

THE AUTHORITY OF THE APOSTLES: MAT 9:36-10:42

We know that we need to listen to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, but how much authority do the Apostles have? How much do we need to listen to them? These passages will tell us that their teaching will come from the Holy Spirit, thus accepting them is accepting Jesus, and denying them is denying Jesus.

- **Mat 9:36-38:** Jesus is around multitudes. He sees them and realizes how lost they are. He has compassion, and wants to teach them how to live, worship, love, and be saved. Right after that He pulls His disciples to Him and tells them that there is much work to do, but few workers. They are going to be workers for His harvest.
- **Mat 10:1-8:** Jesus calls twelve of His disciples to Him. He gives these elect the ability to cast out demons, and heal people. Then He selects these 12 to be His Apostles. He commands them to teach to the lost house of Israel. He wants to teach to the Jews first. God made all His promises to Abraham's descendants, so He wants to teach them first. Being knowledgeable of all the Old Testament happenings, He hopes that they will realize that He is the Messiah. We will see that in Acts, the Gentiles and Samaritans hear the gospel. He wants His Apostles to preach and heal people.
- **9-10:** He doesn't want them to pack anything for their preaching tour. He wants them to rely on God, and those that they teach to.
- **11-15:** He wants them to seek worthy people (believers). If they meet a house that is interested, He wants them to teach and fellowship. If there are only unbelievers, He says move on. Their judgment is coming.
- **16-25:** This part refers to when they will be teaching after Jesus leaves them. These things happen after Jesus ascends into heaven, and they preach the Gospel then. The point is people will not like their message. People will turn them over to prisons, and courts because of their message. An unbelieving brother will turn against his believing brother. If they hated Jesus (the master of the house) they will hate the Apostles (the members of the house).
- **26-31:** Jesus tells them not to fear because He and His father love them. The things Jesus spoke to them in secret, they will proclaim from rooftops. He tells them not to fear people who can only destroy the body. Fear God who can destroy the soul (so to speak).
- **32-33:** If we confess Jesus on earth, Jesus will confess us to God in heaven. If we deny Him...well. You know.
- **34-36:** Jesus' teaching is going to cause trouble. He didn't come here to please men. He came with a purpose, and He is going to fulfill that purpose even though it will cause people to betray each other.
- **37-39:** We must love Jesus more than anyone ever!
- **40-42:** If we receive the Apostles teaching, we receive Jesus. The Apostles have been given authority by Jesus Christ. They are given miraculous abilities to perform miracles and teach Jesus' word. They are the authority as much as Jesus, because He sent them to do His work. We must believe the Bible. It is the only authority.