

## SCRIPTURE

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW

#### CHAPTER 9

(Fr Lk 5:16)

**Mt 9:1.** And he entered into a ship (or boat), and passed (or crossed) over, and came into his own city (or town).

**Mt 9:2.** And, behold, they (some men) brought to him a man sick of the palsy (or a paralytic), lying on a bed (or mat): and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy (or the paralytic); Son, be of good cheer (or take heart)(or take courage); thy sins be forgiven thee.

## COMMENTARY

#### CHAPTER 9

(30 years plus 14 months)

App 14 months into the ministry of Jesus

**Mt 9:1.** These verses (verses 1 to 8) may have taken place about 14 months after Jesus was baptized. They correspond with verses in Mk 2:1.

Capernaum is mentioned in the Bible by name 16 times.

Jesus had gone into the wilderness to pray-ref Lk 5:16. Sometime after that, Jesus entered into a boat and went over the Sea of Galilee. He came to Capernaum, which the Bible calls **his own city** or town. This had become His new home. He often stayed with Peter.

More information on Capernaum can be found under Mt 8:5.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:1.** And he entered into a ship (or boat), and passed (or crossed) over, and came into his own city (or town).

**Mt 9:2.** While Jesus was at Capernaum, some people brought to Him a man that was sick of the palsy or was a paralytic. He was lying on a bed or cot of some type. The people are not identified, but Jesus could see their faith, as well as the sick man by their actions.

Mk 2:1 indicates, that the house, and even the doorway was packed with people.

Lk 5:19 indicates the people let him and his couch down through the top of the roof through the roof tiles.

As said in the commentary under Mt 8:6: The

word "palsy" is used 11 times in the New Testament and signifies a disease that causes the body to be **paralyzed**. Uncontrollable body movements or tremors may also result, and the joints can be affected.

The people that brought the sick man to Jesus had faith that Jesus could heal him. Otherwise, they would not have brought the man. Their faith could be seen by their actions.

However, Jesus did not straightway heal the man.

Rather, He said to the sick person first, son. All that become the sons of God are saved.

Then after this Jesus said: Be of good cheer, or be grateful, your **sins are forgiven**. No one can enter heaven with sins that are not forgiven.

Jesus did not say be of good cheer, regarding a possible healing. Sometimes sickness can be the result of unrepentant sin. Sickness can sometimes come upon a person to cause them to seek God, and repent.

In some cases, first the problem of sin must be dealt with. Then healing can take place.

Sometimes sickness comes, so that God may be glorified.

Sometimes sickness comes, and we don't know the reason. When a person is lying on their back, sick, they should be looking up.

It is a rare minister indeed that tells a person to repent and confess their sins before praying over them.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:2**. And, behold, they (some men) brought to him a man sick of the palsy (or a paralytic), lying on a bed (or mat): and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the

**Mt 9:3.** And, behold, certain (or some) of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

sick of the palsy (or the paralytic); Son, be of good cheer (or take heart)(or take courage); thy sins be forgiven thee.

**Mt 9:3.** Some of the scribes (or those that copy the scrolls (or teachers of the law) had wrong thoughts. These thoughts were from the devil. As a result, they believed that Jesus blasphemed. They lied to themselves. They could not believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Often there were various teachers of the law following Jesus and seeing His miracles and falsely accusing Him. There was no light in them, only darkness.

They did this, because Jesus had forgiven the sins of the sick man. No one can forgive sins, except God. In believing that Jesus blasphemed, they were dishonest to themselves. Everyone does this, but some far more than others. They imagine thoughts about other people that are not true, and then they get angry at that person. Then the person may go to them and ask what is wrong, and they lie, by saying, "Nothing is wrong."

All people that do not believe Jesus Christ is God, Who has come in the flesh, are lying to themselves.

All people that believe they will go to heaven, yet they have not repented, neither do they immerse themselves in the Word of God, these shall perish; yet, they will not believe this.

Nearly all people go to hell when they die. Yet does anyone really believe this will happen to them, until it actually does? People lie to themselves, just as the scribes did.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:3.** And, behold, certain (or some) of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

**Mt 9:4.** And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

**Mt 9:4.** This verse states: And Jesus knowing their thoughts.

If only a person could understand that life is a test.

Every person's most private and intimate thoughts are heard and understood by God.

All the evil you think about is known by God.

The deceptive reasons you do certain things are all known by God. Nothing is hid from Him.

Jesus asks the question: Why do you **think evil** in your heart? or why do you entertain or allow evil thoughts in your hearts? The Christian is to cast down evil thoughts.

