

**LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
**SERMON OUTLINE**  
**December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Matthew 9:35-38**

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**RECAP:** Last week, we finished the last of the miracle passages. Jesus clearly has all power over all demonic forces, over any physical disease or ailment, the very forces of nature itself, and power over life and death.

**THESIS: We must emulate God's character by showing compassion for the lost.**

**EXEGESIS: Matthew 9:35-38** (*see also Matt. 4:23, Luke 10:1-2, and John 4:35*)

- Jesus teaching in synagogues informs us not all the religious authorities were against Him.
- **Kingdom Theology:** The biblical history of God restoring His authority and glory on Earth. This is why Christ is a central part of it, and His advent makes the main purpose of the Kingdom.
- The Greek word "*compassion*," or "*splagkna*," is significant here. This word is one of the most feelings-based words in NT Greek. This word literally means "feel from the gut/stomach."
  - It implies that Jesus feels genuine sorrow and compassion for the people He sees, from a very personal and emotional standpoint. Our God is a feeling God, who desires mercy.
- **"troubled."** This Greek word is actually very woodenly translated "*to be harassed, troubled, or antagonized by some outside force.*" It is used only four times in the NT, in **Mark 5:35** and **Luke 7:6**.
- **"scattered."** This other word literally means "*to be cast, thrown, scattered,*" it is used also a few times only in the NT, in **Matt 27:5**, and in **Luke 17:2**.
- **Doctrine:** Our God personally feels compassion and desires to personally show emotional mercy to the lost, the scattered, the suffering, and the divided.
- **"like sheep without a shepherd."** We are described as sheep for a reason. Like the Jewish people of that day, without a shepherd, we are lost, helpless, and scattered beyond our ability to fix.
- **"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;"** There is always more souls to be preached to, and more people that need to hear the Gospel. There will never be enough workers in our vast field.
- **"Therefore pray."** The Greek wording is not pray strictly, but rather "beg, beseech, ask earnestly." Let us have an urgent mindset of begging God to save souls with compassion and grace.

**CONCLUSION:**

- **If our God shows personal mercy and compassion towards depraved human souls, we must do the same.**
- **We need to be the laborers, and also the prayers, going out into the fields of harvest.**