

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1924

JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 28: THE COMPASSION OF JESUS

THE TWO BLIND MEN

Matthew is the only gospel that records the story of the two blind men. Jesus had just resurrected the daughter of Jairus after a grueling day of healing people and teaching them. Jesus was tired but His compassion was evident when two blind men approached Him after leaving the house of Jairus. **Matthew 9:27**

It is interesting that Jesus did not choose to heal them at once; instead, they followed him to the next destination crying out for mercy. More than likely Jesus looked at the two men and asked if they had faith to be healed. **verse 28**

Jesus touched the eyes of the blind men and told them that they would receive a healing touch proportional to their faith. In other words, it was entirely up to them how much they were healed. **verse 29**

They both received sight immediately and the God-man told them not to talk about their miracle because pressure was mounting from the Jewish leadership. **verse 30**

The Bible does not reveal how long these men had been blind, but we can assume that they were overjoyed to receive sight and told everyone about it. **verse 31**

THE MAN THAT COULD NOT SPEAK

No sooner had the blind men made their way out of the house then another group arrived. They brought a mute who was unable to speak due to demon possession. **verse 32**

Matthew does not reveal how the devil was cast out, just that Jesus cast out the devil, and the man immediately began to talk. The former mute was praising God as he left the house, and a crowd that had gathered outside, having also seen the two blind men healed, were astonished at these miracles. **verse 33**

While the crowd was praising God and lifting up the name of Jesus, the ungodly Jewish leadership who witnessed the same miracles ground their teeth in hate and anger and told the multitude that these “supposed miracles” were actually done through the power of the Devil. **verse 34**

EVANGELIZING

Jesus walked for three years among every village and city in Galilee to preach the good news about salvation in the Messiah. We don't know how long Jesus stayed in each place, but He certainly wanted to make sure that no place was overlooked.

As Jesus saw the thousands who listened to Him, the God-man felt great compassion for the masses because there was no shepherd to care for the people even though there were priests and synagogues everywhere. **verses 35-36**



SHORTAGE OF LABORERS

There were a large number of synagogues in the province of Galilee and plenty of priests, scribes and Pharisees. But none of them offered a message of redemption; they only taught from the Talmud and Kabbalah. They offered nothing in the way of eternal life; all they had to offer was a dead-end religion.

Jesus urged His disciples to pray that God would send laborers to handle this abundant harvest. **verses 37-38**

THE CALLING OF THE APOSTLES

None of the writers in the New Testament provide a timeline for this event. The Jewish followers of Jesus did not give a lot of thought about the kind of structure Jesus would create. Most of them probably thought that Jesus would revamp the synagogue system since He always entered there to teach.

But Jesus had different plans; He was going to abandon the synagogue system and replace it with independent churches led by the Holy Spirit. The God-man intended to set up a five-fold ministry of bishops, pastors, evangelists, deacons, and teachers for the perfecting of the saints. **Ephesians 4:11-12**

Most likely this event took place a year or so into Jesus' ministry. The twelve men chosen by Jesus followed Him everywhere, but now the Son of God was ordaining them for the office of an apostle. Even though Judas Iscariot would betray Jesus, he was still ordained as an apostle and given the power to cast out demons and heal the sick.

Matthew 10:1-4

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?