

Mission of the Kingdom of Heaven: The Foundation of the Church

Matthew 10: 1-42; 11:1 / Palm Sunday April 4

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|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| A) | Birth of the Kingdom | Narrative 1 | 1:1-4:25 |
| B) | Blessings of the Kingdom | Teaching 1 | 5:1-7:29 |
| C) | Authority of the Kingdom | Narrative 2 | 8:1-9:34 |
| D) | Mission of the Kingdom | Teaching 2 | 9:35-11:1 |
| E) | Rejection of the Kingdom | Narrative 3 | 11:2-12:50 |
| F) | Parables of the Kingdom | Teaching 3 | 13:1-53 |
| E ¹) | Acceptance of the Kingdom | Narrative 4 | 13:54-17:27 |
| D ¹) | Community of the Kingdom | Teaching 4 | 18:1-35 |
| C ¹) | Authority of the Kingdom | Narrative 5 | 19:1-22:46 |
| B ¹) | Warnings of the Kingdom | Teaching 5 | 23:1-25:46 |
| A ¹) | New Birth of the Kingdom | Narrative 6 | 26:1-28:20 |

BACKGROUND (9:35-10:4)

The Motivation

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Prayer

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

A) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: SHARE THE GOSPEL REWARDS OF JESUS

(1-15)

Calling and Equipping

And he called to him his twelve disciples and **gave them authority** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.

The names of the **twelve apostles** are these:

- first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother;
- James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;
- Philip and Bartholomew;
- Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;
- James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Foundation of the Church: Apostles

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)

Revelation of the Apostles: Salvation of the Gentiles

When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as **it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit**. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Ephesians 3:4-6)

Gift of the Apostles: Equip the Church

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **to equip the saints for the work of ministry**, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. (Ephesians 4:11-14)

Know Your Audience

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them,

- “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and
- enter no town of the Samaritans, but
- go rather to the **lost sheep** of the house of Israel.

Salvation to the Jews First

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.

But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him.

And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, **“It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.** For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, **“I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”**” (Acts 13:44-47)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, **to the Jew first and also to the Greek.** For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, **“The righteous shall live by faith.”** (Romans 1:16-17)

Use Words and Actions

And proclaim as you go, saying,

- ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’
- Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons.

Trust God to Provide the Resources

- You received without paying; give without pay.
- Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food.

Know when to stay and when to leave

- And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but
- if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

Example from the Apostle Paul

STAY: Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

GO: But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, and there they continued to preach the gospel. (Acts 14:1-7)

B) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: PREPARE FOR PERSECUTIONS

(16-23)

- **Danger:** “Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves,
- **Promise:** so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- **Danger** Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.
- **Promise:** When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- **Danger:** Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake.
- **Promise:** But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Examples of Jesus' Opposition in the book of Luke

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| 1. Jesus rejected in home town in Nazareth | 4:14-30 |
| 2. Jesus accused by the Pharisees of blasphemy for forgiving sins of paralytic | 5:17-26 |
| 3. Jesus accused by the Pharisees for eating with sinners after calling Matthew | 5:27-32 |
| 4. Jesus accused by the Pharisees for not fasting | 5:33-39 |
| 5. Jesus accused by the Pharisees for eating grain on the Sabbath | 6:1-5 |
| 6. Jesus attacked by the Pharisees for healing the withered hand on the Sabbath | 6:6-11 |
| 7. Jesus rebukes Israel for being faithless to the centurion | 7:1-10 |
| 8. Jesus rebuked as a prophet for accepting a woman, a sinner | 7:36-50 |
| 9. Jesus rebuked for casting demons in a herd of pigs and asked to leave | 8:26-39 |
| 10. Jesus foretells of his death by the Pharisees | 9:21-22 |
| 11. Jesus foretells of his death by the Pharisees the second time | 9:43-45 |
| 12. Jesus rejected by Samaritans and prevents his passage through their land | 9:51-56 |

C) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: IDENTIFY WITH JESUS IN AN HOSTILE WORLD

(24-25)

- “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.
- It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master.
- If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

Opposition to Casting Out of Demons

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| 1. Jesus questioned as having an authoritative teaching | (Mark 1:21-27) |
| 2. Jesus drove out of town | (Matt 8:34) |
| 3. Jesus accused of casting out demons by demons | (Matt 9:34) |
| 4. Jesus accused of casting out demons by demons | (Matt 12:23-24) |
| 5. Jesus rebukes the disciples for their lack of faith | (Matt 17:19-20) |
| 6. Jesus rebuked for healing on the Sabbath | (Luke 13:14) |

D) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: FEAR GOD, NOT THE WORLD

(26-31)

- “So have **no fear** of them,
 Secrets Revealed: for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.
 Power Limited: And **do not fear** those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.
- Rather **fear him**
 Destroy the Soul: who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
 Great Care: Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. **Fear not**, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Godly Fear

