

THE TRUE GOSPEL
100 SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD

By Marie Casale
Copyright © 2010

14 .

THE 12 APOSTLES PREACHED THE KINGDOM

Mat 10:1 And when he had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Mat 10:2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James [the son] of Zebedee, and John his brother;

Mat 10:3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

Mat 10:4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

Mat 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into [any] city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

Mat 10:6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Mat 10:7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The **KINGDOM OF HEAVEN** is at hand.

Mat 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Mat 10:9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses,

Mat 10:10 Nor scrip for [your] journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.

Mat 10:11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.

Mat 10:12 And when ye come into an house, salute it.

Mat 10:13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.

Mat 10:14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

Mat 10:15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Mat 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Mat 10:17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

Mat 10:18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

Mat 10:19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

Mat 10:20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

Mat 10:21 And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against [their] parents, and cause them to be put to death.

Mat 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Mat 10:23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

Mat 10:24 The disciple is not above [his] master, nor the servant above his lord.

Mat 10:25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more [shall they call] them of his household?

Mat 10:26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

Mat 10:27 What I tell you in darkness, [that] speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, [that] preach ye upon the housetops.

Mat 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Mat 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

Mat 10:30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Mat 10:31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Mat 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 10:33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 10:34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

Mat 10:35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

Mat 10:36 And a man's foes [shall be] they of his own household.

Mat 10:37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Mat 10:38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

Mat 10:39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Mat 10:40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

Mat 10:41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

Mat 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold [water] only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Mat 11:1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.

*

Mar 6:7 And he called [unto him] the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;

Mar 6:8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for [their] journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in [their] purse:

Mar 6:9 But [be] shod with sandals; and not put on two coats.

Mar 6:10 And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place.

Mar 6:11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Mar 6:12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

Mar 6:13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed [them].

*

Luk 9:1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

Luk 9:2 And he sent them to preach the **KINGDOM OF GOD**, and to heal the sick.

Luk 9:3 And he said unto them, Take nothing for [your] journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.

Luk 9:4 And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.

Luk 9:5 And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.

Luk 9:6 And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

Note: John the Baptist was the first to preach the Kingdom of Heaven (See note # 1). Jesus Christ also preached the same message (See note # 2). Here Jesus sent his twelve Apostles two by two to preach the Kingdom of Heaven. (Mat 10:5,7, Mar 6:7, Luk 9:2,6) as well as a message of repentance (Mar 6:12). He first gave them power to heal diseases and cast out demons. (Mat 10:1,8, Mar 6:7,13, Luk 9:1-2,6) This agrees with note # 4 where God promised that healing would accompany the preaching of the true Gospel of the Kingdom. (Mar 16:15-20)

Then Jesus gave them lengthy instructions for their journey to preach the Gospel. (Mat 10:5-42) Here are 14 instructions that Jesus gave them whom he sent.

1.

- Don't go to the Gentiles or enter any Samaritan city. (Mat 10:5)

- Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (Mat 10:6)

This commandment was later replaced with the commission to go into 'all the world'.

* Mar 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.

2.

- Don't provide gold, silver or brass in your purses (Mat 10:9, Mar 6:8)

- Don't carry a scrip (a wallet or leathern sack, in which travelers and shepherds carried provisions) (Mat 10:10, Mar 6:8, Luk 9:3)

- Don't take two coats, shoes or staves, for you are a workman who is worthy of his meat. (Mat 10:10, Mar 6:9, Luk 9:3)

- When you enter a town, inquire who in it is worthy and stay there till you leave. (Mat 10:11, Mar 6:10, Luk 9:4)

By these instructions it is obvious that the Lord did not want the Apostles to provide for themselves on their journeys to do his work, but to be supported by believers as workmen worthy of their meat.

3.

- When ye come into a house, salute (Greet, 'aspazomai' meaning to greet, bid welcome, wish well to, to receive joyfully) If the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. (Mat 10:12-13)

The Apostles were to enter peoples' houses in a spirit of goodwill. Jesus seems to enable the Apostles to bestow a special blessing of peace on worthy houses.

