

Maranatha Fellowship CRC
Farmington, NM 87401

Sunday, March 3, 2024, 10:00 AM

Message Series: Seeking the Lost – Jesus’ Ministry in Galilee
Week 7– Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Scriptures: Luke 9:1-9

Brief Preview: Luke, a gentile physician, builds his gospel narrative around a historical and chronological presentation of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee and Judea. Jesus is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus Christ as the Perfect Man, the God-Man, the Son of Man, who came to seek and save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe His claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose Him will only be satisfied once the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the Resurrection ensures that His ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue in the person of His disciples once they have been equipped with His power.

Context: Jesus came with a plan. He aimed to get the message of the arrival of kingdom hope. He wanted to spread this hope all across the nation of Israel. To accomplish his goal, Jesus reached, trained, taught, and commissioned his twelve disciples to minister with him in the towns and villages of the nation of Israel. He sent them out with the same authority he exercised, including the power to heal and exorcise. When Jesus had called the twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases (v. 1). They were to preach the kingdom and heal the sick (v.2).

Preaching the kingdom and healing the sick is a two-prong ministry; it's the ministry of word and deed. So, Jesus' ministry linked the proclamation, the preaching of hope for the promised arrival of God's rule, with the demonstration of God's compassion. Now, the disciples were ready to serve; they knew whom they were trusting and would never doubt their concern to serve people where they were hurting. They understood who Jesus was, his goal, and what he was trying to accomplish through them.

The passage also points us to Herod, who never understand Jesus. He was perplexed and tried to see Jesus. He appears interested in Jesus only as a matter of curiosity. He longs to see Jesus only because he has heard so much about him. Jesus’ ministry should be taken seriously. Indeed, Jesus is sent from God as the Messiah, and only He shows us the way to God.

Outline:

- I. Introduction
 - A. A Life Commitment as a Disciple of Christ
 - Illus.** “Feeling the Bubbles,” – Story of a Scuba Diver
 - B. Luke’s Presentation of Jesus’ Ministry: Jesus Sends Out the Twelve
- II. The Method Jesus Took to Spread His Gospel
 - A. What Christ directed them to do (v. 1-2)
 - i. They must not be anxious and change their lodgings (v. 4)
 - ii. They must depend on providence, assume authority, warn those who rejected and comfort those who received them (v. 5)
 - B. What they did in carrying out this commission
 - i. They set out from their Master’s presence (v. 6)
 - ii. Their work was the same as their Master’s, doing good both to souls and bodies (v.1-2)
- III. Herod’s Perplexity and Anger
 - .A. The various speculations raised among the people
 - i. They rightly thought, yet could not but think honorably of Jesus that he came from the other world

- ii. That either John the Baptist or one of the prophets of long ago had a comeback to life
- iii. Practical Implications

B. The Great perplexity created in the mind of Herod

- i. He heard of all that Christ did, and he was ready to conclude with them that John had been raised from the dead.
- ii. He said, "I beheaded John" Who, then, is this? Is he carrying on John's work, or has he come to avenge John's death
- iii. Practical Implications:
Those who opposed God will find themselves increasingly embarrassed; he tried to see him, but we do not find that he ever did until he saw him in his court.

IV. Conclusion:

A. One should take Christ's claim seriously

- i. That He has been sent from God as the Messiah and
- ii. That He shows us the way to God (9:18-20)

B. Some Practical Implications

- i. We learn that Herod appears interested in Jesus only as a matter of curiosity.
- ii. He longs to see Jesus only because he has heard so much about Jesus
- iii. This is not the way we approach Jesus

Questions and Answers (Refer to Luke 9:1-9, NIV for answers)

1. When Jesus had called the twelve together, he gave them, _____ to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the _____ and to heal the sick: (v. 1-2)
 - A. power and authority B. the kingdom of God. C. Both. D. None are correct
2. What did Jesus tell them? Take nothing for the journey, which means:
 - A. No staff, no bag. B. no bread, no money, C. no extra shirt D. All of the above, E. None
3. What instruction did Jesus give about their lodging? (v. 4)
 - A. Enter house B. stay there until you leave that town C. Both D. None
4. What if people do not welcome? What did Jesus tell them to do? (v.5)
 - A. Leave their town. B. Shake the dust off their feet as a testimony against them. C. Both D. None
5. So, the disciples set out & went from village to village _____ and _____ everywhere. (v. 6)
 - A. proclaiming the good news and B. healing people everywhere C. entering the houses D. None
6. Now, Herod, the tetrarch, heard about everything happening. And he was perplexed. Refer to v. 7b & v. 8 for an answer.
 - A. Some were saying that John had been raised from the dead B. Others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life C. Both D. None
7. What were Herod's statement and a question?
 - A. "I beheaded John. B. Who, then, is this I hear such things about? C. Both D. None
8. Did Herod ever try to see Jesus? A. No B. Yes C. Both D. None
9. **What's the take-home lesson today?** A. I want to trust and understand Jesus fully. B. I know that my curiosity about Jesus is not enough. C. Discipleship means obeying words and deeds & being travel light: a. I am open & willing to share the good news of the kingdom of God wherever I live b. pray for those who are sick. D. I am serious about my claim about Jesus. I trust that: a. He has been sent from God b. Jesus shows us the way to God (Refer to Luke 9:18-20).