

Lesson 14: Further Activities in Jerusalem and Judea

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

April 7, 2021

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Luke 10:2, "And he said unto them, *The harvest indeed is plenteous, **but the laborers are few**: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest.*" (cf. Matthew 9:37-38; John 4:35-38).

1. Those who have never heard the truth.
"Go preach ..." Mark 16:15ff; 1 Timothy 3:15;
Acts 8:4. "... *in season, out of season*" 2 Timothy 4:2
2. Those who have heard it and not obeyed. "*Exhort them ...*" Acts 2
3. Those who have obeyed and then erred from the truth.
"*Restore ...*" Galatians 6
4. Do not become "*Weary ...*" Galatians 6:9;
2 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 12:3; Revelation 2:3

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- The *laborer's* are those entrusted to take God's message which will convict and convert them to God's spiritual way of thinking and living.
- If their work was successful, many other workers would go out because each disciple has an obligation to go "*everywhere preaching the word*" (Acts 8:4; cf. 2 Timothy 2:2; Acts 6:7).

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- **Our job – not to convert, but teach.**
"*In season and out of season.*" 2 Timothy 4:2
 - *Command is to teach.* Mark 16:15
 - *Even they if don't listen – we must do our job!* Ezekiel 2:8ff ;3:16-21; Isaiah 50:4-9; Jeremiah 9:1ff
 - *Jesus taught – many turned away.* John 1:11-12
 - *Crowds rejected the apostles.* Acts 13:45; 17:32; cf. 2 Corinthians 11:23ff

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- Luke 10:3, "*Go your ways; behold, I send you forth as **lambs** in the midst of **wolves**.*"
 - Matthew 10:16 – *Same instructions given to the 12.*
 - Their opponents are seen as ferocious, savage wolves ready to devour them (cf. Matthew 7:15; John 10:12; Acts 20:29).

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- Luke 10:4-9, "*Carry no purse, no wallet, no shoes; and salute no man on the way. And into whatsoever house ye shall enter, first say, Peace (be) to this house. And if a son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him: but if not, it shall turn to you again. And in that same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the laborer is worthy of his hire."*
- *Do's and Don'ts ... cf. the list given to the apostles.* (cf. Luke 9:3; Matthew 10:9-13)
- A "*son of peace*" was a person of sincere faith, a man willing to receive the Lord's messengers, a man who wants spiritual peace with God.
- "*The laborer is worthy of his hire*" (1 Timothy 5:17-18; see Deuteronomy 25:4; Leviticus 19:13; 1 Corinthians 9:4, 7-9, 14).

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- Luke 10:4-9, “Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.”
- Healings were signs. (Mark 16:17-20; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:3-4).
 - They would establish the authority to preach and the power behind the message that informed the populace that the kingdom of God is come nigh to you. (Matthew 3:2; 4:17; Mark 9:1; Acts 2)

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- Luke 10:10-11, “But into whatsoever city ye shall enter, and they receive you not, go out into the streets thereof and say, Even the dust from your city, that cleaveth to our feet, we wipe off against you ...”
- Many would reject the Messiah and His kingdom.
 - See the instructions to the apostles. (Luke 9:5; Matthew 10:14; Mark 6:14).
 - cf. Paul at Antioch in Pisidia. (Acts 13:51)
- Luke 10:11, “... nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh.”

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- Luke 10:12, “I say unto you, it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.”
- Note: Genesis 13:13; 19:9,13; Matthew 10:15; 11:24
- Contrast:
 - It was one thing for the Sodomites to live in sin and be judged.
 - It is another to live in sin, have the opportunity to be saved by faith in Jesus, and then be judged because of rejecting God’s grace. (cf. Luke 12:47ff)

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- Luke 10:13-15, “Woe unto thee, **Chorazin!** woe unto thee, **Bethsaida!** for if the mighty works had been done in **Tyre and Sidon**, which were done in you, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment, than for you. And thou, **Capernaum**, shalt thou be exalted unto heaven? thou shalt be brought down unto Hades.”
- The implication is that these cities of Galilee were less receptive than the wicked ancient cities which they knew to be symbols of rebellion against God’s will.
- They had rejected God’s Son.

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- God determined to “bring to dishonor the pride of all glory, to bring into contempt all the honorable” because both cities had forsaken God in their own pride and abused Israel as a “pricking brier or a painful thorn” (Isaiah 23:1-18; Jeremiah 25:22; 47:4; Ezekiel 26-28; Joel 3:6)
- Amos 1:9-10, “Thus saith Jehovah: For three transgressions of Tyre, yea, for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole people to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant: but I will send a fire on the wall of Tyre, and it shall devour the palaces thereof.”

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- So great would have been their humility that they would be sitting in sackcloth and ashes.
- Sackcloth - It was symbolically worn in times of sorrow, mourning, or contrition (Joshua 7:6; 1 Kings 20:31-32; 21:27; 2 Kings 6:30; 19:1; 1 Chronicles 21:16; Nehemiah 9:1; Esther 4:1-3; Job 16:15; 42:6; Psalms 30:11-12; 35:13; Isaiah 32:11; 58:5; Jeremiah 6:26; Ezekiel 7:18; 27:30; Daniel 9:3; Joel 1:13; Amos 8:10; Jonah 3:6-8; Matthew 11:21; Revelation 11:3).
- Ashes - were also a sign of mourning or guilt. People placed ashes on their heads or sat in ashes during times of sorrow (Job 2:8; Jonah 3:6; Matthew 6:16).

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- Luke 10:14-15, *“But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment, than for you.”*
- *“And thou, Capernaum, shalt thou be exalted unto heaven? thou shalt be brought down unto Hades.”*
- *Those who knew Him the best, heard more of His teaching, and saw some of the greatest of His works.*

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- Luke 10:14-15, *“But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment, than for you.”*
- *“And thou, Capernaum, shalt thou be exalted unto heaven? thou shalt be brought down unto Hades.”*
- *His own city.*
- Matthew 11:23-24, *“And thou, Capernaum, shalt thou be exalted unto heaven? thou shalt go down unto Hades: for if the mighty works had been done in Sodom which were done in thee, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.”*