Jesus knew why they had evil thoughts. Jesus said this, because they had said in their heart that Jesus blasphemeth.

Zech 8:17 uses the words: You imagine evil in your hearts.

To entertain thoughts that are contrary to Scripture and not cast them down by the truth of God's Word, is to think evil in your heart.

Jesus had said in Mt 12:34-Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Jesus had confronted the scribes with their evil thoughts, which were a result of their evil, unrepentant heart. He proceeds to show them the error of their way and that their thoughts were wrong.

He proceeded to prove He had the power to forgive sins by healing the man instantly.

One must wonder what they thought as Jesus revealed He even knew what they were thinking.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:4.** And Jesus

**Mt 9:5.** For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, (get up) and walk?

**Mt 9:6.** But (in order) that ye may know that the Son of man hath power (or authority) on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) (or the paralytic) Arise, take up thy bed (or mat), and go unto thine house (or go home).

**Mt 9:7.** And he (the man) arose (or got up), and departed to his house (or went home).

knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

**Mt 9:5.** Then Jesus asks the scribes another question. He asked, which is easier to say—your sins are forgiven, or rise up and walk?

The answer is simple. It is much easier to say your sins are forgiven, than to say to a sick person in bed with a paralyzing disease to get up and begin walking.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:5.** For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, (get up) and walk?

**Mt 9:6.** Next, Jesus does the impossible. He does what no man could do, unless they were God. For only God can instantly heal a person, and only God can forgive sins.

He begins by telling the scribes (in our own words): So that you may **know absolutely, positively, and beyond any question** that He, Jesus, has the power or authority on earth to forgive sins, He then told the paralyzed man to do the impossible—that is, to get up, and take his bed, and then go to his house.

At these words, there must have been silence, as all eyes would have been on the paralyzed man in bed.

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**Mt 9:7.** The multitudes must have been shocked. Some of the scribes may have been insanely mad.

Imagine the man sitting up, as everyone looked on in disbelief. Then he stands up and

**Mt 9:8.** But when the multitudes (or crowd) saw it, they marvelled (or were filled with awe), and glorified (or praised) God, which had given such power (or authority) unto men.

does as he was told to do. He takes his bed and goes to his house.

Jesus had proved He had the power on earth to forgive sins, and thus had proved He was God-ref Lk :21.

Jesus left and went to where He had been staying, at Peter's house.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:7**. And he (the man) arose (or got up), and departed to his house (or went home).

**Mt 9:8.** The large crowd of people saw what happened. They were astonished. They glorified God, which had given such incredible power to men.

They saw Jesus as only a man with power.

Jesus proved, by what He said and did, that He was God.

However, Jesus did not yet say He was God. The people did not yet comprehend Who this Son of man was. Some would have thought He was a prophet.

When such healings take place, some people may become fearful. Someone that has the power to instantly heal the sick and raise the dead may cause a person to be afraid.

While the people glorified God, the religious leaders undoubtedly were filled with hatred.

The greatest miracle is not the healing. The greatest miracle is that a person can have their sins forgiven by the blood of Christ. Thus, he can inherit eternal life, if he will repent and place his trust in Jesus and obey the Gospel.

Any person that continues to practice sin has not repented and cannot be saved, no matter what he or she might believe.

**Mankind does not want God. He does not want to repent. He wants to do his own thing and have his own way, with all the pleasures of this life that is possible.**

But, then, when his life is at an end, he wants heaven, not hell. Spiritual darkness blinds the hearts of nearly everyone. The Bible is clear. The number that inherit eternal life is only a very, very, very few.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:8**, But when the multitudes (or crowd) saw it, they marvelled (or were filled with awe), and glorified (or praised) God, which had given such power (or authority) unto men.



(30 years plus 16 months)

**Mt 9:9.** And as Jesus passed forth from thence (or from there), he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom (or tax office) (or tax collector's booth): and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he (Matthew) arose (or got up), and followed him.

**Mt 9:9.** Jesus saw **Matthew**, the tax collector, well into His ministry. He was also called "Levi." Matthew was sitting at the tax collector's booth. He was a government worker. As a tax collector, he would have been disliked by most everyone. He would have been considered by many as the scum of the earth. Some might have been afraid of him, just as some are afraid of tax collectors today.

Tax collectors were not considered to be honest. They were usually well to do financially. For Jesus to call a tax collector to be an apostle would seem to be incredible or unthinkable.

Mt 11:18,19 reflects how people viewed Jesus being a friend of tax collectors.

