

Matthew 11

Matthew 11:1-30 – The King’s Man!

Scriptures:

¹ Now it came to pass, when Jesus finished

Notes:

commanding His twelve disciples, that He

G1299 -

departed from there to teach and to preach in

their cities.

Scriptures:

² And when John had heard in prison

Notes:

about the works of Christ, he sent two of his

G2041 – “act
(deed) n. —
something that
people do or
cause to happen.”

G3992 -

disciples

Scriptures:

Malachi 3:1 -

“Behold, I send My messenger,

And he will prepare the way before Me.

And the Lord, whom you seek,

Will suddenly come to His temple,

Even the Messenger of the covenant,

In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” Says the LORD of hosts.

³ and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One,

G2064 - ἔρχομαι
(erchomai)

Notes:

‘the Coming One’ – only appears here and the parallel text in Luke 7.

John wants to know if Jesus is the fulfilment of (Malachi 3:1).

This is not an expression of John’s doubts but for the sake of John’s disciples. John’s ministry was almost over. It was time for his disciples to follow the One John had told them was coming.

or do we look for another?”

G4328 -

G2087 -

Scriptures:

⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and

Notes:

tell John the things which you hear and see:

Scriptures:

⁵ *The* blind see and *the* lame walk; *the* lepers

Notes:

are cleansed and *the* deaf hear; *the* dead are

raised up and *the* poor have the gospel

preached to them.

Scriptures:

6 And blessed is he who is not offended

Notes:

G3107 -

G4624 - σκανδαλίζομαι (skandalizomai), σκανδαλίζω (skandalizō): vb.; ≡ Str 4624; TDNT 7.339—1. LN 31.77 (dep.) cease believing (Mt 13:21); 2. LN 88.305 (dep.) fall into sin (2Co 11:29); 3. LN 25.180 (dep.) take offense, be offended by some action (Mt 15:12); 4. LN 31.78 cause another to no longer believe (Jn 6:61), for another interp, see last entry; 5. LN 88.304 cause to sin (Mt 5:29; Ro 14:21 v.r.); 6. LN 25.179 give offense, cause another anger or shock, implying sin will be involved if carried out (Mt 17:27; Jn 6:61)

because of Me.”

Scriptures:

7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the

Notes:

multitudes concerning John: “What did you

go out into the wilderness to see? A reed

shaken by the wind?

Scriptures:

⁸ But what did you go out to see? A man

Notes:

clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who

wear soft *clothing* are in kings' houses.

Scriptures:

⁹ But what did you go out to see? A prophet?

Notes:

Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.

Scriptures:

¹⁰ For this is *he* of whom it is written: '*Behold,*

Notes:

Jesus quotes part of Malachi 3:1 and says it refers to John the Bpatist.

I send My messenger before Your face, who

will prepare Your way before You.'

Scriptures:

11 “Assuredly, I say to you, among those born

Notes:

This is the highest praise Jesus gave about anyone.

of women there has not risen one greater than

G3187 – superior.

John the Baptist; but he who is least in the

G3398 – low in status.

kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

G3187 – superior.

Scriptures:

12 And from the days of John the Baptist until

Notes:

now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence,

G971 – “to struggle hard
v. — to struggle,
characterized by, or full
of, force or strength;
often but not necessarily
physical.”

and the violent take it by force.

G973 -

G726 - ἀρπάζω
(harpazō) (VPAI3P
– Verb – Present
Active Indicative
3rd Person
Plural)– same
word we translate
as ‘rapture’.

Scriptures:

13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied

Notes:

until John.

Scriptures:

14 And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah

Notes:

Word study

Word study

who is to come.

Scriptures:

15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

Notes:

Scriptures:

¹⁶ “But to what shall I liken this generation? It

Notes:

Jesus turns His attention to the Jews of His generation. They had heard the words of the prophets, including John the Baptist, the last of the Old Testament prophets. They had heard the words of Christ. They had heard and seen enough to believe. What comes next is a warning to those who have heard and chosen not to believe.

is like children sitting in the marketplaces and

calling to their companions,

Scriptures:

¹⁷ and saying: ‘We played the flute for you,

Notes:

God reveals Himself to people in a variety of ways. John the Baptist had a different approach than Jesus. Both had the same message, just different ways of preaching it.

and you did not dance; we mourned to you,

This points to the reality that some will reject the light of Jesus, no matter how God reveals it to them. They will find fault and justify rejecting it.

and you did not lament.’

Scriptures:

18 For John came neither eating nor drinking,

Notes:

and they say, 'He has a demon.'

Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 2:14 - But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking,

Notes:

Regardless of how you live your life and express your faith, there will always be some who are offended or are unwilling to see the truth of the gospel in your life or through your words.

