

Matthew 10-12



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PART TWO



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**Acts 10:38 ... God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power,
and how he went around doing good
and healing all who were under
the power of the devil,
because God was with him.**

HARVEST TIME

Part 2: Studies 6-10

Program

Week Ending		Topic	Matthew	Page No
Sun 2 Feb	1	Lord of the Harvest	9:35-38	
Sun 9 Feb	2	Workers in the Harvest	10:1-10:23	
Sun 16 Feb	3	Harvest Priorities	10:24-42	
Sun 23 Feb	4	Harvest Doubts	11:1-19	
Sun 1 Mar	5	Harvest Consequences	11:20-30	
Sun 8 Mar	6	Harvest Lord	12:1-14	6
Sun 15 Mar	7	Harvest Servant	12:15-21	8
Sun 22 Mar	8	Harvest Slander	12:22-37	10
Sun 29 Mar	9	Harvest Sign	12:38-45	12
Sun 5 Apr	10	Harvest Relationships	12:46-50	14

This set of studies has come out in two parts; studies 1-5 were published previously.

These five studies reflect in Jesus' mission the sorts of opposition that all who seek to proclaim the kingdom will face. But with these events comes the assurance of Christ's victory.

BOOKS

Wilkins, Michael J. Matthew (NIV Application Commentary) (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2004). *Excellent exposition and application sections.*

France, R.T. Matthew (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries) (IVP, Leicester, 1985). *One of the standards.*

Blomberg, C. Matthew (The New American Commentary) (Nashville, B&H Publishing, 1992) (*Semi-technical but very helpful insights.*)

In addition this is a more technical commentary but regarded as the best:

Carson D.A. “Matthew” in Expositors Bible Commentary (Revised) (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2010)

And another technical but very helpful one:

Osborne, G. R. Matthew (Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament) (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2010).

Study 6: Matthew 12:1-14

Harvest Lord

Before You Start

What should you do and what shouldn't you do on a Sunday?

Listen Carefully to Matthew 12:1-14

The Text

1. What were the disciples doing in the grain fields? What was the Pharisees' reaction?
2. What examples does Jesus use to reply to them?
3. Where does Jesus go next? What challenge is presented to him there?
4. What does Jesus do for the man with the shriveled hand? What is the reaction?

Connections

1. What laws are involved in the incident in the grain fields?
2. In verses 6 and 8 what is Jesus claiming?
3. In verse 7 what is Jesus urging on the Pharisees?
4. What point is Jesus making in v11-12? How is this similar to what he says in v7?

Impact

1. Note the Pharisees' reaction in v14. What does this mean for them? Note 11:21-24.
2. Tom Wright asks, *"What systems are currently in danger of being exalted over the needs of real human beings, in your country, your church, your family? What would it mean for the Son of Man to be master of them?"*

If Matthew is the 'teacher of the law' who brings out 'new treasures as well as old' (Matthew 13:52), what here is new and what references to the 'old' can you see?

Study 7: Matthew 12:15-21

Harvest Servant

Before You Start

Which would you rather be - a servant or the boss?

Listen Carefully to Matthew 12:15-21

The Text

1. What does Jesus do (at this stage) in response to the threat from the Pharisees (v15)?
2. In v15-16 who goes with him? What does he continue to do?
3. How is Jesus described in v18-21?
4. What in v18-21 speaks of Jesus' humility?

Connections

1. What promise is in this One?

2. Look at Isaiah 42 and 52-53. What sort of person is presented there?

3. Cast your mind forward to Jesus' trials before the Sanhedrin and Pilate. How are these prophecies worked out in that context?

4. What is the promise in v20c-21?

Impact

1. One who will not break a bent twig, will not snuff out a candle that is almost out! How will that one lead 'justice to victory'?

2. Given the trying time our nation is going through (I initially wrote this on Jan 2nd when most of the South Coast seems to have been on fire or is on fire) where is your hope? Why?

If Matthew is the 'teacher of the law' who brings out 'new treasures as well as old' (Matthew 13:52), what here is new and what references to the 'old' can you see?

Study 8: Matthew 12:22-37

Harvest Slander

Before You Start

What is your reaction when you hear Jesus' name (or God's name) used as a swear word, or as an expletive?

Listen Carefully to Matthew 12:22-37

The Text

1. What multiple problems did the man brought to Jesus have? What did Jesus do about it?
2. What was the crowd's reaction? What was the Pharisees' reaction? (note 9:33-34).
3. What two arguments does Jesus use against the Pharisees' reaction?
4. What is the unforgiveable sin (verses 31 and 32)?

Connections

1. What is Jesus saying about the Pharisees in v33-37?

2. “Blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.” What is this unforgivable sin? Does this worry you?

3. Note 12:30 and compare 11:21 and 12:14. What challenge does Jesus present here?

4. In v23 the people ask “Could this be the Son of David?” (Note Matthew 1:1; 9:27; 5:22; 20:30-31; 21:9,15; 22:42) What does this title say about Jesus?

Impact

1. Does the power of Satan worry you? Re-read the passage and see who it is who has the real power both temporally and spiritually?

2. Note carefully v37. Discuss the power of words.

If Matthew is the ‘teacher of the law’ who brings out ‘new treasures as well as old’ (Matthew 13:52), what here is new and what references to the ‘old’ can you see?

Study 9: Matthew 12:38-45

Harvest Sign

Before You Start

We live in an age that seems to want 'physical' proof before it will believe anything. What is your attitude to this?

Listen Carefully to Matthew 12:38-45

The Text

1. What do the Pharisees now ask for? What might be their motivation?
2. What is Jesus' response?
3. Which two/three Old Testament characters are invoked?
4. What parable does Jesus tell in v43-45?

Connections

1. What is the sign of the Prophet Jonah? What does it mean?
In what way is Jesus greater than Jonah?

2. Who is the Queen of the South? (See 1 Kings 10:1-13) What is she commended for?

3. What is the warning for Jesus' listeners/challengers in v41 and 42?

4. What 'house' is Jesus referring to in verses 43-45?

Impact

1. What is your personal reaction to Jesus' miracles? Why are the miracles recorded in the Gospels? What is the greatest miracle? (Hint: Jesus refers obliquely to it in this passage)

2. What warning for us is in the parable of verses 43-45?

If Matthew is the 'teacher of the law' who brings out 'new treasures as well as old' (Matthew 13:52), what here is new and what references to the 'old' can you see?

Study 10: Matthew 12:46-50

Harvest Relationships

Before You Start

What are the priorities you set (consciously or unconsciously) in the relationships you have in your life?

Listen Carefully to Matthew 12:46-50

The Text

1. Who is wanting to speak to Jesus? Where are they?
2. How does Jesus find out about them?
3. What is Jesus' initial point of reply?
4. Who does Jesus point to as his 'mother' and 'brothers'?

Connections

1. What is the qualification to be Jesus' "brother and sister and mother"?

2. Is Jesus being 'rude' to his mother and his brothers?

3. Where are the priorities in your relationships?

4. What have you learned about the person and work of Jesus in these chapters (10-12)?

Impact

1. What has Matthew 10-12 taught you about being a follower of Jesus?

2. "Labourers for the Harvest" What have you been challenged to do as a follower of Jesus by these chapters?

If Matthew is the 'teacher of the law' who brings out 'new treasures as well as old' (Matthew 13:52), what here is new and what references to the 'old' can you see?



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