this Jesus would send others out as well:

Luke 10:1-2 “¹After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before His face into every city and place, whither He Himself would come. ²Therefore said He unto them, the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into His harvest.”

V: 8 They were empowered to do the impossible! They were sent out with “credentials”.

Matthew 19:26 “But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

1 John 4:4 “Ye are of God little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than He that is in the world.”

- Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons.

Isaiah 35:5-6 “⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.”

V: 9-10 No worldly means to accomplish this heavenly mission:

Zechariah 4:6 “Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, this is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”

Jesus would later say:

Matthew 16:18 “... I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

- They were specifically put in a place of dependency, having to trust the Lord:
- No money meant no food unless someone was charitable / loving. No extra coat meant that you were not prepared to sleep outside, depending on someone taking you in. No staves, waling stick or shoes – you couldn’t go very far unless someone gave you a ride.

Proverbs 3:5-6 “⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, ⁶in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Hebrews 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please Him...”

V: 11-13 The Apostles depended on the hospitality of others as they ministered from town to town.

- In those days, for a town to refuse a guest was a breach of etiquette.
- The Apostles / ambassadors were to remain only with those who were “worthy”, those who trusted in Christ and received His message of peace and forgiveness.
- If it all worked out well then let your peace, your blessing rest upon it as well.
- The typical Jewish greeting “shalom” – peace be with you...
- There is no peace apart from the Prince of peace.

V: 14 They weren't however to compromise, if a town rejected their words, they were to warn the people and depart. To shake off the dust as an act of judgment.

- Religious leaders would shake the “gentile” dust off their feet prior to entering Jerusalem, so as not to defile the Holy city.
- This was something well known in their culture.

Acts 13:50-51 ⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts. ⁵¹But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.”

V: 15 We are all held accountable for what we know, what we've been told.

Luke 12:48 “Unto whom much is given, much will be required.”

- Isaiah speaks of how that area had received a great light, but they preferred their darkness to the light.

Isaiah 9:2 “The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”

John 1:9-11 ⁹That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew Him not. ¹¹He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.”

Matthew 11:21-24 ²¹Woe unto thee Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and

Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sack-cloth and ashes. ²²But I say unto you, it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment than for you. ²³And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.”

- If it possible, it is always better to learn from the mistakes of others than from your own.

V: 16 Sheep are absolutely defenseless in and among themselves.

Psalm 89:18 “For the LORD is our defense; and the Holy One of Israel is our king.”

Psalm 94:22 “But the LORD is my defense; and my God is the rock of my refuge.”

- Wise as serpents and harmless of doves: tough minded but tenderhearted.

Wise: (G5429) phronimos, fron'-ee-mos; from G5424; thoughtful, i.e. shrewd, discerning, discreet, subtle, discerning.

James 1:5 “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

Harmless: (G185) akeraios, ak-er'-ah-yos; unmixed, innocent:--harmless, simple.

Romans 16:19b “... yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.”

- Now I have seen some pretty vicious sheep, attack sheep.

V: 17 Looking beyond their immediate ministry.

Acts 5:40-42 “⁴⁰And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴²And daily in the temple, and in every house they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

- We don't have any record of the Apostles being scourged or persecuted in this manner. This verse may imply that this happened, or it may point to a future time, similar to the Olivet discourse that speaks of the end times, perhaps even the tribulation.

- This could also refer to Paul:

2 Corinthians 11:24-30 ²⁴“Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. ²⁵Thrice was I beaten with rods, once stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. ²⁸Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is offended, and I burn not? ³⁰If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.”

V: 18 The Apostle Paul stood before Herod Agrippa, Festus, and Caesar Nero.

Psalms 119:46 “I will speak of Thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.”

- “Cultural awareness” 3rd time in 18 months: round table testimonies.

V: 19 “When they deliver you up...”

John 14:26 “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

Exodus 4:12 “Now therefore, go, and I will be thy mouth and teach thee what thou shalt say.”

