

Bible Study

Date: 15 January 2010

Passage: Luke 9: 1 - 27

- Headings:**
1. Sending out the Twelve Disciples 1 - 6.
 2. Herod's Perplexity 7 - 9.
 3. Feeding the Five Thousand 10 - 17.
 4. Peter Declares his belief in Jesus 18 - 21.
 5. The Cost of Following Jesus 22 - 27.

Exposition:

1. Sending out the Twelve Disciples 1 - 6.

V1 - 2. Jesus called His twelve disciples to Him and gave to them miraculous power and authority over all demons to cast them out of those who were possessed. He sent them out to preach gospel message of the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick of every kind of disease.

V3. He gave them specific instructions to travel with the least amount of luggage and provision that they could. In fact they were to go only with the clothes they were dressed in. They were to take no walking stick, no travellers bag, food, money or a change of clothes.

V4. Whatever house they lodged in they were to stay there until they were ready to leave the city.

V5. Whoever refuses to take them into their home or rejects the message that they bring (see Matthew 10:14) when they leave that city they are to shake the dust off their feet as a witness against those who had despised and rejected the gospel message and leave them to their fate (Acts 13:51).

V6. So they departed from Jesus and went into all the towns preaching the gospel and healing the sick.

2. Herod's Perplexity 7 - 9.

V7. King Herod the tetrarch of Galilee (that is one of four rulers that governed different parts of Israel) when he heard about all the miracles that Jesus was doing was greatly perplexed, confused because it was rumoured that John the Baptist had come back to life.

V8. Others said that Jesus was Elijah or some other Old Testament prophet who had come back.

V9. Herod's perplexity was that he knew that he had John beheaded and that he saw his head brought to him on a plate. So who was this man that he had heard so much about and was doing these miraculous things ? He wanted to see Jesus for himself to satisfy his curiosity.

3. Feeding the Five Thousand 10 - 17.

V10. When the twelve disciples returned from the evangelistic tour they reported to Jesus how successful they had been. The healings, the demons they had cast out and the response to the gospel message. After this he took them away for a rest to a quiet place just outside Bethsaida.

V11. But when the multitudes became aware of it they followed Him. He did not turn them away but welcomed them and taught them about the Kingdom of God and healed those who were sick.

V12. Late in the afternoon the twelve disciples came to ask Him to send the crowds away to get food from the nearby farms and villages and to find lodgings for the night. The place where they were was isolated and there nothing to hand to give them.

V13. Jesus astounding his disciples by telling them to feed the multitude. All they had was five loaves of bread and two fish that had been given to them. So they asked Him if He wanted them to go and buy enough food to feed the whole crowd.

V14 - 15. There were about five thousand men besides the women and children. He told the disciples to organise them into groups of fifty and to have them sit down. So the people all sat down.

V16. Taking the five loaves and two fish from His disciples Jesus lifted His eyes up to heaven in prayer and blessed them. He then broke them into pieces and gave it to His disciples to give to the multitude.

V17. They all ate as much as they wanted to and when they gathered up what remained they filled twelve baskets.

3. Peter Declares his Belief in Jesus 18 - 22.

V18. One day when Jesus was privately praying His disciples joined Him and He asked them who the people were saying He was.

V19. They replied that some say that He is John the Baptist and some that He is Elijah while others say that He is one of the old prophets that is risen from the dead.

V20 - 21. Then He asked them "but who do you say that I am". Peter said "You are the Christ of God" the Messiah, the Anointed One (John 6: 67 - 69). He ordered them to tell anyone who He was.

V22. Then He went on to tell them plainly that He, the Son of Man, must suffer many things and would be rejected by the elders, chief priest and scribes and handed over to be killed, crucified by the Romans but that on the third day He would be raised from the dead.

4. The Cost of Following Jesus 23 - 27.

V23. Then He said to all the crowd that were before Him that if anyone wants to become His disciple, follow Him, he must not do the things that he wants to please himself but must deny himself and every day take up his cross, submit to God's will and be prepared to sacrifice following in the footsteps of Jesus.

V24. Whoever wants to save his own life, live for self only, will find that he will lose his life. But whoever is prepared to give his life for the sake of Jesus Christ will save it (1 Corinthians 15: 30 - 31).

V25. What will a person benefit if he should have all this world's goods and its approval but lose his own soul and is destroyed.

V26. If anyone is ashamed of owning Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and His message then when He comes again in His glory which He shares with His Father and the glory of the holy angels, He will be ashamed of them.

V27. He finishes His discourse by stating as a truth that there were those who were present who will live to see the many entered into the Kingdom of God through the preaching of Salvation through Him.