

Continuing Jesus' Mission (pt 2)

"The Harvest is Plentiful"
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.


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



Harvest is Plentiful

Summary Statement


1. Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom while healing every kind of disease and sickness
2. *New note:* the mission of Jesus will be carried on by many workers



Harvest is Plentiful

1. The Perspective of Jesus


- ❖ *He sees the spiritual condition of the multitudes*
 - *shepherd-less sheep* – He sees them as lost, helpless, exploited, despairing and in danger
 - He sees them as ripe for harvest – ready to hear and receive the gospel of the kingdom



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2. The Response of Jesus

- ❖ *"He felt compassion"*
 - He did not view the multitude with disdain, disgust, anger or annoyance
 - His compassion led to specific, practical 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 accomplishing His purposes
- 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 for 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



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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!