

# Matthew Survey — Section Two

## Doctrinal Response #1

Matthew 10:1 -- 42

Topical Study Overview

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### About This Section

The Lord takes aside his twelve disciples, commissions and empowers them as his twelve apostles, and instructs them for the immediate intensification of the gospel of the kingdom testimony. Beyond the immediate program, he privately educates them in their role and function throughout the remainder of the climactic stage -- including the fifth and final installment -- covering the hostilities they will face, the extreme severity of the coming tribulation, and the rewards awaiting faithful endurance. This chapter is foundational to understanding all subsequent commissionings in Matthew 24, 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20, and Acts 1.



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### Topics at a Glance

Topic	Core Content
<b>P1: Empowering and Commissioning</b>	The twelve appointed, empowered, and sent immediately (Matt 10:1-15)
<b>P2: Role Throughout the Climactic Stage</b>	What the twelve must expect from the fourth through fifth installment (Matt 10:16-23)
<b>P3: What to Expect from the Vain Religious System</b>	Hostility, intimidation, and how to respond (Matt 10:24-33)
<b>P4: The Sword, Not Peace -- Fifth Installment Severity</b>	Extreme family division and the cost of faithfulness (Matt 10:34-39)
<b>P5: Positive Responders and Their Rewards</b>	Encouraging doctrine for faithful endurance (Matt 10:40-42)

### Topic Summaries

## P1

### **Empowering, Commissioning, and Instruction for the Immediate Intensification** *Matt 10:1-15 -- Lessons 12-15*

- The Lord calls his twelve disciples, empowers them to cast out unclean spirits and heal all manner of sickness, and formally commissions them as his twelve apostles (vv. 1-4) -- the two hallmark signs of the kingdom are now multiplied twelve-fold.
- They are sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel; the time for the Gentiles and Samaritans to hear the gospel of the kingdom has not yet come -- this is a present dispensational boundary within Israel's program (dogs/swine of Matt 7:6 enforced here in vv. 5-6).
- The message they are to preach is identical to the Lord's own: the kingdom of heaven is at hand (v. 7). Along with preaching they heal the sick, cleanse lepers, raise the dead, and cast out devils -- freely received, freely given (v. 8).
- They are to travel without self-provided provisions so that believing members of the remnant in each city can manifest their allegiance by supplying the twelve's needs -- the workman is worthy of his meat (vv. 9-10).
- Upon entering a city they enquire who is worthy (already bold for the truth) and establish a base of operations; their peace rests upon a worthy house, but if unworthy the peace returns -- leaving only judgment to be pronounced by the Lord who follows after (vv. 11-13).
- When a house or city will not receive them, the twelve are to shake off the dust of their feet -- a gesture of complete disassociation and condemnation -- after which the Lord himself pronounces that it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city (vv. 14-15).

## P2

### **Basic Edification -- The Twelve's Role Throughout the Rest of the Climactic Stage** *Matt 10:16-23 -- Lessons 16-17*

- Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves (v. 16) -- this describes not only the immediate phase but the twelve's entire role from this point through the end of the fifth and final installment.
- They are to be wise as serpents (alert to and understanding of the source and nature of the opposition) and harmless as doves (not avenging themselves -- the avengement belongs to the Lord, Deuteronomy 32:35).
- Verses 17-20 primarily describe the first three-and-a-half years of the fifth installment: the twelve will be delivered up to councils, scourged in synagogues, and brought before governors and kings -- at which time the Spirit of their Father speaks through them (cf. John 16:1-2).
- Verses 21-23 address the last three-and-a-half years: brother delivers up brother to death, father the child, children against parents -- the fulfillment of Micah 7:5-7. This is the most severe phase.
- He that endureth to the end shall be saved (v. 22) refers to physical salvation associated with the Deliverer and Avenger mandates of the Davidic covenant when the Lord returns -- not spiritual salvation from the debt and penalty of sins.
- Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come (v. 23) -- the twelve remain in the land of Israel; other members of the remnant scattered among the Gentiles carry the gospel of the kingdom to the nations (cf. 1 Peter 2:11-12; Matt 24:14).

## P3

### Particular Edification -- What to Expect from the Vain Religious System and How to Respond *Matt 10:24-33 -- Lesson 18*

- The disciple is not above his master nor the servant above his Lord -- the twelve are to expect the same treatment their Master has received (vv. 24-25). The source of all hostilities is the leadership of apostate Israel, who are Satan's own men doing the lusts of their father (John 8:44).
- The leaders have already called the Master Beelzebub (Matt 9:34); the twelve must realize this treatment will be directed at them also, escalating throughout the fourth and fifth installments.
- Verses 26-27 address the temperate phase: do not be intimidated into silence -- what the Lord says in darkness, speak in the light; what ye hear in the ear, preach upon the housetops.
- Verse 28 addresses the escalated phase -- death threats: fear not them which kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Occupy the mind with the Lord's power to avenge rather than the threat of enemies.
- The Father's precise knowledge of them (the very hairs of their heads are numbered) and the high value he places upon them (they are of more value than many sparrows) are effectually-working doctrine to produce boldness in the face of death threats (vv. 29-31).
- Whosoever confesses the Lord before men, him will the Lord confess before his Father in heaven -- and that public confession is the testimony out there in the fifth installment. Denying him before men results in no reward in the kingdom (vv. 32-33).

