

Study #7 - Matthew 10.16-33

Q1 - What does it say?

"Beelzebul" – the precise origin and meaning of this term is unclear, but it clearly refers to Satan, who was already mentioned in Matt 9.34 by the Pharisees.

- How many commands does Jesus give in this passage? Are there any repetitions?

Q2 - What does it mean?

Immediate context:

- Matt 10.16 "Behold, I am sending you out"; who is Jesus specifically sending out?
- Matt 10.23 "before the Son of Man comes." Who is Jesus referring to?

In Matthew:

- Matt 10.17 "They will...flog you in their synagogues." Compare this prophecy with Matt 23.34-36.
- Matt 10.18 "To bear witness before them." Compare this with Matt 24.24.
- Matt 10.19, 31 "Do not be anxious...You are of more value than many sparrows." Jesus already spoke on this theme in a much gentler way back in Matt 6.25-34. How has the image changed?
- Matt 10.27 "Proclaim on the housetops!" Jesus has already told the disciples that they are light: Matt 5.14-16.
- Read Matthew 24 for a fuller description of the coming of the Son of Man.

Elsewhere in scripture:

- Matt 10.23 "...before the Son of Man comes." Read Daniel 7.13-14. What is the coming of the Son of Man?
- Matt 10.28 "Fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell." Read Lev 25.35-38, Deut 5.28-33, or Psalm 111 for examples of a healthy and biblical fear.

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

- Why do you think Jesus reminds the disciples that they need only be like him (vv.24-25)?
- What promises does Jesus give?
- How does Jesus close this passage in vv.32-33?

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