Jesus said: For John (the Baptist) came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and

a winebibber, **a friend of tax collectors** and sinners!'

But wisdom (or what is right) is justified (or judged, or revealed, or shown to be right, or vindicated) by her children (or by her works, or by its results, or by her actions)."

Again, consider what Matthew did. He was a government worker collecting taxes.

Jesus calls him to forsake everything and follow Him. Matthew then appears to have forsaken the money he had collected for the government. He forsook his job. He forsook his friends. He forsook everything. He took nothing with him, except the clothes on his back. This, friend, is faith.

He did not consider the trouble he might be in for leaving a government job. He did not consider that the Roman authorities might try to seek him out and execute him.

He did not consider the money he had collected, which should be turned in to the government.

He did not make an excuse, by saying, "Jesus, first I must go and turn in the money I collected and give them a letter of resignation. I must give them a 14 day notice that I am quitting."

For those reading or hearing this, have you made that kind of commitment to Christ?

When Matthew forsook everything, his trust was in the Person of Jesus.

After Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead, his trust continued to be in Jesus.

Jesus tells all that desire to be saved these words:



Lk 14:26, 27, 33-If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Tax collectors, even Pharisees, and the worst of sinners can be saved, if they will repent and place their trust in Christ.

Jesus did not come to call the righteous, (or those that thought of themselves as good people).

He came to call sinners to repentance.

Hell has multitudes of religious people and people with high self-esteem.

Hell has lots of rich people that gave much money to various organizations, including churches.

It is the down and out people, the poor of this world, the brokenhearted of this world that have a far better chance of being called by God, than the highly esteemed, highly educated, and the rich people.

1 Sam 16:7-...THE LORD SEETH NOT AS MAN SEETH; FOR MAN LOOKETH ON THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:9**, And as Jesus passed forth from thence (or from there), he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom (or tax office) (or tax collector's booth): and he saith unto him, Follow

**Mt 9:10.** And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat (or was reclining at the table) in the house, behold, many publicans (or tax collectors) and sinners came and sat down with him (and were dining with Jesus) (and ate with him) and his disciples.

me. And he (Matthew) arose (or got up), and followed him.

**Mt 9:10.** A large feast was being held. Jesus, with His disciples, sat in the house. Many tax collectors and sinners also came and sat down. Note the words "**many...came.**" Jesus is the "Word of God" that was made flesh. They came to eat, but they also came to hear and see Jesus.

Jesus found that far more people from the lower classes of society were receptive to His message, than from the upper class, such as the rich men, the Pharisees, lawyers, scribes, and other religious groups.

The lower class recognized they needed to repent much more than the elite of society or the rich.

It is the same today.

Some of the most difficult people to bring to repentance are the middle and upper classes who go to church on Sunday, pay their tithes and occasionally try to do some good deeds. They are usually unsaved or lukewarm. They feel they have no need to repent. They perish with many excuses on their lips. They are religious, but not followers of Christ, Who is the Word.

Some people that read the Bible, (that is a chapter now and then, and only when it is convenient), will find that when the Rapture comes, that Jesus will not know them. Though they are sure they are saved, they will be left behind.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:10**, And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat (or was reclining at the table) in the house, behold, many publicans (or tax collectors) and sinners came and sat down with him (and were dining with Jesus)(and

**Mt 9:11.** And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master (or teacher) with publicans (or the tax gatherers) and sinners?

**Mt 9:12.** But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole (or healthy) need not a physician, but they that are sick.

ate with him) and his disciples.

**Mt 9:11.** This verse reflects that what some considered as the scum of the earth were there, that is, the tax collectors (or publicans). Also there were sinners there.

The people of the low social status were there and also the accusing, religious establishment.

When the religious leaders saw Jesus eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners, they were outraged. It was unthinkable for a person of a high position, such as they had, to eat and drink with what they considered to be the scum of the earth and the worst of all sinners.

It sounds like the religious establishment were trying to sow discord, as they questioned the disciples of Jesus, by saying: "Why does your master eat with such people as these tax collectors and sinners?" It appears they were not only cutting down Jesus because He associated with the tax collectors and sinners, but also those that followed Jesus, that is, His disciples.

In this manner, the religious leaders may have also been trying to turn the disciples of Jesus away from Him. All that follow Jesus can expect to be persecuted and ridiculed.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:11**, And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master (or teacher) with publicans (or the tax gatherers) and sinners?

**Mt 9:12.** Jesus heard what the religious leaders were saying. He responded with words the religious leaders may not have understood, but a repentant sinner would.