Jeremiah 1:7-9 ⁷“But the Lord said unto me, say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. ⁸Be not afraid of their faces: for I am the thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. ⁹Then the Lord put forth His hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.”

- Sometimes it's not just persecution, but daily life where we need God to give us the words:

Isaiah 50:4 “The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.”

V: 20 (Turn to) **Acts 4:8-14** “Then Peter being filled with the Holy Ghost...”

Acts 6:9 – 7:60 Steven’s spirit led discourse to the Jews.

Acts 6:10 “And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spake.”

- Sold Joseph into slavery 1st then recognized him 2nd time.
- Rejected Moses 1st time then accepted him as their leader 2nd time.
- Rejected Jesus 1st time, He’s coming a 2nd time! **Zechariah 12:10**

V: 21-22 This is seemingly speaking of that future time when there will be a great division over the issue of Jesus, possibly when the Anti-Christ will persecute the Jews.

Jesus is referring to a prophecy from Micah:

Micah 7:6 “For son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man’s enemies are the men of his own house.”

1 Cor. 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”

2 Tim. 3:1-3 “¹This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ²For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good...”

- The point of separation is always the Word of God, actually Jesus Himself.

Heb. 4:12 “For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

- One of the reason why this appears to point to the end times is the language that is consistent with the book of revelation “enduring to the end”:

Revelation chapters 2-3 Enduring to the end.

Revelation 2:7 (Ephesus) “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.”

Revelation 2:11 (Smyrna) “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; he that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.”

Revelation 2:17 (Pergamos) “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.”

Revelation 2:25-26 (Thyatira) “²⁵But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. ²⁶And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations.”

Revelation 3:5 (Sardis) “He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.”

Revelation 3:12 (Philadelphia) “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from My God: and I will write upon him My new name.”

Revelation 3:21 (Laodicea) “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.”

V: 23 As the apostles were sent out, Jesus would later go to the same places.

John 7:1 “After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him.”

- Later, persecution is what actually spread the Gospel.

V: 24 Jesus did everything right, He spoke the truth, and loved all that He saw – and they crucified Him anyway!

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;”

V: 25 “Beelzebub” – Baal worship, lord of the demons, lord of Hell, dung, flies.

- Irrational criticism.
- The idea is that if they criticized and mistreated Jesus, our Master – what should we expect – they won’t treat us any better.

2 Timothy 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

V: 26 All things are known and discerned by God, there is nothing hidden from Him.

Revelation 22:12 “And behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

Romans 12:19 “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even unto the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

V: 27 What I am teaching you now in private, go out and proclaim it from the roof tops.

2 Timothy 4:2-3 “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

V: 28 Distinction between body and soul. Superior Trinity & inferior trinity

- Body – soul / consciousness / mind - spirit, either dead or alive.

Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not be afraid, nor be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever you go.”

Proverbs 29:25 “The fear of man bringeth a snare, but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.”

Hebrews 2:15 “¹⁴Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy Him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

Romans 6:11 “Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 “⁶Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: ⁷for we

walk by faith, not by sight: ⁸We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

V: 29-30 Speaking of value by comparison: sparrows / men.

Genesis 1:27 “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female created He them.”

- Men are made in God’s image, sparrows are not.
- Jesus died for mankind, not for the natural kingdom.

V: 31 More worth to God, but not necessarily to the naturalists!

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

V: 32 We’re told to “fear not” 3 times prior to testifying of God.

Romans 10:9-10 ⁹That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

V: 33 A warning:

Luke 9:26 “For whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in His own glory, and in His Father’s and of the holy angels.”

2 Timothy 2:12 “If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, He also will deny us.”

Polycarp:

V: 34 Our choice is peace with God Vs peace with the world.

Luke 2:14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Jesus is divisive; He / His presence / His word – forces us to choose.

Joshua 24:15 “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood / river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for Me and My house, we will serve the Lord.”

