

LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
SERMON OUTLINE
March 14th, 2021
Matthew 10:34-36

RECAP: Last week, Jesus makes it clear that He expects our loyalty and our service when we stand before men and give account for our beliefs.

THESIS: Jesus comes specifically to bring division and destruction, before He institutes peace.

EXEGESIS: Matthew 10:34-36

- **R. C. Sproul** mentions that there's a whole category of statements that Jesus makes regarding what exactly He came to do. **John 10:10, Luke 19:10, John 18:37.** This statement is the opposite.
- **Background:** The Jewish people believed the Messiah's purpose was to immediately institute peace and restore prosperity among Israel. **Is. 9:6-7, Ezekiel 34:22, Micah 5:4.**
- The Greek word here for peace is "**eray-nay**," which is simply "peace, tranquility, quiet." It is the word used throughout the NT to describe peace, especially God's peace, the fruit of the Spirit, etc.
- **Objection:** Christ states He did *not* come to bring peace, but instead bring conflict! How is that possible? He is the Prince of Peace, after all!
 - **Firstly**, this context is temporary. Christ is preaching this particular passage to a particular people. These twelve disciples are being prepared for a temporary setup, and in some cases will enjoy popularity, but in other cases, they will be tormented.
 - **Secondly**, we must recall the fundamental purpose and design of peace. Logically speaking, *peace cannot exist while there is still division and discord.* Sin will conflict with the Gospel until it's end.
- **He can't bring peace until He has destroyed the worldly powers, authorities, and sin.** While sin exists, true, lasting, full peace cannot.
- Verses 35-36 are a citation from **Micah 7:6.** That context specifically speaks of discord and strife caused by prolonged sin, wars, and idolatry throughout Israel, and thus the consequences of it.
- These three examples are not meant to be literal, but metaphorical, like their OT passage.
- But even literally, across the globe, Christians suffer this fate regularly.
- **Human authorities have no power to defy God's Gospel in your life.** Even the most sacred institutions of marriage and family do not stand between you and God's command to save souls.

CONCLUSION:

- **As disciples, we must know and be prepared for the inevitable conflict that our message creates.**

