

Matthew 10
Part 2 (24-42)
Fears are answered in loyalty to Christ

- IV. The disciples are instructed to be Christ-like. (24-27)
- A. A disciple is not above the master. (24)
1. “Master” means teacher. (cf Lk 2:46; Jn 3:2; Acts 13:1)
 2. If the master, or teacher, is to endure hardships then the disciples need to prepare for the same. (cf 8:19, 20; 9:10, 11)
- B. The servant is not above the lord.
1. “Lord” means master or owner. (cf 1Cor 6:20; 7:23)
 2. Servants should not expect to do better than the lord or owner. (cf Lk 6:40; Jn 13:16; 15:20)
 - a. If we feel like we suffer too much in this life, let us consider all our Master suffered.
 - b. These men were being prepared to receive the same type of treatment Jesus had received.
- C. Their accusation was that Jesus was master of the house of Beelzebub. (25) (cf 12:24; Mk 3:22)
1. Beelzebub was a name given to the chief of demons.
 2. This was a name the Jews gave to identify Satan. (cf 9:34)
 3. This name goes all the way back to a time before the Assyrian invasion of the northern tribes, around 852 BC (cf 2 Kings 1:2)
 - a. The name Beelzebub means the god of flies.
 - b. Some say it signifies the god of filth, therefore a low and offensive idol.
 4. Jesus is trying to prepare them for this same style of fierce attack.
Note: John records these Jews thought of Jesus as having a demon. (cf Jn 7:20; 8:48, 52; 10:20)
- D. The fearing of these enemies would not be permitted. (26, 27)
1. These men had to be strong and fearless in order to carry out this commission. (cf Prov 28:1)
 - a. What an example for us today. (cf Acts 4:13, 19; 1 Pet 3:14)
 - b. Fearless should be our attitude because of the strength of God and His word. (cf Heb 4:12)
 2. He assures them that everything covered will be revealed and nothing will be hid.
 - a. This is referring to their being persecuted and despised.
 - b. He assures them their true character will be appreciated. (cf Lk 12:2, 3)
 3. Jesus tells them that what they have heard is what they will speak. (cf Jn 16:13)
 - a. What they have heard privately shall be spoken openly.
 - b. “Preach ye from the housetops” shows the public presentation of the gospel. (cf Prov 8:1-3; Jn 5:20, 28; 17:17)
 - c. We need to do more than just “preach to the choir.”
- V. Understand your great value in God’s sight. (28-33)
- A. Fear the important things and all will be well. (28) (cf Lk 12:4; Acts 21:13; Rev 2:10)

1. Fear of death or harm might keep these chosen twelve from their mission.
 - a. This may be why more don't get involved in going to "tough" places to teach.
 - b. This can be seen in many places around the world today.
2. Real fear is for He who can do more than take our physical life. (cf Jer 5:22; Heb 12:29)
 - a. "Destroy" means to make void or bring to naught. (cf 25:46; 2 Thess 2:8-10)
 - b. "Hell" is the judgement. Why? Soul and body are mentioned. (cf Rev 20:13)
- B. Jesus illustrates His point by showing God's care over relatively insignificant items. (29-31)
 1. Sparrows were of little value to the Jews. (cf Lk 12:6)
 2. The numbering of hairs showed God's concern for the insignificant.
 3. This was a common idiom of Jewish language. (cf 1 Kings 1:52; Lk 21:18; Acts 27:34)
 4. If God was concerned for sparrows and hair, these valuable messengers would receive His care.
- C. They must confess or profess Him in their travels. (32, 33)
 1. As used here, it is something His followers had to do. (cf Rom 10:9; 1 Tim 6:12; 2 Tim 1:8; 1 Jn 4:15; Rev 2:13)
 - a. We must take this attitude into life. (cf Ps 119:46)
 - b. If we do, we have a reward prepared for us. (cf Rev 3:5)
 2. A refusal to confess or profess Him will bring a denial by Jesus before God.
 - a. They/we cannot be ashamed of the Christ. (cf Jn 12:42)
 - b. We seal our own fate when we deny Him. (cf 2 Tim 2:12; 2 Pet 2:1; 1 Jn 2:23)
- VI. There may a high cost, but a glorious reward. (34-39)
 - A. The idea of peace and a sword has confused many in religious circles. (34)
 1. This verse must be studied in light of the information given in verses 21 and 22.
 - a. The gospel message may produce discord in families and in friendships. (cf Jn 7:42, 43; Acts 14:2)
 - b. Jesus is Prince of Peace to those who profess Him. (cf Isa 9:6; Acts 13:48)
 2. The sword here is the weapon of persecution against their/our message. (cf Acts 12:2)
 - B. Religious variances can divide families. (35-37)
 1. Families, who can stick together through any adversity, are often split apart by the gospel. (cf Lk 21:16)
 2. This is a test of who has the true loyalty in their lives. (cf Jn 21:15)
 3. Nothing can be put above our love of the Godhead. (cf 22:37; Lk 14:26)
 - C. Through this persecution eternal life will be found, or eternal life will be lost. (38, 39)
 1. The taking up of the cross shows that persecution was like a sentence in their lives.
 - a. Condemned criminals were forced to carry their own crosses. (cf Jn 19:17)

- b. It is used as a figurative expression of His apostles having to bear the burden of the persecution which would surely come. (cf Acts 5:40)
 - 2. Jesus uses “life” in this verse ambiguously. (39)
 - a. One can place too much emphasis on this temporary life.
 - b. This brings on the great risk of losing eternal life in heaven. (cf Jn 12:25; Phil 1:20, 21; 2 Tim 4:6-8)
 - c. “Findeth” means to secure or obtain life eternal. (cf Heb 9:12)
- VII. Three illustrations are used to show the rewards of kindness to the messengers. (40-42)
 - A. Receiving God’s messenger is the same as receiving God. (40) (cf 18:5; 25:40, 45; 1 Thess 4:8)
 - 1. This includes the converse as well; if they reject His messengers they reject Him. (cf Jn 12:44-49)
 - 2. Many, then and now, do this very thing. (cf 2 Jn 9)
 - B. “Prophet” means any that would take the message and spread it. (41)
 - 1. The word prophet carries the idea of forth telling as well as foretelling. (cf Ex 7:1,2)
 - 2. In that sense, all that teach and work for God could be classified as forth telling prophets. (cf Rom 16:1-4)
 - C. A reward for common kindness. (42)
 - 1. The “little ones” are His apostles. (cf 18:3-6, 10; Lk 17:2)
 - 2. Doing this act because they were following the Lord would show the givers attachment to Him as well. (cf 25:35-40)
 - 3. His apostles now have their instructions for the limited commission.

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