

The Gospel of Matthew

“Pray to the Lord of the Harvest”

Matthew 9:35-38

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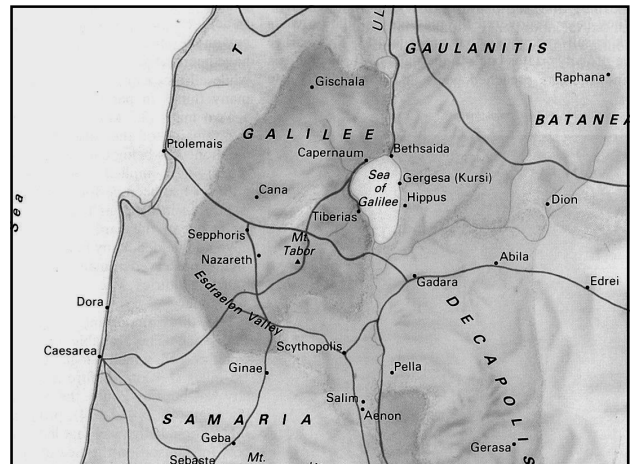
And Jesus was going about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd.

Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

Matthew 9:35-38

Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”



Lord of the Harvest

1. The Condition of the Multitudes

- *like sheep without a shepherd*
 - Jesus sees them as lost, helpless, exploited, despairing and in danger
 - He sees them as ripe for harvest – waiting to hear and receive the gospel of the kingdom

Lord of the Harvest

2. The Response of Jesus

- *He felt compassion*
 - He did not view them with disgust, anger or condemnation
 - His compassion led to action

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3. The Command of Jesus

- *pray for God-sent workers*

Q: Why pray?

- God has ordained prayer as a real cause of real events
- God has willed that the miraculous work of harvesting be preceded by prayer

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3. The Command of Jesus

- *pray for God-sent workers*

Q: Why pray this?

- God is pleased to use workers as His means of "harvesting"
- Only workers sent and endowed by God will be equipped for this work

Lord of the Harvest

Application

1. Believe that the harvest is plentiful
2. View the lost multitudes with compassion
3. Pray to the Lord to send forth workers – even us!

