

Preaching of the Kingdom by the Seventy Luke 10:1-24

The Seventy Sent Out

¹ After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. ² Then He said to them, "The harvest truly *is* great, but the laborers *are* few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. ⁴ Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road. ⁵ But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸ Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. ⁹ And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.' ¹² But I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that Day for Sodom than for that city. ¹³ 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴ But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. ¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades. ¹⁶ He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me."

The Seventy Return with Joy

¹⁷ Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." ¹⁸ And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Jesus Rejoices in the Spirit

²¹ In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. ²² All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*." ²³ Then He turned to *His* disciples and said privately, "Blessed *are* the eyes which see the things you see; ²⁴ for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen *it*, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard *it*."

Questions:

1. How and where did the Lord send the seventy? What kind of qualifications do you think the people Jesus sent out had - college degree, preaching experience? What is the advantage of going by twos?
2. Explain the illustration of the laborers and the harvest? What can we learn? How does prayer help in this need?
3. What kind of danger could these workers encounter as they went out? Why wouldn't they need to pack their travel bags with provisions? Why did Jesus not want them to greet people along the way?
4. What should they say when they first enter the house? Why are the disciples sent to both the receptive and the unreceptive? Why are they to say to each "The kingdom of God is near you"?
5. How does the reception of a house or a town to the word of God either bring or withhold God's peace? Is it possible for disciples to be agents of salvation and blessing without also being possible agents of judgment?
6. Why did Jesus say a town that rejected Jesus' disciples would suffer more than Sodom? Why would it be worse for Bethsaida and Capernaum than for Tyre and Sidon? What lesson is taught regarding Jesus' message in vs 16?
7. Why were the 70 rejoicing when they returned? What did Jesus say he saw happen to Satan?
8. What did Jesus tell the disciples to rejoice for the most? vs 20
9. What caused Jesus to be filled with joy in vs. 21? What seemed good in the Father's sight as to how He has chosen to reveal His will? (compare 1 Cor 1:25-30)
10. Why do you think God takes delight in revealing Himself to spiritual babes or novices instead of sophisticated scholars? What do you think God looks for in a person He chooses to reveal Himself to?
11. How are we privileged to see and hear things others have not? Who had not received these teachings we are able to know today? (Heb 1:1-2; 1 Pet 1:10-12)