

LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
SERMON OUTLINE
May 7th, 2021
Matthew 11:1-6

RECAP: Last week, we finished Matthew 10. We spent a great deal of time not just on evangelism, but discipleship in general.

THESIS: We must have faith in the person of Christ, regardless of our expected outcomes and plans.

EXEGESIS: Matthew 11:1-6 (*see also Luke 7:18*)

- Jesus began the process of traveling throughout the disciples' villages to preach and teach.
- We last saw John the Baptist in **Matt 4:12**, where Matthew notes his arrest but doesn't disclose the details of it until **Matthew 14**.
- **Background:** Realize again that John and everyone else lives in a situation where they are looking for a King, a Ruler, and to some extent, a Conqueror. Jesus did not immediately do these things.
- Whether from Jewish expectations, surprise at Jesus' ministry choices, or general despair, at some point John the Baptist began to waver in his original convictions about Jesus being the Christ.
- Jesus answers his doubts with two things; *physical miracles, and OT fulfillment*.
- Six different miracles are described as proving Jesus' divinity; all of which are found in **Matt. 8-9**.
 - *Blindness being cured, and the lame walking.* Both beyond any previous prophet's work.
 - *Lepers cleansed, and deaf hearing.* Both incredible and ceremonial proofs of Christ's divinity. Even though Elisha heals one non-Israelite of leprosy in **2nd Kings 5**, Jesus does this consistently.
 - *Dead raised, and the poor preached to.* Both of these illustrate two things;
 - The dead being raised is clearly the work only of God. Even Elisha's work in **2nd Kings 4** was not equal to the total control over souls, life and death that Jesus exercises regularly.
 - The "poor" being preached to is a clear references to **Isaiah 61:1-3; and Isaiah 35:5-8**.
 - Also **Ezekiel 35-36** speaks of the healing of Christ.
- **"offended."** John may not have been emotionally upset or angry, but he expected something else from Jesus' mission, and when that didn't happen, it caused him to stumble. In particular, it caused him to be displeased, and dislike the results.

CONCLUSION:

- We are a people quick to judge, even the actions and plan of God.
- We need to trust in Christ, no matter what the plan, or our plans in comparison, look like.
- Even the most holy and prophetic of men struggled with trusting in Christ.