



Inner Growth - Jesus 4

The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Matthew 1:1

Journey - Luke 9:3

Enlighten - Job 33:30

Saves - Psalms 18:31, 1 Timothy 1:15

Unity - Ephesians 4:13

Sinners - Luke 5:32

Jesus continues with His ministry in choosing the disciples in **the mission of the twelve**, in Matthew ten, verses one through sixteen, by giving them instructions on how to conduct themselves in ministry as representatives of Jesus Christ. **Discipleship and suffering** is the teaching of the next section by the Son of God to the chosen twelve from verses seventeen to twenty-five, followed by the last two teachings of **the worth of a disciple** starting from verses twenty-six to thirty-six, **and the cost of discipleship** from thirty-seven to forty-two, respectively.

Jesus, in verse one, "And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." Jesus wants His followers to wage war against the forces of evil by driving out evil spirits and healing the sick. This demonstration of authority in spiritual confrontation is considered a continuing

manifestation of the kingdom of God here on earth.

There is an important point to show there is a difference between the Son of God and God's people. In Matthew nine, verses twenty-eight through thirty-four, under the **Devils cast-out** section, Jesus, who bore our sin, did not have any. Therefore, the devils became fearful of Jesus and knew they would be out of the two men possessed with devils in verse twenty-eight of the same chapter. However, believers who formerly were in sin and received salvation have to ensure there is no unconfessed sin, and living in righteousness, believe and trust God to perform through them as a vessel to cast out these demonic spirits. Otherwise, it will not be successful.

The **Miracles at Ephesus** in Acts nineteen, verses eleven through twenty, particularly in stanzas thirteen to sixteen, tried to copy what the servant Paul did at the beginning of this section, and the outcome was the opposite. Therefore, it is significant for believers to daily confess any sins they may know or not remember because an ungodly situation may arise at any time where a godly servant may need to help. All followers of God need to be spiritually ready in case of an incident with casting out devils in the name of Jesus Christ.

Jesus continues with a **tribute to John the Baptist**, where he answers in verses four through six and then replies again to the multitudes in verses seven to nineteen. When Christ says that John was not "a reed shaken in the wind," He refers to his character and reputation as a preacher who refused to compromise his convictions. John preached the commandments of God without fear of others, never yielding to popular opinion. Herod's sin was ignored in silence by all godly authorities during that time, but never for a moment by John. He rose against it like a rock, showing absolute fidelity to God and his Word. John stood with God against sin, even though it cost him his life, as in chapter fourteen, verses three through twelve. Let every preacher of God's Word take note, for Christ will evaluate the ministry of each servant, the character, and stand against sin. The Son of God continues His ministry with **the judgment of the unrepentant** from verses twenty-one through twenty-four,

followed by **Jesus reveals the Father** in verses twenty-five through thirty, accordingly. The Son of God continues in Matthew twelve, His journey with **Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath**, as the Pharisees questioned Him, and He responds in verses three through eight, then eleven to twelve. After, Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath in verse thirteen, where they attempt to conspire against Him. Yet, the Son of God continued healing all the multitude that followed Him in verse fifteen.

Jesus continues His ministry in verses twenty-two through twenty-seven, in Matthew twelve, where **the Pharisees slander**, when they brought one possessed with a devil, and they speculate that the Son of God cast out the evil spirit through ungodly spirits. However, Jesus, knowing their thoughts at the beginning of verses twenty-five to twenty-seven, replied to the impossibility. Religious people will be more concerned with the Law than the Word of God. However, the believers who serve follow the Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit. The evil one does not do good for others and deceitfully can perform miracles, but it does not last.

Jesus continues His ministry in the **kingdom power overcomes Satan** in Matthew twelve, verses twenty-eight through thirty-seven. He explains how believers prevail over the enemy in terms of him taking away opportunities because he is a thief. Jesus then details about the Holy Spirit and how we should reverence Him. Then, speak about the good and bad fruit, and how we speak determines which side of fruit a person is on by what comes out of their mouth from the heart.

Jesus responds to the scribes and the Pharisees in Matthew twelve, verses thirty-nine through forty-five, in the **Warning against seeking signs** section. Jesus mentions Jonas in verses thirty-nine to forty-one, which makes it clear that He accepted the Old Testament account of Jonah as a historical fact. Now present, upon hearing how plainly Christ admonished and how severely he rebuked them. As if they had said, Otherwise, we will not believe this doctrine. Therefore, they insinuated that the ejection of devils was but a trifling miracle, which, for all he had said to the contrary, might be done by the help of devils, and that no signs of that

kind, however numerous, should convince them, for that, they would not believe unless he would prove his mission by what is here called a sign.

After all the signs they had already, which were abundantly sufficient to have convinced them and have had not their hearts estranged from God opposing to the truth? Though Christ is always ready to hear and answer holy desires and prayers. Yet those who ask amiss ask and have not. Signs were to those who desired them to confirm their faith.