

LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
SERMON OUTLINE
January 17th, 2021
Matthew 10:11-15

RECAP: Christ commands Gospel preachers to use urgency in their message, give their grace and love as freely as they received it, and to trust in the Lord totally for control of their needs.

THESIS: God holds all men accountable for His Gospel message, and deems it's rejection the absolute definition of sin and damnation.

EXEGESIS: Matthew 10:11-15 (*see also Luke 10:5-12, Mark 6:10-11*)

- **v. 11; “And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart.”**
 - The disciples are to exercise careful thought and judgment in who to stay with while ministering. This is not judgment necessarily, but careful insight is to be taken. **Matt. 2:8, John 21:12.**
 - They are called to not quibble/change directions about housing, food, etc., and be content.
- **v. 12-13; “As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.”**
 - Ancient hospitality was a very big deal in biblical times; hosts were expected of all good people, to be honest, generous, and protective, whereas guests were expected to be gracious and thankful.
 - The disciples either **1)** Supernaturally blessed the house with harmony from God, or **2)** exerted their natural work and effort to bring about peace to the people they stayed with. I favor the former.
- **v. 14; “And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.”**
 - The *worthy/unworthy* concept is illustrated here. Worthiness is not innately good, or a scale of hospitality, generosity, lack of sin, shown to the disciples. It is instead decided by two things;
 - **“listen.”** Those who will not listen to the message of Christ are not worthy. **Rom. 10:14.**
 - **“receive.”** Those who will not receive the message upon hearing it are not worthy.
- **v. 15; “Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.”**
 - These cities are infamously found throughout Scripture and history as the epitome of sin and evil, and the greatest single statement of God's divine judgment upon sin. **Deut. 29:22, Is. 1:9, Gen. 19.**
 - *People that will be punished to an even greater, more horrible degree than Sodom and Gomorrah, are people that refuse to listen to the message of Christ.*

CONCLUSION:

- **God's judgment of worthy people relies entirely on their repentance and faith, as He Himself has given it freely to them, not on innate worthy qualities.**
- **The Gospel witness of our lives should be as untainted as possible from needless distractions, drama, and problems we can accidentally create. Be thoughtful.**
- **God judges all men by the standard of sin as to whether they reject Him.**