He told those that had ears to hear and a heart to understand—that those that were (not sick)

**Mt 9:13.** But go ye and learn what that meaneth (or means), I will have (or I desire) mercy (or compassion), and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

or were self-righteous in their own eyes—  
**these** did not need a doctor.

A person that does not believe they sin, or believes they are a good person, these are blind regarding their sinfulness. They are blind to the fact that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. There is no one that is righteous, no not one.

But those that understood they were sinners (or were sick), these did need a doctor.

Jesus is that "Doctor" (or physician) that would take the sins of the repentant upon Him, so the sinner could be forgiven and healed.

Then the sinner could inherit eternal life, which is only possible through trusting in Jesus Christ.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:12**, But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole (or healthy) need not a physician, but they that are sick.

**Mt 9:13.** Jesus refers to Hosea 6:6-FOR I DESIRED MERCY, AND NOT SACRIFICE; AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD MORE THAN BURNT OFFERINGS.

The religious establishment focused on the ceremonial requirements of God's law. They became very self-righteous, and judgmental.

However, Jesus came to call sinners to repent.

Jesus gave Himself to be a sacrifice for the sins of those that humble themselves and repent. Jesus came with **mercy** to those that would humble themselves.

No sacrifice of this world, no amount of good works, no amount of giving to the poor, no amount of confessing to a priest, nothing can save a person.

However, through the shed blood of Jesus on the cross and His **mercy**, the sins of those that will place their trust in Him and obey Him are forgiven.

Jesus does not call those that believe they do not sin. He did not come to call the self-righteous.

Jesus calls the sick to come and be healed. He calls the sinners to repentance.

Regretfully, many say they put their trust in Jesus, but they forsake nothing.

They do not repent.

They are not changed.

They are not converted.

They are not born again.

They do not devour the Bible, as if it is more necessary than the food for their body.

Many religious people that have trusted in a religion, or a pope, or some other thing or person, or their own works, have already found themselves condemned to a place called "hell."

If only people would repent and believe God's Word, so that they might be saved. Salvation is through faith, and faith alone in Jesus.

To reflect on how many might be saved, consider this. How many people do you know that daily devour God's Word, as if it was more important to them than the food they put into their mouth???-ref Job 23:12.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:13**, But go ye and learn what that meaneth (or means), I will have (or I desire) mercy (or compassion), and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.



**Mt 9:14.** Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy (or your) disciples fast not?

**Mt 9:15.** And Jesus said unto them, Can the children (or attendants) (or guests) of the bridechamber (or bridegroom) mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days (or time) will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken (away) from them, and then shall they fast.

(30 years plus 16 months)

**Mt 9:14.** Jesus had many that followed Him. John the Baptist also had disciples that followed him. However, John was put in prison and was ultimately killed.

Some of John's disciples came to Jesus with a question. They wondered why they and the Pharisees **fasted OFTEN** (twice a week), but those that followed Jesus did not fast at all.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:14**, Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy (or your) disciples fast not?

**Mt 9:15.** Jesus responded to their question. Several points are made. The answer involves **only those that repent and believe in Jesus Christ. These are all the children of the bridechamber.**

**The children of the bridechamber (or those that follow Jesus) cannot fast when Jesus is personally with them.**

**Fasting is a type of mourning, or we may say, crying that Jesus IS NOT PHYSICALLY HERE WITH US at this time.**

**Note the words "mourn" or "cry" when Jesus is not physically with a person. These shall fast.**

**Fasting is a form of humbling oneself and being broken.**

**It may be said, it is the opposite of pride and self-exaltation.**

**However, there are some that fast openly to be seen of men. This is not a fast unto God.**

Within this one group, there are two divisions.

One is those that are personally with Jesus, that is, His disciples at that time. They cannot mourn or cry (which includes fasting), because Jesus is personally with them.

The other group includes all those that believe in Jesus, but are not personally with Him, both **then and now**. These mourn or cry or have sorrow (which includes fasting), because Jesus, our Bridegroom, has been taken away. The day is coming when He will return.

Note, God's Word did not say they should fast, but that they "**SHALL**" **FAST**.

Any person that claims to be a Christian, but does not fast, could be considered a person with a very shallow understanding of God's Word. One may say, this would include most people today. Our understanding is that most professing Christians do not fast at all.

As the author of this commentary recalls, the following incident occurred at a popular Bible-teaching church. The pastor brought up the subject of fasting. He suggested that those in his congregation do a **fast** consisting of forsaking one meal. The reaction was immediate, and it was very negative.