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| Abraham: | Genesis 15:1; 26:24; | Elisha: | 2 Kings 4:1 |
| Hagar: | Genesis 21:17 | Nehemiah: | Nehemiah 5:9 |
| Isaac: | Genesis 31:42 | Job: | Job 1:1 |
| Jacob: | Genesis 31:53 | Solomon: | Proverbs 1:7 |
| Joseph: | Genesis 42:18 | Isaiah | Isaiah 8:13 |
| Midwives: | Exodus 1:17,21 | Jeremiah | Jeremiah 5:22 |
| Pharaoh’s servants | Exodus 9:20 | Ezekiel | Ezekiel 30:13 |
| Israel: | Exodus 14:31 | Daniel | Daniel 6:26 |
| Joshua: | Joshua 4:24 | Hosea | Hosea 3:5 |
| Samuel | I Samuel 12:14, 18, 24 | Micah | Micah 6:9 |
| David: | II Samuel 23:3 | Zephaniah | Zephaniah 3:7 |
| Elijah: | I kings 17:13 | Haggai | Haggai 1:12 |
| | | Malachi | Malachi 3:16 |

C¹) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: IDENTIFY WITH JESUS IN AN HOSTILE WORLD

(32-33)

- So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but
- whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Final Judgment

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. **Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.**

And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.** (Revelation 20:11-15)

B¹) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: PREPARE FOR PERSECUTIONS

(34-39)

- “Do not think that **I have come** to bring peace to the earth.
- **I have not come** to bring peace, but a sword.
- For **I have come** to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household.

- Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.
- And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
- Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Attacks of Saul Against David

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| 1. Saul is angry and resents David's military victories | I Samuel 18:8-9 |
| 2. Saul, empowered by an evil spirit from God, attempts to kill David with a spear, but fails. | I Samuel 18:10-12 |
| 3. Saul, fearful of David, dreads David's military victories | I Samuel 18:13-16 |
| 4. Saul offers his daughter to David in marriage in exchange for fighting the Philistines, hoping David would be killed. | I Samuel 18:17-19 |
| 5. Saul requires a dowry of 100 foreskins of Philistines, hoping David would be killed. | I Samuel 18:20-28 |
| 6. Saul becomes more fearful of David, remaining an enemy continually. | I Samuel 18:29-30 |
| 7. Saul orders his son, Jonathan and his servants, to kill David, yet Jonathan tells David of the plot. | I Samuel 19:1-5 |
| 8. Saul vows to Jonathan David will not be killed, yet Saul lies and continues to pursue David. | I Samuel 19:6-7 |
| 9. Saul, overcome with an evil spirit from God, attempts to kill David with a spear, yet David flees. | I Samuel 19:8-10 |
| 10. Saul sends messengers to watch David's house, seeking to kill David. (David writes Psalm 59) | I Samuel 19:11-13 |
| 11. Saul sends messengers to David's house to put him to death on his bed. | I Samuel 19:15-17 |
| 12. Saul sends messengers to Naioth to kill David, yet David hides with Samuel and the prophets. | I Samuel 19:18-20 |
| 13. Saul sends additional messengers to kill David in Naioth, yet the messengers begin to prophesize. | I Samuel 19:21a |
| 14. Saul sends messengers the third time to kill David in Naioth, yet they begin to prophesize. | I Samuel 19:21a |
| 15. Saul arrives in Naioth to kill David. | I Samuel 19:22-24 |
| 16. Saul invites David to the new moon festival to kill David, yet Jonathan warns David to protect him. | I Samuel 20:1-29 |
| 17. Saul, in his anger, demands Jonathan to bring David to him to be killed. | I Samuel 20:30-42 |
| 18. Saul, still pursuing David, waits while David flees to king Achish in Gath, acting insane before the king. | I Samuel 21:10-15 |
| 19. Saul, still pursuing David, waits while David escapes to a cave in Adullam, and waits with 400 men. | I Samuel 22:1-2 |
| 20. Saul, still pursuing David, waits while David flees to Moab, then flees to the forest of Hereth. | I Samuel 22:3-5 |
| 21. Saul, after hearing that David had fled to Hereth, rebukes his servants for not helping in killing David. | I Samuel 22:6-17 |
| 22. Saul, after hearing that Ahimelech helped David, orders the killing of 85 priests of God. | I Samuel 22:18-23 |
| 23. Saul summons the people to do down to Keilah to capture David. | I Samuel 23:1-14 |
| 24. Saul asks the Ziphites to report David's movements to Saul. | I Samuel 23:15-24 |
| 25. Saul pursues David in Hereth, yet David flees to the wilderness of Maon. | I Samuel 23:25 |
| 26. Saul pursues David in the wilderness of Maon, yet Saul stops pursuing David to fight the Philistines. | I Samuel 23:26-29 |
| 27. Saul pursues David with three thousand men in the wilderness of Engedi, finding David in a cave. | I Samuel 24:1-3 |
| 28. Saul encounters David in a cave, yet David spares Saul's life. | I Samuel 24:4-22 |
| 29. Saul, informed by the Ziphites, takes three thousand men to kill David in the wilderness of Ziph. | I Samuel 26:1-3 |
| 30. Saul is confronted by David, sparing Saul's life again in the wilderness of Ziph. | I Samuel 26:4-25 |
| 31. Saul, still trying to kill David, learns that David has fled to the Philistines and stops pursuing David. | I Samuel 27:1-4 |
| 32. Saul seeks council from a medium at Endor and is rebuked by Samuel. | I Samuel 28:1-25 |
| 33. Saul dies by suicide, and his body is dishonored by the Philistines. | I Samuel 31:1-13 |

A¹) THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH: RECEIVE THE REWARDS OF JESUS

(40-42)

“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.

- PROPHET: The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and
- RIGHTEOUS: the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.
- LITTLE ONE: And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple,

truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

CONCLUSION

(11:1)

When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities. (Matthew 11:1)