

MATTHEW 10:39-11:6

Review - We have learned:

Matthew 10:35-38 - For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. Matt. 10:36 And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household. Matt. 10:37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Matt. 10:38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

*To His disciples Jesus said, "Do not allow your own family to stop you from your commitment, your oath, belief and this kingdom gospel. I am separating you believers from non-believers. They won't like it, but don't allow that to stop you from following Me. Make Me proud!"

A. Matthew 10:39 - He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

1. Jesus says, "Remember, you are doing this for My sake, because you love Me. I won't forget your sacrifice and you will be rewarded with true life that can only be found in Me."
2. If they would cut and run or not endure, then they wouldn't be worthy of the kingdom that they were proclaiming. They would lose the blessings that God had awaiting them and even, perhaps, not make it into the kingdom (not the true 12).

I John 2:19 - They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

B.

Matthew 10:40-42 - He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. Matt. 10:41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. Matt. 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

1. As they go proclaiming the kingdom message (Messiah-at hand), they would be identified as representing the Lord Jesus Christ. When one would receive them, it was just as if receiving Christ Him-self.
2. These disciples (especially the 12) will be powerful "spiritual" men according to the prophetic program.

John 14:16-17 - And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; John 14:17 *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

**The Spirit was with them, but He would be in them beginning in Acts 2.

Acts 1:8 - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 2:4 - And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

3. Remember as we look back in time, early Acts 2-7 was a foretaste - an identification of the promised New Covenant which would make Jewish believers (after the cross) in Christ and He, by way of the Spirit, in them.

- a. Christ's statement - Matthew 26:28-29 - [For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Matt. 26:29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.]

Hebrews 9:16-17 - For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. Heb. 9:17 For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

*Israel needed to believe Jesus was the Christ-Messiah, then the Tribulation, then the kingdom. Acts 2 was a foretaste of what the New Covenant will be like according to Israel's prophetic program as they go into the kingdom.

- b. Remember:

Jeremiah 31:31, 33-34 - Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Jer. 31:33 But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. Jer. 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Ezekiel 36:24-28 - For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Eze. 36:25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. Eze. 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. Eze. 36:27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. Eze. 36:28 And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

- c. In early Acts, they had an indwelling of the Holy Spirit that identified them with being in Christ.

*That's why when we see Saul of Tarsus persecuting the kingdom church, he was persecuting Christ Himself. He was in them and they in Him, according to the prophetic program - not the Body of Christ, which was still a mystery.

4. When Paul says there were some [in Christ before me], they were in Christ according to the Prophetic Program - household of Israel.

Romans 16:7 - Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

5. Today we are in Christ, but not according to Israel's prophetic program. We are in Christ according to the Dispensation-Gospel of Grace program. We do not believe in the kingdom message to be saved today. We are in Christ by faith alone in the gospel (Rom. 4:5, 26; I Cor. 15:1-4).

So note: We the Body and Israel are both in Christ. Yet, we are still separate - with Israel being about dominion of and reigning on earth, while we the Body reign with Christ in the heavenlies.

****Then one future day after the Millennium: Ephesians 1:10 - [That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:]**

C.

Matthew 11:1 - And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.

1. The apostles and disciples had returned and told Jesus all that had taken place in their ministry in "their cities". For those who had believed their message and became part of the remnant, Jesus follows up to help in teaching them.
2. Also, for those who had not believed, especially the religious leaders, Jesus would pronounce the consequences of that - judgment!

*At this time, it was not the disciples' responsibility to do that (10:14-15).

D.

Matthew 11:2-3 - Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, Matt. 11:3 And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?

1. Here we see John's confusion due to the delay of judgment and the kingdom of heaven. John was still alive and in prison when he heard of the works of Christ in Galilee. Remember that John had prophesied judgment if the nation refused to repent, be baptized, and show true fruit. The rulers of Israel, Judah-Jerusalem-Temple, had totally rejected John the Baptist's message. By doing so, they had rejected the Messiah. Upon John's understanding of O.T. Scripture, judgment should have followed - then the kingdom.
2. Here we find John in prison 100 miles to the South of Galilee, as he is reflecting on scriptures in light of what Jesus was doing in Galilee. To him, Jesus' retreat into Galilee meant He had been rejected, yet Jesus' miracles had intensified. This perplexed John because he expected immediate judgment.
3. Perhaps the answer was that John only saw one advent - coming of the Lord. John put suffering (judgment) and glory (kingdom) together. He had a good reason for this.

Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are bound*; Isa. 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

- a. The Spirit of the Lord was upon Jesus, but **where** was the vengeance? Christ quoted this passage in a synagogue one Sabbath.

Luke 4:16-20 - And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. Luke 4:17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, Luke 4:19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. Luke 4:20 And he closed the book, and he gave *it* again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

- b. Jesus did not quote the **entire** passage. He left out [the day of vengeance] of 61:2. Jesus quoted up to the point where the passage had **been** fulfilled. John naturally expected them to be joined-happening in the same time frame.

*But by what Jesus did, it implies **two** parts of His appearing early in His Galilean ministry.

- c. The kingdom was not going to immediately appear. The rejection of Christ would lead to the **post**ponement of the kingdom. This then would lead to a second coming of the Lord, of which John had no understanding or knowledge.

*Judgment and glory, even after calling a remnant from the nation, would **also** be postponed again when Israel rejects the apostles' kingdom offer in Acts 2-7.

- d. There was no way John the Baptist understood this postponement with the **in**formation he had. Jesus would not explain this to His disciples until He gradually did beginning in Matthew **13**, when He began speaking to the religious leaders in **parables**.
- e. John had enough information to recognize Jesus was the Messiah. He knew the miraculous works would be done by Christ as signs of the coming kingdom (Isaiah 35 and 65). However, Israel's rejection of Jesus and then **no** judgment caused him to **question** what he thought about Jesus, or at least the timing of what was happening!

E.

1. *What words of comfort Jesus told the disciples of John to tell him. All the signs and miracles that

Matthew 11:4-6 - Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: Matt. 11:5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. Matt. 11:6 And blessed is *he*, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

Jesus performed were in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. "It's **true** John. I'm the Messiah. You were My forerunner, so take heart as you contemplate it all. Stay **strong**."

2. Jesus says, "John, you are the voice of one crying in the wilderness and you are the one who has declared My **arrival**."

Note: Isaiah 40:3 - [The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.]

*This verse tells of the coming of the Lord's messenger, John the Baptist.

- a. Timeline: The Baptist  , the 12 to offer the Messiah-Kingdom, Israel to believe,
7 yrs. Tribulation, ↓ then Christ's return.
- b. Malachi 4:5 - Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

*This verse tells us that Elijah is to appear in the Tribulation before Messiah returns to earth.