"The plain truth is that true believers must not expect unconverted men to be satisfied either with their faith or their practice." (Ryle, 1993) page 84

and they say, 'Look, a glutton and

Our best response is to not concern ourselves with their response. Our concern should be about seeking, knowing, loving, and obeying God, through the leading of the Holy Spirit and the truth found in God's word. When they reject us or our testimony, remind yourself that they are rejecting God, not you. Remind yourself that they are unsaved and cannot understand the spiritual things of God until He helps them to (1 Corinthians 2:14). In your heart, hand them over to God and trust Him to reach them with His love and truth.

a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and

sinner!' But wisdom is justified by

Word study

her children."

Scriptures:

²⁰ Then He began to rebuke the cities in which

Word study

most of His mighty works had been done,

Word study

because they did not repent:

Word study

Notes:

'did not repent' – they could have and should have repented. There are some who suggest that God's will is irresistible. They suggest that if God wills for you to be saved, you will be saved. They deny the reality of free choice or free will.

One of the great mysteries of our faith is the contrast of the sovereign will of God and the free will of man. Both are true but both are mutually exclusive of the other. It is a mystery that the church has wrestled with since God revealed Himself to mankind.

Jesus, God in the flesh, came to save sinners. He is rebuking these cities because they had an opportunity to believe Jesus as He is declaring salvation to them but they chose to reject it.

21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you,

Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which

were done in you had been done in Tyre and

Sidon, they would have repented long ago in

sackcloth and ashes.

Scriptures:

22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for

Notes:

Word study

Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for

Word study

you.

23 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to

Word study

heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if

the mighty works which were done in you had

been done in Sodom, it would have remained

Word study

until this day.

Notes:

Jesus is comparing Jewish cities with Gentile cities. Tyre and Sidon were prosperous and worldly. Sodom and Gomorrah were terribly wicked – so wicked that God wiped them from existence.

Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum were no worse than any other Jewish town and without question they were morally better than Tyre, Sidon, Sodom, and Gomorrah.

Jesus is the light of the world, come to save people out of the darkness. When people choose not to be saved who have seen the light, or heard the gospel, they will be judged guilty because they rejected God's offer of salvation. People will be judged based on the amount of light they received.

These cities, Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum, had the great privilege of seeing the Light of the world. They were exposed to direct light of the Son of God. They were without excuse.

As believers, we have a duty to share the gospel with others. We should not take this duty lightly. Every time we share the gospel with them, or they see you living out the gospel in faith, and they reject it, they are adding to their guilt before God. This causes some to withhold sharing the gospel for fear of being the cause of adding to their guilt. You cannot add to their guilt, only they can. Most people do not accept the gospel the first time they heard it. Some only need to hear it a few times to respond. Others might require a whole lifetime. How many times should you share the gospel after someone has rejected it? At least one more time.

Scriptures:

24 But I say to you that it shall be more

Notes:

tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of

judgment than for you.”

Scriptures:

25 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I

Notes:

It is usually those who are wise in their own eyes who struggle to embrace the simplicity of the gospel.

What is the one sin that will keep someone out of heaven? Pride! It is pride that causes someone to hear the gospel and reject it.

thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

that You have hidden these things from *the*

Word study

wise and prudent and have revealed them to

Word study

Word study

Word study

babes.

Scriptures:

26 Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in

Notes:

Word study

Word study

Your sight.

Scriptures:

27 All things have been delivered to Me by My

Word study

Notes:

'All things' includes our lives and all the circumstances of our lives.

Father, and no one knows the Son except the

Word study

Father. Nor does anyone know the Father

except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son

wills to reveal *Him*.

Word study Word study

Scriptures:
Matthew 9:13 - But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

28 Come to Me, all you who labor and

Word study

Word study

are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Word study

Word study

Notes:

Who is it that can come to Jesus for salvation? It is those who, through the influence of the Holy Spirit recognize their great need for God. It is those who have wearied themselves looking for something or someone else to fill that need. It is those who have exhausted themselves searching for something or someone that will satisfy them.

We might wonder if God really wants to save us. If you feel as though you have been laboring through this life and feel heavy laden, it is because God caused you to feel that way so that you would turn to Him for the rest you seek. The rest we seek is found only in Jesus.

Remember, Jesus already said He did come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance ([Matthew 9:13](#)).

Scriptures:

29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,

Word study

Notes:

In this world there is no rest.

Jesus makes three requests; come to Me, take My yoke, and learn from Me.

Come to Me – come just the way you are.

Take My yoke – while there is a cross to bear, the work Jesus calls us is not burdensome.

God’s desire for our lives is that we would find rest for our souls in Jesus while we wait for Him to come and get us.

True satisfaction cannot be found in anything in this world. Our souls will only be truly satisfied in Christ.

for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and

Word study

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you will find rest for your souls.

Word study

Scriptures:

30 For My yoke *is* easy and My burden *is* light.”

Word study

Word study

Word study

Notes:

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