
Luke 9:1-17

¹ Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. ² And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. ³ And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. ⁴ And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. ⁵ And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them. ⁶ And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.

⁷ Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him: and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead; ⁸ And of some, that Elias had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again. ⁹ And Herod said, John have I beheaded: but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And he desired to see him.

¹⁰ And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. ¹¹ And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing. ¹² And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, Send the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place. ¹³ But he said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat for all this people. ¹⁴ For they were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, Make them sit down by fifties in a company. ¹⁵ And they did so, and made them all sit down. ¹⁶ Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. ¹⁷ And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.

We've seen Jesus perform many miracles and beginning in chapter 9 He is now asking His disciples to do the same along with sharing the Gospel. Before He sends them out he gave them power and authority, equipping them for the task. As Christian's we sometimes try and do things in our own power and of our own will but if so it will be to no avail. It's so important to rely on our precious, powerful, and all knowing God for everything; not just for power and authority but for all our needs. Note that Jesus asked them to take nothing for their journey. Among these men were fishermen who worked hard to make a living and a tax collector who was greedy of gain. They now had to trust the Man of Miracles to provide their needs. They'd seen the miracles and they had their own needs met now it was time to put it to the test. This is where you find out how deep your faith goes. God will take us places and put us in situations to

learn that he genuinely cares for us and like a loving father will provide for His children. (Mat 6:25-34) Experiencing it increases our faith and also keeps us from getting prideful and taking credit for what God does. Perhaps you remember how God reduced the numbers of Gideon's army.

Judges 7:2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.



In verses 7-9 we learn of Herod's confusion. Herod had already killed John and wondered if he had come back from the dead. His curiosity was piqued and he wanted to see Jesus. He would eventually get his wish but refused to accept Jesus as his Saviour; the true King of Kings. The saddest moments recorded in the Bible were when we see someone deny the Lord. We see it when Paul shared the Gospel with Agrippa who then commented "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." We saw it with Jeremiah who gave God's truth to his nation who rejected it. Also, with Elijah speaking to King Ahab and with Jesus to the Pharisees we see our creator, and His way refused.

From verses 10-17 we see God proving he can meet any need. This obviously was meant to help the disciples learn to trust in Jesus after earlier being asked not to take anything for their journey. It was no coincidence that Jesus led them out into a desert place. Everything God does is for a purpose. For the people in the crowd Jesus met their spiritual needs by preaching about the kingdom of God, and also met their physical needs. Jesus healed them that had need of healing and provided food for their hunger.



Wow, God is absolutely awesome. He make something out of nothing. He created the universe, the earth and all things in it. Jesus can, and does meet our needs. King David declared, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. (Psa 37:25). Certainly God can be trusted to meet our every need whether it be spiritual, physical, mental, short-term, or long-term. JESUS is the answer and mankind's only hope.



As always I hope you enjoyed the lesson, may God bless you and your families. Please feel free to share it with others.