



Title: The Mission of the King (part 1) – The Lord’s Authority and Apostles

Text: Matt. 10:1-4

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. 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; 3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

Introduction:

1. The Lord Jesus delegated authority to His twelve disciples.
2. The Lord Jesus sends His twelve apostles with power to do miracles.

I. The Lord’s Authority

- A. The Lord “called” them – not to discipleship as in Matt. 4:18-22; 9:9 but as Apostles.
- B. These 12 apostles operated as pastors (1 Cor. 12:28) – to help oversee His assemblies of baptized disciples.
- C. The Lord would call them to Himself many other times: Matt. 15:32; 20:25.
- D. The Lord expected obedience from His apostles.
- E. The Lord delegated authority to His apostles – v.1, v.7-8 which He Himself had (Matt. 4:23, 24; 9:35). This indicates the greatness of the person of Christ.

II. The Lord’s Apostles (vv.2-4)

- A. The first, Simon, Peter
- B. Andrew his brother
- C. James the son of Zebedee
- D. John his brother (son of Zebedee, also)
- E. Philip (of Bethsaida, Jn. 1:44; 6:5-9; 12:20-22; 14:8)
- F. Bartholomew [Nathanel] (cf. Jn. 1:45)
- G. Thomas (Jn. 11:16; 14:5; 20:25, 28)
- H. Matthew the publican
- I. James the son of Alphaeus
- J. Lebbaeus (Thaddaeus) [Judas – the brother of James, Acts 1:13]
- K. Simon the Canaanite [Zelotes, Lk. 6:15; Acts 1:13]
- L. Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

Conclusion:

1. A sign of true authority is the ability to delegate authority.
2. Apostles means “sent ones” – there were more apostles in the N.T. besides the twelve – but only the 12 were the Apostles in the first commissioning of the Lord.
 - 2.1. They had to have received John’s baptism.
 - 2.2. They had to have served with the Lord Jesus Christ from the start.
 - 2.3. They had to have been called particularly and appointed by Christ.
 - 2.4. They had to have been witnesses of His resurrection.
3. “He gave them power” (*exousia*) – authority. The apostles had authority over the spiritual realm and the physical realm BUT not the realm of salvation – Only God does the saving.