## P4

### The Sword, Not Peace -- Extreme Severity of the Fifth Installment *Matt 10:34-39 -- Lesson 18*

- Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword (v. 34). The Lord's first coming does not bring the peace of Luke 2:14 -- that awaits his second coming as Prince of Peace.
- The sword produces the final great division, going all the way down into the family unit -- the fulfillment of Micah 7:5-7: a man's foes shall be they of his own household (v. 36). This is a prophesied event in the fifth course of punishment's final installment.
- The wedge that has been working through Israel throughout the climactic stage now reaches its most extreme form: even households are divided between the believing remnant and the apostate element, preparing for God's purging of the rebellious elements.
- He that loveth father or mother more than the Lord is not worthy of him (v. 37) -- when the family division reaches the point where a believing family member must choose the Lord over an apostate family member, making the wrong choice forfeits kingdom rewards.
- He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me (v. 38) -- going to the point of death if necessary is involved in what it means to be counted worthy for ruling and reigning in the kingdom.

P5

## Encouraging Edification -- Positive Responders and Their Rewards *Matt 10:40-42 -- Lesson 19*

- He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me (v. 40) -- those who positively receive the twelve are receiving the Son and the Father, and the Father will openly reward them when the kingdom is established.
- Three tiers of positive response are identified (vv. 41-42): receiving a prophet, receiving a righteous man, and giving a cup of cold water to one of the Lord's little ones -- each tier carries its own reward. No positive response, however small, goes unacknowledged.
- This reward doctrine is designed as encouragement to both the twelve and to positive responders, giving them the it will be worth it all understanding that enables endurance under extreme conditions.
- These verses will be amplified upon in later parables concerning rewards and varying degrees of reward -- the foundations are set here at the commencement of the twelve's private edification.

## Key Doctrinal Distinctions

### The Intensification of the Testimony vs. the Edification of the Twelve

Matthew 10 has two distinct purposes operating simultaneously. Verses 1-15 pertain to the immediate intensification of the testimony -- the twelve empowered and sent out to cover Galilee, enforcing the accountability factor. Verses 16-42 are private doctrinal edification concerning their overall role throughout the remainder of the fourth installment and all of the fifth installment. Much of what the Lord says from v. 16 onward the twelve could not yet fully comprehend; the Holy Ghost would bring it to their remembrance (John 14:26) as those things became the issue.

### Israel's Prophetic Program -- Gentiles and Samaritans Hear in the Fifth Installment, Not Now

The Lord's directive in v. 5-6 (Go not into the way of the Gentiles...enter ye not into any city of the Samaritans) is a present dispensational boundary within Israel's program. The Samaritans will be dealt with in the opening of the fifth installment (Acts 1:8). The Gentiles as a whole will hear the gospel of the kingdom in the last half of the fifth installment (Matt 24:14; Rev 7:9-14). Both groups remain entirely within Israel's prophetic program -- no connection to the dispensation of Gentile grace.

### The Three Persons of the Godhead and the Unpardonable Sin in Context

Apostate Israel has already hated the Father and now, in rejecting him, has hated the Son. Once the Lord returns to the Father, the Spirit of their Father will speak through the twelve as they testify before councils (vv. 19-20). The blasphemy against the Holy Ghost (Matt 12:31-32) refers to apostate Israel's final rejection of the Holy Ghost's testimony during the extension of mercy and forbearance and the

opening of the fifth installment -- sealing their condemnation. This passage has no application in the dispensation of grace.

## Physical Salvation vs. Spiritual Salvation -- He That Endureth to the End Shall Be Saved

The salvation referred to in Matthew 10:22 (and again in Matt 24:13) is not salvation from the debt and penalty of sins -- members of the believing remnant are already justified unto eternal life. The salvation here is physical -- deliverance from the extreme persecutions and extermination policy of the fifth installment. It is associated with the Deliverer and Avenger mandates of the Davidic covenant. The end is the end of that time schedule, looking to the Lord's return to establish the kingdom.

## Key Scripture References

<b>Matthew 10:1-15</b>	The empowering, commissioning, and instruction of the twelve for the immediate intensification of the testimony throughout Galilee
<b>Isaiah 53:4b</b>	The prophetic basis for the prevailing negative response: yet we did esteem him stricken -- governing everything from Matt 8:17 onward
<b>Micah 7:5-7</b>	The prophetic source for Matt 10:21 and 35-36 -- extreme family divisions of the fifth installment when apostate and believing elements are separated
<b>Deuteronomy 32:35, 40-43</b>	Vengeance is mine -- the basis for the harmless as doves doctrine: the Lord will avenge at the appointed time; until then the remnant must not avenge themselves
<b>Matthew 24:13-14</b>	Amplification of Matt 10:22-23 -- the gospel of the kingdom goes to all nations at the end of the fifth installment; the one enduring to that end is saved (physically)
<b>John 14:26</b>	The provision for the twelve to recall and understand what the Lord is teaching them now: the Holy Ghost will bring all things to their remembrance
<b>John 15:22-27; 16:1-2</b>	Amplification on Matt 10:17-20 -- Israel has hated both Father and Son; the Comforter will come; those who kill the twelve will think they do God service
<b>Luke 18:1-8</b>	The unjust judge -- the remnant will cry for avengement and God will bear long with them, but will avenge them speedily when the time comes
<b>Revelation 6:9-11</b>	Fifth seal -- souls under the altar slain for the testimony they held, crying how long...dost thou not avenge our blood -- Matt 10:28-31 in full operation
<b>Revelation 14:9-13</b>	Patience of the saints in the last half of the fifth installment -- Matt 10:32-33 (confession doctrine) and 10:28 (fear not those who kill the body) effectually at work
<b>Acts 1:8</b>	One of the five final commissionings -- Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, then the uttermost parts; establishes the sequential order building on Matt 10:5-6

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