

## Lecture 13 – Matthew 10-11: Kingdom Proclamation & Response

*“If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that home or town.” Matthew 10:14 (NIV)*

### Key Terms

\*Ministry models: “soon trained” & “well fed”

### Objective

\*To understand the structure of Matthew 10-11

### Lead Questions

\*What do you think are the goals of ministry? Explain and support your ideas from Scripture.

\*In what sense are all believers to be involved in “the ministry”? In what ways are you being prepared as a worker and being used to prepare workers for the harvest?

### Matthew 10-11: Kingdom Proclamation & Response

#### I. Matthew 10-11 in the Structure of Matthew

Matthew 4:23-9:25, Word & work unified

##### A. Where we stand in the drama of Matthew: mission and conflict

1. Stiffer opposition from Jewish leaders near end of Galilean ministry (9:3, 11, 34).
2. Crowds as amiable unbelievers. Yet Jesus feels compassion for them (9:36).

##### B. Turning point in Matthew (9:35)

1. In Galilee, enthusiastic but fruitless crowds
2. Jesus sends workers into harvest, with no illusions.
3. Lack of response becomes more overt in Matthew 11.

##### C. Life issues for Matt 10

1. Jesus stays with the crowds, the people.
2. Motivating people for the ministry: guilt and fear vs. seeing the need and praying.
3. Two models of training for ministry: “soon trained” and “well fed.”

*Matt 9:37-38 is a popular verse used by pastors and teachers to inspire believers to evangelistic ministry. Beginning with the context of this verse, argue why this is or is not a proper use of this verse, and how our understanding of this teaching should be informed by the reaction of the crowds to Jesus’ words.*

#### II. Discourse #2, Mission and Martyrdom in Matthew 10

##### A. The need of workers (9:35-38)

1. Sheep without a shepherd
2. Harvest imagery - possible ambiguity. Jesus predicts substantial resistance.

##### B. The call of the workers (10:1-4)

##### C. The destination of the workers (10:5-6)

1. “Do not go to the Gentiles” apparently contradicts Matthew 28, etc.
2. Principles for interpreting texts that resist literal interpretation
  - a. Determine original meaning of the text. Does original culture or language shed light?
  - b. Has the redemptive-historical situation changed?
  - c. Find and verify the underlying principle. (Consult parallel Scriptures)
3. Why does Jesus forbid them to go to Gentiles?
4. What is the general principle for sending workers?

##### D. Instruction of workers (10:7-15)

1. Message: word and work
  2. Provision
  3. Urgency
  - E. Workers' condition and protection (10:16-26)
    1. Shrewd/innocent tension
    2. Trial and protection
  - F. Theme: the student as his teacher
    1. Many parallels between Jesus' conduct during missions and charge to 12
      - a. Jews first
      - b. Message: kingdom
      - c. Give freely
      - d. Provision: take none
      - e. Shrewd and innocent
      - f. Persecution
    2. Conformity to Christ as a goal and theme in Matthew, Luke, John. "It is enough!"
    3. Are we expected to carry on the mission in turn?
  - G. The decisions of workers (10:27-32)
    1. Workers' sacrifice and reward. The cost of discipleship (10:33-42)
- III. The Response to Jesus' Mission. What Will Become of the Ministry Handed to the Twelve?
- A. Ministry has failure, a little success, real opposition
  - B. Matthew 9:36-10:42 have already hinted that results are in doubt
  - C. Jesus and John the Baptist, 11:2-19. Doubt of John and unbelief of leaders compared
    1. John's questions and doubts; Jesus' gentle answers
    2. See also the disciples' doubts, and Jesus' patience
    3. The difference between doubt and unbelief
  - D. Parallels between reception of Jesus and John 11:16-24
  - E. The root of the matter, 11:25-30. The truth hidden, yet an invitation given
  - F. Controversies of Matthew 12 develop these themes.