### Matthew

## Chapter 10

1Well after that, he called twelve of his disciples to him and he gave them the power to dominate and throw out unclean spirits and to cure every sort of disease and infirmity.  
  
2These are the names of those twelve Apostles:  
  
First there was Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew.  
  
And there was James (son of ZebediOu) and his brother John.  
  
3There was also:  
  
 • Philip,  
 • BarTholomew ([NathaniEl]),  
 • Thomas,  
 • Matthew (the tax collector),  
 • James (son of Alpheus),  
 • ThadDeus ([Judas]),  
 • 4Simon (the CanaNaean), and  
 • Judas IsCariot (who [later] betrayed him).  
  
  
5Jesus thereafter sent these twelve out, giving them the orders:  
  
 ‘Don’t go to the gentiles or to any of the Samaritan cities… 6Just go to the lost sheep of the house of IsraEl.  
  
 7‘[You should each] go your own way; and as you go, you should proclaim that the Kingdom of [God] has drawn near.  
  
 8‘Cure sick people, raise the dead, [spurious] make lepers clean, and throw out demons… You received it freely, so give it freely!  
  
 9‘You won’t have to carry along any gold, silver, or copper [coins] in your waist sashes 10or a food pouch for the trip; nor should you carry two pairs of underwear, or extra sandals, or walking sticks, because the worker has earned his provisions.  
  
 11‘Then, whenever you enter a city or village, you should search for those who are deserving and stay with them until you must travel on. 12And when you enter any house, offer the household a greeting of peace… 13And if the house is worthy, let peace come into it. But if it isn’t worthy, let the peace return to you.  
  
 14‘Wherever the people don’t take you in and listen to your words; when you leave that house or that city, just shake the dust off your feet. 15For I tell you the truth: On the Judgment Day, it will be more bearable for the lands of Sodom and GomorRah than for that city!  
  
 16‘Look! I’m sending you out as sheep among wolves. So, prove yourselves to be as cautious as snakes while remaining as innocent as doves.  
  
 17‘Now, be careful, because men will carry you before religious courts and they’ll whip you in their synagogues. 18Yes, you’ll be taken before governors and kings for my sake as a witness to them and to the gentiles. 19But when they bring you up [for trial], don’t worry about what you should say or how you should say it, because right then, you’ll be given what you have to say... 20You won’t be the one doing the talking, the Breath of your Father will be speaking through you.  
  
 21‘For, brothers will hand their own brothers over for death, and fathers will do the same to their children.  
  
 ‘Yes, even children will rise against their own parents and hand them over for death.  
  
 ‘22Everyone will hate you because of my name… But those who endure to the end will be saved.  
  
 23‘So when they chase you out of one city, just run to another. For I tell you the truth: You may not get to all of IsraEl’s cities before the Son of Man arrives.  
  
 24‘Understand that a disciple can’t be greater than his teacher and a slave can’t be greater than his master. 25However, a disciple may become like his teacher and a slave may become like his master.  
  
 ‘But if they’re calling the master BeElZebub, then how much more [will they say this] of those in his home?  
  
 26‘So [expect this] to happen to you, and don’t be afraid!  
  
 ‘For there’s nothing that’s covered which won’t be shown  
 And there are no secrets that won’t be known.  
 27What I say in darkness, you must say in the light;  
 And whatever is whispered to you in your ear  
 Must be proclaimed from the rooftops!  
  
 28‘Don’t fear those who can kill the body,  
 But can’t kill the person within.  
 Rather, fear the One who can fully destroy  
 The person and his body in the garbage.  
  
 29‘Don’t two sparrows cost very little?  
 Yet whenever one falls to the ground,  
 Your Father’s aware of what happened…  
 30For He’s even counted the hairs on your head!  
 31So you have no reason to fear;  
 For, more than many sparrows, is your value to Him!  
  
 32‘If you’ll admit that you’re with me to others,  
 I’ll also admit that I’m with you  
 Before my Father in the heavens.  
  
 33‘But if you deny that you know me to men,  
 I’ll also deny knowing you  
 Before my Father in the heavens.  
  
 34‘Don’t think that I came to bring peace to the earth;  
 For I’m not bringing peace… Just the sword!  
 35I came to divide fathers from sons,  
 As well as daughters from mothers  
 And brides from their mothers-in-law.  
  
 36‘Your enemies will be those in your own homes;  
 37But those who care less for me  
 Than for their fathers or mothers,  
 [Will never] be worthy of me.  
  
 ‘And the one who cares less for me  
 Than for his sons or his daughters,  
 Isn’t worthy of me.  
  
 38‘Those who won’t lift their own torture poles  
 And follow behind me, aren’t worthy.  
  
 39‘For those who seek first their own lives  
 Are really the ones who’ll lose them;  
 But they’ll find them, if they lose their lives for my sake.  
  
 40‘Those who invite you into [their homes]  
 Are also inviting me in.  
 And those who are inviting me in,  
 Are inviting the One by whom I was sent.  
  
 41‘Those who welcome a Prophet because he’s a Prophet,  
 Will receive a Prophet’s reward.  
 And those who welcome the righteous because they’re righteous,  
 Will receive the reward of the righteous.  
  
 42‘For whoever gives one of these least ones  
 So much as a cold cup of water  
 Because he’s my disciple…  
 I swear that he won’t lose his reward.’