



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Jesus Sends Seventy - 2

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching, forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly preached the Kingdom of God. Jesus is over half way through His 3 year ministry when He sends His select 12 common men to heal and preach. Jesus' impact became known to the common and to the royalty. God has provided a rare glimpse of the kingdom of God through Jesus transfiguration on the mountain to a select three apostles. Jesus now sets his sights toward Jerusalem, makes it very clear the price followers will pay to follow Him and sends seventy out for ministry.

“Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house.’ ‘If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. “Stay in that house, eating and drinking what they give you; for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not keep moving from house to house. “Whatever city you enter and they receive you, eat what is set before you; and heal those in it who are sick, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ “But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your city which clings to our feet we wipe off in protest against you; yet be sure of this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ (Luke 10: 5-11 NASB)

Peace. In chapter 9 Jesus appoints, sends and equips the 12 apostles; and here in chapter 10 Jesus appoints, sends and equips 70 on a somewhat similar journey and tasks. Jesus is preparing His 12 apostles, His 70 missionaries, the communities and the world for His glorious arrival and death, burial and resurrection in Jerusalem some 6 months in the future. Jesus was setting the stage. The apostles and the seventy have found peace in Jesus the Messiah. They are now called upon to look for those that are seeking peace and to stay with them. However, they were instructed to leave if the master of the house is not seeking peace. They would leave in peace that eludes the master of the house.

Provision. Similar to the mission direction that Jesus gave the 12 apostles, He told them not to take anything with them; no money, no extra clothes, nothing additional of any sort. Jesus wanted them to rely solely on God and His providence. That providence rested with those that took in the seventy while feeding and provided for them. Jesus told the disciples to eat what they were provided and given by their host. While some of the provision may not have been ceremonially clean and appropriate for a traditional Jew to consume, the implication was that the task and mission was so urgent so as to not care about ceremonial duties and regulations.

Preaching and Proclaiming. The seventy were to heal the sick and preach that the kingdom of God has come near; acting through them as an agent of Jesus the Messiah. Jesus understood that while many sought peace and comfort and found it in Him; many also would reject and fight His message of hope and salvation. Jesus shared that the seventy would find the same rejection at times. Jesus shares what they needed to do.

Pronouncement. If rejected, the seventy disciples were told to shake the dust from their feet (an insult to those in the culture) and move on to other people. Additionally, they were to share with the rebellious people that they rejected the kingdom of God that had come near.

For Your Consideration:

- Do you have the peace that can only be found in Jesus the Messiah? Are you willing to share it with others?
- Do you rely upon God to provide all that you need?
- Have you been or are you prepared to be rejected by others because of Jesus; what He taught; and who He is?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44