

MARK 6:7-13 THE SENDING

REVIEW: Unbelief.

INTRO:

- This section begins a turning point in the ministry of our Lord. Prior to this, only He ministered.
- Now He begins to work through the 12 as He commissions them.
- Jesus realizes His day of departure is drawing closer, and sees the 12 are ready to help expand the message of the kingdom.
- The 12 have now according to the promise of Jesus in MK. 1:17, become "fishers of men."
- This is preparation and a test of their faithfulness, a faithfulness from which the doors of heaven shall soon open. Acts. 2
- The preparation of these men chosen by Christ has and will pass through a number of phases.
- They answered their initial calling, then their permanent following where they left everything to follow Jesus. Vocations, homes, family.
- Then here, they are sent out on a short term internship.
- They then will be given the master directive from the risen Christ to take the message to the world making disciples. Mt. 28:18-20
- And finally their full release with the infilling of the Holy Spirit where they will be filled with power from on high and became true witness unto Him.

Read: MK. 6:7-13 & Mt. 9:35-10:1, & Mt. 10:16-25

VS. 7 *And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits—*

- Notice Jesus' first calling is that they should be with Him. (Mk. 3:13, 14)
- One of the principles we see here is that His disciples needed first to learn before they could do, to learn before they taught.
- Then notice Jesus sends out His disciples 2 X 2. No lone rangers.
- The Spirit does the same, Acts, Paul and Barnabas, Paul and Silas, Barnabas and John Mark,
- The 12 will need the support, encouragement, wisdom, balance, discernment, accountability and comfort of each other.
- These 12 were sent-ones; = apostles, (apostelo) Where we get our English word, "apostle."
- That is ambassadors: meaning to have been appointed for sending.
- To order one to go to a place appointed, basically to send forth.
- To them was given; authority; (ex-o-sia) "delegated authority." (Jn. 1:12)
- Jesus gave them, gifted them "authority thus power," It was not naturally resident in them. It was His authority and He empowered them with it.

- Kenneth Wuest says, "They were given the authority to command sickness and demons to leave the individuals in whom they had been operating, and God's power (dumamis) was there to see that the command was obeyed."
- God empowers those He sends with the gifting they need. **(2 Cor. 3:5, 6)**
- They were here called to be His ambassadors even so are we.
 - 2 Cor. 5:20; now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.
- This granting of divine authority and power may be one of the greatest miracles in the N.T.
- An authority unearned or not naturally resident in the person, yet it carried and was backed with all the power of Christ the Granter.
- That Christ can gift someone with His authority, something they do not possess in themselves and yet it is theirs, and demons and sickness recognize it and must obey, for it is Christ's power.
- May we here learn the truth that Jesus gives authority to men and His church. To whom we are to acknowledge and honor.
- It is important to recognize what God has done and given, when we do we honor Him.
 - Children are to honor parents: Ex. 20:12
 - Kings are to be honored: 1 Peter 2:17
 - Bosses are to honored: 1 Tim. 6:1
 - Honor those in power and authority. Rom. 13:1
 - Wives are to honored: 1 Peter 3:7
 - To honor one another in love: Rom. 12:10
 - Elders/Pastors are to be honored; **1 Tim. 5:17** the offices God has placed in the churches. (Deacons)
 - Honor our elders, those blessed with age and wisdom.

VS. 8 & 9 . ⁸ *He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belt,* ⁹ *but to wear sandals, and not to put on two tunics.*

- They were to go forth taking nothing extra with them, sandals, staff, and one tunic/ inner coat.
- They were to travel light and carry with them faith in their Sender.
- Do not take food, money, no collection bag.
- They were forbidden by Jesus not to carry the beggar's bag for their needs or the need of Jesus.
- This was Paul's experience. **Phil. 4:11-13**
- Comparing Mt. 10:8, 9, They were to give freely, without charge or expectation, for they had received freely/unearned and so give the same.
- Later in Lk. 22:35 Jesus confirms the disciples did not lack any need.
 - "When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" They said, "No, nothing."

- How strikingly different than today where we see men and woman calling themselves God's ambassadors while they hoard up for themselves houses, lands, vacation homes, money cars and even jets. They will be accountable.
- They are nothing close to Peter and John when in Acts 3:6 they responded to the lame man, "silver and gold have we do not have, but what we have we give unto you, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."
- The disciples were to rely only on the faithful provision of God.
 - (Mt. 6:31-33)

VS. 10 ¹⁰ *Also He said to them, "In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place.*

- Peace: See Mt. 10:13. Let your peace be upon the house who in sincerity receives you.
- When I enter your house, (room) do I bring peace and do I receive peace? Or is my entrance in criticism or judgment?

VS. 11 ¹¹ *And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them ¹Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!"*

- "will not receive you." = "To take with the hand."
- It was customary for devout Jews to shake the dust off their feet when leaving Gentile territory.
- Notice the seeming degrees of judgment. LK. 12:47 beaten with many..

VS. 12 ¹² *So they went out and preached that people should repent.*

- "To Preach." A public proclamation with all the force to cause the hearers to heed.
- To preach the kingdom of God and repentance. (John Baptist & Jesus)
- They preached that men should repent, that is, they preached in such a way that men were moved to repentance.
- They did not just command men to repent, their preaching inspired and convicted men to repent.
 - (Acts 2:37, men and brethren what shall we do?)
- **Repentance:** to change one's mind about one's life and course of action.
- To change the mind regarding one's previous sinful life, with a God inspired absolute determination to be done with the old life.
- This repentance is a gift from God.
 - Acts 11:18, they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."
 - 2 Tim. 2:25; in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth

- This Holy Spirit given inspiration, this good news, brings faith to realize I do not have to live the destructive empty meaningless life forever; God gives hope and deliverance through repentance and new birth.
- The message they were to proclaim was repentance and the kingdom was at hand.

VS.13 ¹³ *And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.*

- "Anointed with oil." This is either aromatic oil or medicinal oil. (olive oil) and most likely it is the medicinal oil.
- It was the oil used on injuries, (the good Samaritan.)
- This oil was for the body, while the other was for the soul.
- It's doubtful they could have purchased the more expensive oil, as they took no money with them.
- This more expensive oil was to lift up the poor, those who could not afford such a luxury as it was the rich who could afford it.
- It brought dignity and value to the outcast, downtrodden the neglected.

CONCLUSION:

- Jesus gave authority, has He given me/you authority?
- Yes He has within our varied callings. Let us be faithful to walk in it.
- He has given His church authority. Mt. 28:16-20, go into all the world...
- You may not have the gift of healing or miracles, but we are given the authority to walk as the Sons of God.
- To walk in holiness while in the midst of a crooked and evil generation.
- To be His witnesses. Acts 1:8
- To radiate a holy, Christ like life, which has great value and speaks volumes.
- We are to exhibit to a lost and dying world the life and love of Christ.