Deuteronomy 30:19 “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

- There are only two sides in this – and we do choose through our lives.

Matthew 12:30 “He that is not with me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad.”

James 4:4 “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God?”

Ephesians 6 Spiritual warfare / the real enemy

Isaiah 57:21 “There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.”

- “**Dominion Theology**” (bogus) is that the church will convert the world, preparing it for Jesus’ return, essentially He can’t come until then.

V: 35 - 36 Again referring back to **Micah 7:6**

Jesus is referring to a prophecy from Micah:

Micah 7:6 “For son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man’s enemies are the men of his own house.”

- This is about our closest relationships. Notice that it doesn’t mention husbands & wives.

2 Corinthians 6:14 “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?”

- I have seen this played out in my own walk with the Lord: being at variance with my father, brother, and sister.
- I am so grateful for my church family – the church family is my family.

3 John 4 “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.”

Definition of truth: “Truth is everything that is in agreement with the person and character of Jesus.” **John 14:6**

V: 37 Our love for Jesus is to be vastly greater than any other love we might possess. The supremacy of our love for Jesus.

Luke records it more graphically:

Luke 14:26 “If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.”

Jesus is to have the highest place in our lives:

Colossians 1:18 “And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence.”

We see Jesus doing the same thing:

Matthew 12:46-50 “⁴⁶While he yet talked to the people, behold, His mother and His brethren, stood without, desiring to speak with Him. ⁴⁷Then one said unto Him, behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. ⁴⁸But He answered and said unto him that told Him, who is My mother? And who are My brethren? ⁴⁹And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples, and said, behold My mother and My brethren! ⁵⁰For whosoever shall do the will of My Father which is in heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother.”

- A real relationship with Jesus is based on obedience, no obedience = no relationship.

We will be tested in this throughout our lives, and throughout our relationship with Him.

Matthew 22:37 “Jesus said to him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”

There is an expectation of a real commitment:

Luke 9:62 “No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

V: 38 This is and will be a life long pursuit.

Mark 8:34 “... Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

- “his cross” – not health or circumstances that are imposed upon us – but that which we take up ourselves in obedience to God.

- Jesus wasn't forced to the cross, He went voluntarily, willingly – lovingly.

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

- This is a point of identification with Jesus, similar to baptism, a place to be able to relate to Him.

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.”

V: 39 This is right along the lines of:

Matthew 20:16 “So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.”

Mark adds in “and be servant of all...” emphasizing the reversal.

Isaiah 55:8-9 “⁸For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

- God's ways are not our ways – He looks at things differently.

John 12:24-25 “²⁴Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. ²⁵He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.”

- So often it seems that God's ways are just the opposite of our ways, and our way of thinking:

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”

Romans 5:1 “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- Peace with God comes through surrender – unconditionally.

[Philippians 3:10](#)

Philippians 3:7-9 “⁷But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of

the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. ⁹And be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”

- The Gospel is free, but it will cost you everything.
- To the victor goes the spoils.

V: 40-41 They were being sent out, those that receive you receive me. They will share in the fruit of that ministry.

2 Corinthians 5:20 “Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.”

John 6:29 “This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent.”

- The same goes for rejection, they reject the Lord not us.

Matthew 12:31 “Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.”

Blasphemy: 1. impious utterance or action concerning God or sacred things.
2. an act of cursing or reviling God.

- If I tell you something – describe an event or situation and at the end of it you say “no way, I don’t believe that!” You didn’t speak the words “you’re a liar” – but it was implied, and as good as said.
- When the Holy Spirit shares the truth, the Gospel with us, and our response is either “I don’t believe that” or a rejection of the message – in the same way we may not have said it directly but at that moment but we imply the same thing and we blaspheme God by calling Him a liar.

V: 42 Jesus identifies with and rewards His servants.

1 Corinthians 15:58 “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

Matthew 16:27 “For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.”

Hebrews 6:10 “For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Revelation 22:12 “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every man according as his work shall be.”