

Sunday, July 17, 2011—Mark Dispensationally Considered—Mark 6:7-13: The Sending Forth of the Twelve

Mark 6:7-13

- ***“7) And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; 8) And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse: 9) But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats. 10) And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place. 11) And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city. 12) And they went out, and preached that men should repent. 13) And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.”***
- We have already studied in Mark 3:13-21 the empowering and commissioning of the 12 apostles. We saw the following from the cross reference in Matthew 10:5-8
 - Not to go in the way of the Gentiles
 - Not to enter any city of Samaritans
 - But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel
 - Preaching that the kingdom of heaven is at hand (Gospel of the Kingdom)
 - Heal the sick, cleanse lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils.
- Mark 6:7—appears to be where Christ begins to send them out two by two.
- Mark 6:8-9—addresses the provisions they are to take with them on their journey. They are instructed to take a staff only, one coat, and wear sandals. The Apostles are not supposed to take scrip (provision-bag), bread, or money.
 - Luke 9:1-3
 - Matthew 10:9-10—the central thought here, urgency, must be kept in mind. Time is not to be taken to search for additional staves or shoes. The Apostles were to go using whatever possession they already had on their person.
- Mark 6:10—explains how they are to conduct themselves on their journey. They are to live off the hospitality of those to whom they are ministering.
 - Luke 9:4
 - Matthew 10:11-14

- Mark 6:11—they are instructed to shake the dust off their feet as a testimony against anyone who will not hear or receive them. Those cities who do not receive the message and ministry of the Apostles will face a fate worse than Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment.
 - Matthew 10:15
- Mark 6:12-13—simply reports that the 12 went out and fulfilled their commission.
- Matthew 10—records many other parting instructions and advice that Christ gave to the 12 Apostles as they were sent forth to preach the gospel of the kingdom and fulfill their commission.
 - Matthew 10:16-18—the apostles are warned about the nature of people they are being sent to minister to. As members of the body of Christ we can learn something from verse 16. We need to conduct ourselves amongst the lost in a wise yet harmless manner. In other words we need to have a plan.
 - Matthew 10:19-20—these verses need to be dispensational applied. God is not going to supernaturally place words in your mouth apart from the Bible. Inspiration and revelation have ceased subsequent to the earthly ministry of Christ. Practically you know this because the biggest factor that hinders people from witness to friends and family is fear over not knowing what to say.
 - Matthew 10:23—once again there is a dispensational issue in this verse. Isn't the Son of Man in their midst instructing them in his presence? So what does Christ mean then when he says, "Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of Man come?"

Reasons Why Believers Don't Witness For Christ

- II Corinthians 5:18-20—every believer has been given a ministry to fulfill. The ministry of reconciliation.
- Romans 1:14-16—evangelism is designed to be the *outflow* of the *overflow* of the *inflow* of love for the Lord Jesus Christ the come to us through "the full assurance of understanding" of all the He accomplish for us through Calvary.
- Why do believers not witness for Christ?
 - Spiritual Lethargy—Ephesians 5:14
 - Believing the Enemy's Lies
 - "Mind your own business; you have no right to force your views on others."
 - "Your going to offend people."

- “People will think you are a fanatic.”
 - “People will say ‘no’ and I will be embarrassed.”
 - **FEAR**—evangelism ought to be the natural outflow of what is inside—but there is also something else inside: FEAR.
 - The believer faces fear of rejection, ridicule, failure, hypocrisy, not knowing what to say, how to respond to objections/unexpected situation, trying something new/unfamiliar, not being smart enough to answer questions, intruding into the private lives of others, saying the wrong thing, ect.
- Since fear is a constant it must be faced and dealt with. Fear cannot be eliminated; therefore it must be replaced by something else, something stronger. Fear can only be overcome through displacement.
- **F**—Faith
 - Faith in the Message: Romans 1:16—works and you already know it personally.
 - Faith in the Messenger: Romans 1:15—you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ so take it personally. You become incredibly dynamic when you believe what you are saying is true.
- **E**—Equipping
 - Ephesians 4:12—the Word will do its work, you can trust it! You already know more than a lost person does—Keep the issue simple.
- **A**—Action
 - Taking action is the basic key to overcoming fear.
 - II Corinthians 4:13
 - I Thessalonians 2:1-2
- **R**—Reason
 - Proverbs 29:18—without a WHY you will be crushed by fear. If you have a big enough why you can do anything.
 - In II Timothy 1:7 Paul address the issue of fear for the believer.
 - *Power*—we can have absolute confidence in our message because the power does not reside in us but with God (II Corinthians 4:7).
 - *Love*—II Corinthians 5:14-15, Romans 5:8
 - *Sound Mind*—the ability to distinguish between our personal identity and rejection of our message. We know what is really going on.