

Study #6 - Matthew 10.1-15

Q1 - What does it say?

"Apostles" – this is the only time this noun appears in Matthew's gospel. In Greek, *apostoloi* are literally "sent ones."

Q2 - What does it mean?

Immediate context:

What did Jesus command the disciples to pray for immediately before this passage?
What verbs characterize the apostles' mission? (esp. vv.7-8)

In Matthew:

- Matt 10.1 "authority...to heal every disease and every affliction"; compare this with Matt 4.23 and 9.35. Why is Matthew using repetition?
- Matt 10.6 "the lost sheep of the house of Israel" were just referred to in ch.9, and are also mentioned in Matt 15.24. What is the context there?
- Matt 10.7 "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Who else has said this in the gospel of Matthew (Matt 3.12, 4.17)?
- Matt 10.9 "Acquire no gold..." Why don't the disciples need to be concerned about material needs on their mission? (cf. Matt 6.25-34, 8.20)
- Matt 10.13 "If the house is worthy..." In what way do the disciples exercise judgement? (cf. Matt 7.1-6)

Elsewhere in scripture:

- The list of twelve: Mark 3.16-19; Luke 6.14-16; Acts 1.13; why does Jesus call and send exactly twelve disciples?
- Travelling light (or not): Luke 22.35-36.
- Matt 10.13 "...let your peace come upon it." Read Isaiah 52.7-12

Q3 - What has been revealed about Jesus through this passage?

How is it possible that Jesus has the authority to give authority?

What is the focus of Jesus' mission while on earth, and why? Is this the ultimate focus?

What is the origin and purpose of the disciples' mission?

Q4 - How will I respond? What will I pray?