

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ Jesus Sends Seventy

Last time...Jesus had a pointed message for the “shepherds” of Israel...the Pharisees
I AM The Good Shepherd...you are self-serving hirelings

This time...Jesus sends 35 advance teams for the next phase of His ministry –
the Judean countryside

We will be in Luke 10...with our fingers in Matt 10

v1 After these things the Lord appointed...and sent:

After

- Jesus’ Galilean ministry (ended with His journey to Jerusalem for...)
- Jesus visit to Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles

Jesus appointed another seventy...obviously other than the 12
sent two by two...not alone, 35 teams of 2 messengers
to go before Him to the places He is going next

- Judean countryside
- Perea (next, in the context of LMJC)

[map of Tetrarchs]

Jesus is sending the 70 into the Judean countryside and Perea as He sent the 12
into the Galilee

Matt 10:1 - 11:1 and Mark 6:7-13 and Luke 9:1-6

His preparatory instructions to the 70 are very similar to those He gave to the
12...yet different

v2 The harvest is truly great:

Jesus prefaces His instructions to the 70 with the scope and the urgency of His
sending them...as He did the 12 (Matt 9:37-38) about 6 months
previously before the close of the Galilean ministry

The harvest...of men’s eternal souls

truly is great...global in scope, nearly over-ripe (then will perish),
time is short/urgent

laborers are few...servants of the Lord willing to go into the fields to share
the Gospel are few (puny in number)

pray ye: Step 1 is to pray

the Lord of the harvest: We are to pray to the Lord of all souls
(Ezk 18:4...all souls are His, the soul that sins will die)

He would send forth laborers into His harvest: The laborers are His,
the harvest is His, the mission of laborers into His harvest is His

Then, in Matt 10, Jesus trained the 12 to Go into Galilee
Now, Jesus trains the 70 to Go into Judea and Perea

v3 Go your ways:

Go your (assigned) way...as directed by Jesus and led by the Spirit of God

I send you forth as lambs among wolves: Context is John 10:1-21

I AM the Door of the Sheep...in Him is safe refuge in time of danger

I AM the Good Shepherd

(immediately preceding the sending of the 70 is in LMJC)

lambs: sheep, those who know the voice of their Good Shepherd and follow Him

wolves: the Pharisees, religious systems of world, who do not care for the sheep

This is a warning to expect resistance and persecution,
just as Jesus warned the 12 in Matt 10:16

v4 Carry neither...nor:

Trust Me, the Lord of the harvest, your Good Shepherd, to provide for and
protect you

Do not trust Self or the world

Just as He told the 12 in Matt 10:9-10

The 70 get an additional instruction not given the 12:

Do not be distracted by anyone on your way to where I am sending you

What follows in v5-12 is like what Jesus instructed the 12 in Matt 10:11-15

v5-6 Peace be to this house:

When you get to where I am sending you, determine the worthiness of the house...with an offer of peace

If a peaceful, worthy, God-fearing man lives in that house, your peace (of your Good Shepherd, the Prince of Peace) is welcome.

If no such man lives there, you are not welcome.

Welcome or not is a function of...the heart in the house

v7 Go not from house to house:

The first order of business when you get to where I am sending you is to establish a Base of Operations – a peaceful, worthy house (a sheepfold, in context)

Once you are welcome in such a house,

- get settled
- do not shop for upgrades/ better “digs”
- do not be demanding on their hospitality, but humble, meek, thankful
- be blessed by them as you are a blessing to them
- get to work – evangelize the area, prepare the place for My visit

v8-9 city...eat such things:

As you (“go out and come in that sheepfold”) to evangelize the city, moving house to house, graciously receive hospitality and blessings of the people who live there, too

It matters not that their food is different than the food you are accustomed to, I am providing it for you; be gracious and eat it with thanksgiving

When we leave the “comfort zone” of our city/nation to go “before the Lord comes” to evangelize people to whom we have been sent by the Lord, we are to “become as they that we might save some”, which includes eating what they eat rather than insisting on “American food”

- Egypt
- Crete
- Honduras
- Israel
- Mexico

In that city, heal the sick and preach the Kingdom of God (and the Gospel of Jesus Christ the King)

Just as Jesus instructed the 12 in [Matt 10:7-8](#)

v10-12 receive you not...the very dust:

If a city

- does not receive and welcome you
- refuses to hear your Good News
- rejects your invitation to come learn of Me

woe to that city!

But let this be known:

Whether you believe it or not, the Kingdom is in fact come near to you;
their unbelief does not alter the eternal Truth one iota

But now the invitation is a warning

But I say unto you...thus saith the Lord

- that day...Judgment Day
- will be more tolerable in Sodom (!) than in that city...for they are accountable for a greater revelation of God

v13-15 Chorazin...Bethsaida...Capernaum:

The warning to the cities of Judea and Perea via the 70 is as serious as His
warning to the cities of the Galilee

Matt 11:1, 21-24...spoken by Jesus while 12 were on their missionary trip

Notes:

- The mighty works Jesus did in Chorazin and Bethsaida are not recorded

John 20:30-31 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Tyre and Sidon were worthy of a "great burden/woe" from the Lord (Ezk 26-28), therefore...Luke 12:48

- Capernaum, Jesus' base of operations for the Galilean ministry... so honored, yet steeped in such unbelief... will be cast down to hell
- Today, all 3 are but ruins

v16 hear...despise:

Jesus' summary statement of His instruction to the 70

He (any person) who hears you hears Me...the One sending you to speak
My words

He (any person) who despises/rejects you despises/rejects Me...
this is about Me, not you

He that despises Me despises My Father...the One who sent Me to speak
His words

Whether the hearer of the Gospel accepts or rejects the invitation given by the
messenger...it all gets back to the Father and the Son
because the invitation is Theirs

The "Accept" or "Reject" by the hearer is that of Jesus, not His messenger

The same summary statement Jesus told the 12 (Matt 10:40)

And off go the 35 teams of 2!

v17 returned again with joy:

Scripture does not tell us how long the 70 are gone...
but they return and they are rejoicing!