4.

- Whosoever shall not receive you or hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. (Mat 10:14, Mar 6:11, Luk 9:5)

Does the Lord expect those whom he sends to preach the Gospel to follow this instruction today? Years after the original Apostles were sent to preach, Paul and Barnabas obeyed this instructions when they were sent on a preaching mission to Antioch in Pisidia. There the Jews expelled them from their coasts. So Paul and Barnabas shook the dust off their feet against them as the Lord had instructed the original Apostles to do.

* Act 13:50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

Act 13:51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.

Act 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

4A

- And it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city. (Mat 10:14-15, Mar 6:11)

After Jesus had told the Apostles to shake off the dust from houses or cities where his message was rejected, he then said that in the Day of Judgment it would be intolerable for them. What did he mean by this?

Here are other scriptures that explain.

* Mat 11:20 Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:

Mat 11:21 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

Mat 11:22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

Mat 11:23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

Mat 11:24 But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

Here it is clear that Jesus expected the cities where he visited to repent when they saw his mighty deeds of healing, casting out of devils and preaching of the Gospel just as ancient Nineveh repented when Jonas preached to them. If they did not repent or receive the Gospel, there is coming a 'Day of Judgment' that would be less than tolerable for them.

* Mat 12:41 The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas [is] here.

Mat 12:42 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon [is] here.

In these scriptures it is explained that the Day of Judgment is a future time when people who lived in different times, the generation of Jonas vs the generation of Jesus and the generation of Solomon vs the generation of Jesus, would rise from the dead together. And at that time the one generation would 'condemn' (Greek katakrino meaning to judge worthy of punishment) the other generation because they did not repent when in their former lives they had the chance to see and hear Jesus in person.

* 1Cor 11:31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

1Cor 11:32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

The previous scriptures show that the Day of Judgment is a future resurrection when generations of people shall be raised from the dead and given a period of time during which the Lord will judge them as to whether they will be worthy of eternal life. During this time they shall be 'chastened' according as the Lord judges them if they did not appropriately judge and correct themselves when they had opportunity. This chastening may be less than tolerable.

5.

- Because you will be as sheep in the midst of wolves: be therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (Mat 10:16)

Here Jesus told his Apostles that they would be as sheep among wolves. Wolves are false preachers of God's word whose intention is to devour people for gain, not to lead them to eternal life. Therefore, Jesus instructed his true teachers to conduct themselves opposite to wolves, as wise and harmless.

False teachers shall look like sheep outwardly, but inwardly they are wolves. They shall be discerned by their fruits, that is how they act and what they teach. The word 'ravens' is the Greek '-harpax' which means rapacious or aggressively greedy. The same word is used in several other places for 'extortioner' which means to obtain something (money, property) through force, by infliction of pain, suffering or something unpleasant.

* Mat 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravens wolves.

Mat 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

The Apostle Paul warned that wolves would enter the flock of God after his departure speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after them.

* Act 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Act 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

Act 20:30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Moreover, the hirelings who watch over the flocks only for their wages and not because they really care for the flock, would flee when they see wolves coming and would protect themselves rather than protect the flock.

* Jhn 10:12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

6.

- Beware of men for they will deliver you up to councils, scourge you in synagogues. You shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake. (Mat 10:17-18).

- When they deliver you up, take no thought of how or what ye shall speak. The spirit of God shall speak in you. (Mat 10:19-20)

Jesus knew that he was training his ministers in a dangerous profession. To preach the true Gospel in a world filled with deception and sin would require that they must be ever watchful for enemies. Being brought before kings and governors did not occur during this first time that the 12 Apostles were sent out to preach. Here is an example of the Apostle Paul before King Agrippa.

* Act 26:2 I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews:

This warning is also given to those who would preach the Gospel in the end time just before the second coming of Jesus

* Mar 13:9 But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.

Mar 13:10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations.