They rejoiced to witness of Jesus, to go in advance of His coming!
As they went, they healed the sick (v9)...the spiritually afflicted in particular
The demons had to obey them...Jesus' name/authority (not theirs!)

Acts 16:18 Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit,
I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of
her. And he came out the same hour.

v18-20 Satan as lightning fall...your names are written in heaven:

In response to the joy of the returned 70 messengers, Jesus adds comforting
perspective:

1. He sees the Big Picture, the beginning and the end
Not "merely" demons being subject to His messengers
as with the 12 (Matt 10:1, Matt 16:18),
He sees the entire kingdom of satan fall under the assault of the
Kingdom of God (yet future to them and to us)

2. Cause for real joy

Rejoice that Jesus has given us **His** power over

- demons and malicious persons
 - serpents (why controversy with Mark 16:18?)
 - scorpions (I use a ball bat or a table spoon)
- ALL the power of the enemy
 - Do we realize this truth?
 - Do we “march” with His power?

That is all wonderful and worthy of rejoicing

(we have His power over demons)

(demons have no power over Jesus or His sheep)

BUT this is the #1 Reason to rejoice:

Our names are written in heaven!!!

Freed from slavery to sin (John 8:31-36),

Saved from the wrath of God,

Redeemed from death and hell and LoF,

Given eternal life,

our names are written in

- Lamb's Book of Life (Rev 21:27),
mentioned 7x in Revelation
- The Book of Remembrance (Mal 3:16)

Now Jesus rejoices in the joy of His messengers/followers/sheep

v21-22 in Spirit...I thank The, O Father:

Oh, to hear Jesus PTL!!!

in spirit...the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:14 and throughout His ministry)

O Father...referred to by Jesus 14x while in Jerusalem for the Feast of
Tabernacles (John 7:10 – 10:21)

hid these things...the progressive unveiling of the mystery of
His Plan of Redemption

from the wise and the prudent...the worldly wise and intelligent
(human reasoning)

revealed them unto babes...converted as little children (Matt 18:3),
faith vs human reasoning, His sheep

so it seemed good in your sight...Matt 19:17

no man knows...knowledge of God the Father and God the Son and their unique relationship is a revelation, not an academic exercise (John 1:18)

Jesus rejoices now as He did in [Matt 11:25-27](#) after He witnessed of John the Baptist

In the same Spirit, we rejoice, “How wonderful it is to be among other believers in Jesus Christ!!!”

v23-24 turned unto His disciples:

Now Jesus speaks to the 12, not to the 70

As He did during His teaching of the Kingdom Parables (Matt 13:16)

And He tells them something one of them, Peter, shares with us in 1 Peter 1:3-12

The 70 received the same training, albeit abbreviated form of it, that the 12 did...but

Not told to avoid Gentiles and Samaritans ([Matt 10:5-6](#)) because where they are going is infested with such people...Jesus will evangelize them in Judea and Perea as well; the Gospel is for the Jew first then the Gentile

Not told the depth and breadth of persecution for those who follow Jesus (Matt 10:17-39)

Their message and mission for Judea and Perea was the same as those of the 12 for Galilee

Because John 10:16 **And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.**

Application

The training given to the 12, the training given to the 70, is the training given to us...
their mission is our mission...

Matt 28:18-20 *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I
am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*

Therefore, let us endeavor to

- Pray that the Lord of the harvest send laborers into His harvest
- Go, where the Lord of the harvest sends us to prepare hearts for His coming
- Go in His power and with His power
- Heal the sick, particularly the spiritually afflicted
- Trust our Good Shepherd (vs Self) as we go
- Speak His words, issue the invitation to come into the Kingdom of God, into light out of darkness (Acts 18:26)
- Do not take rejection personally, those who do not receive the invitation are rejecting Jesus
- If the invitation is rejected, it becomes a warning
- Rejoice that you are sent in His name to be His messenger
- More importantly, rejoice that our names are written in heaven
- Know the Lord rejoices over us as He did the 12 and the 70

Let's put the training/instruction given by Jesus into action

In places of work and where we live

Outreach Ministry (Kiwanis Park last Sunday)

Mike

raised Catholic

pagan, worships his Norse ancestors

symbol of Norse paganism, a hammer, around his neck

nothing happens after death

Jesus is a man but definitely not God, because there are no gods

all the violence throughout history in the name of religion

heard... was polite and respectful but rejected

BJ

"If Jesus were right here, I would shoot him."

told us the news of the Texas church massacre

very angry

thinks it is God's fault

"Spread the Love, not the Word."

"cracked but not broken"

Consider Honduras 2018 (Most Appreciated Ministry by Honduran pastors)
Why us going matters