* Luk 21:10 Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:

Luk 21:11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

Luk 21:12 But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute [you], delivering [you] up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.

Luk 21:13 And it shall turn to you for a testimony.

Luk 21:14 Settle [it] therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:

Luk 21:15 For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

7.

-Family members shall betray one another to death and you shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. So when they persecute you in one city, flee to another. (Mat 10:21-23)

-If they have called me Beelzebub, how much more will they do to those of my household. Fear them not. (Mat 10:24-26)

Jesus warned that his true disciples would be accused of being Satan's ministers just as he was. And they would be betrayed to death just as he was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, a spiritual family member. So they should be careful of friends, family members, even spiritual brethren and be prepared to flee. This is also stated in context of the end time.

* Luk 21:16 And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and [some] of you shall they cause to be put to death.

Luk 21:17 And ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake.

8.

-What Jesus teaches you in private, speak in the open and in public. (Mat 10:27)

Many Christians today believe that it is best to keep quiet about the teachings of Jesus and to just show good example. Here Jesus commanded his disciples to speak out and teach his words openly, not to hide them in darkness. It takes great courage and spiritual strength to keep this commandment because many things that Jesus taught his disciples would surely invite persecution if they dared to speak out.

9.

- Don't be afraid of those who are able to kill the body, but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear him who is able to kill both soul and body in hell. Consider the example of sparrows which are sold two for a farthing. Even these tiny creatures do not die without God's permission. And you are more valuable than many sparrows. God knows even the number of the hairs on your head. (Mat 10:28-31)

Here Jesus instructed his disciples that your soul is something that can be killed just as your body can be killed, but your body can be killed without your permission, whereas your soul cannot be killed unless you give permission. Therefore in this context the soul means the seat of the emotions, desires and will. For example, men can kill your body, but they cannot kill your desire and will to love God unless you allow it. If you do allow it and turn away from God, both your body and your soul (seat of emotions, desires, will) can be destroyed in Hell. 'Hell' is the Greek 'geenna' which was a valley outside Jerusalem where bodies of criminals were dumped and burned up. This was used as the symbol of the future death of the wicked. The example of the sparrows shows that like sparrows, you cannot die without God's permission. So if he allows your death, don't be afraid, but put your life in his hands, for he knows you to the depths of your being and has even numbered the hairs of your head.

10.

-Whoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess before my Father in heaven. But whoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father in heaven. (Mat 10:32-33)

In the context of sending his disciples out to preach the Kingdom of God, Jesus knew that they would not always be able to do their job in peaceful conditions. There would be times when it would be perilous to preach his message and to believe in him. As we see in these scriptures, many people believed on Jesus, but were afraid to confess him lest they should suffer persecution for their belief. Here Jesus was warning all who preached his message and believed in him that their belief must be courageous and strong enough to overcome fear

* Jhn 9:22 These [words] spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.

Jhn 9:23 Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him.

* Jhn 12:42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess [him], lest they should be put out of the synagogue:

Jhn 12:43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

11.

-Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. A man's foes [shall be] they of his own household. (Mat 10:34-36)

Jesus wanted his Apostles and believers to understand that his message would not bring peace in the world, but would cause divisions even among family members.

12.

-He that loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me. He that loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. (Mat 10:37-38)

Apostles and believers must believe in and love the Lord more than family members who would leave or persecute them if they believe. They must also follow the Lord in spite of suffering personal crosses and afflictions.

13.

-He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. (Mat 10:39)

Apostles and believers must believe in the Lord and love him more than their own life.

14.

- Mat 10:40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

- Mat 10:41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

- Mat 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold [water] only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward. Jesus ended the instructions to his Apostles (Greek apostolos meaning a delegate, messenger, one sent forth with orders) by saying that whoever would receive them as they went forth with the Gospel, is also receiving him and God the Father. The Lord promised here that believers would be rewarded if they received the Apostles whether as prophets or as righteous men. And even if they received them as simply disciples of Jesus, being kind to provide them with a cup of cold water because they are his disciples, God would reward them.