(Some of this material, regarding fasting, may be found under Mt 6:16.)

(Regarding fasting,  
men will not endure sound doctrine.)

Regarding fasting, this brings to remembrance the Scriptures that say:

2 Tim 4:3-5 (paraphrased)-For the time will come (which is right now) when they (the people) will **not endure the truth of God's Word**, which is **sound doctrine**.

They will have no stomach for solid Bible

teaching.

They will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching.

They will, according to their own desires and lusts, heap up (or gather) (or look) for themselves teachers, that will say what their ears itch for (or seek to hear).

They will turn their ears away from the truth, and turn their backs toward the truth. These shall be turned aside to fables (or story telling, or myths of all sorts).

They will fill themselves with spiritual junk food and catchy words that tickle their fancy, or, we may say, they will seek things that make them feel good and laugh.

They will gather many teachers for the pleasure of hearing them.

Correction from God's Word—they do not want and will not tolerate.

Note again the words of Jesus. Those that belong to Christ, that is, those that are truly saved, "SHALL FAST."

As it has been said in **Mt 9:15**, And Jesus said unto them, Can the children (or attendants) (or guests) of the bridechamber (or bridegroom) mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days (or time) will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken (away) from them, and then shall they fast.

**Mt 9:16.** Jesus spoke a parable. Both this and the next parable have somewhat the same meaning.

The law of Moses is as an old covenant, an old garment, or legalism.

**Mt 9:16.** No man putteth a piece of new (or unshrunk) cloth unto an old garment, for that (patch) which is put in to fill it up taketh (or pulleth away) from the garment, and the rent (or tear) is made worse.



The **new cloth** is the Holy Spirit which comes as a result of what Christ did at Calvary.

Jesus did not come to repair the Old Covenant, the law of Moses. To do this would make things worse.

Also, no man puts a piece of new cloth (which is the **Holy Spirit and grace**) unto an old garment (or an unrepentant sinner). **The Holy Spirit does not come into a person that has not repented.**

For if He (the Holy Spirit) would come into an unrepentant person (an old garment), (the tear or rip) would be made much worse, as it would stretch the garment.

In Christ, the Old Covenant is done away with.

When the Holy Spirit comes into a person, the **awareness of sin** in that person becomes greatly magnified.

What seemed like a little white lie previously, is now seen as exceedingly sinful. A person before might shrug off a sin as no big deal, but now he may cry over his sinful condition. He may be in agony over his sinful condition.

Few "so-called" Christians fit this description.

One cannot put the New Covenant into the Old. One cannot combine or mix the two. New wine into old bottles would cause the old to break, and the wine would be lost.

The new church is a result of the **New Covenant**, the New Wine. It is not under the law with all of its bondages, but under grace.

The Old Covenant is the law.

There is **much debate** as to when a person actually receives the Holy Spirit.

There is no question that a person **must**

**Mt 9:17.** Neither do men put new wine into old bottles (or old wineskins): else (or otherwise) the bottles break (or the wineskins burst), and the wine runneth (or pours) out, and the bottles perish (or the wineskins are ruined): but they put new wine into new bottles (or fresh wineskins), and both are preserved.

**repent** and must believe in Jesus Christ as their only hope of salvation. It is noted that the Holy Spirit came and lighted on Jesus when **he came out of the water after being baptized** by John-ref Lk 3:21,22.

Acts 2:38 also tells us: REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED EVERYONE OF YOU IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS AND YE SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:16**, No man putteth a piece of new (or unshrunk) cloth unto an old garment, for that (patch) which is put in to fill it up taketh (or pulleth away) from the garment, and the rent (or tear) is made worse.

**Mt 9:17.** It may be said, the New Wine is the New Covenant, which is Christ and grace.

This replaces the old wine or Old Covenant, which was the law and its ordinances.

Col 2:14-BLOTTING OUT THE HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES THAT WAS AGAINST US, WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO US, AND TOOK IT OUT OF THE WAY, NAILING IT TO HIS CROSS.

Heb 10:16,17-I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR HEARTS, AND IN THEIR MINDS WILL I WRITE THEM; AND THEIR SINS AND INIQUITIES WILL I REMEMBER NO MORE.

The age of grace was at hand. The New Wine must be put into new bottles.

Gal 5:1-STAND FAST THEREFORE IN THE LIBERTY (or grace which is a result of the new covenant) WHEREWITH CHRIST HATH MADE US FREE, AND BE NOT ENTANGLED AGAIN WITH THE YOKE OF BONDAGE (the old bottles).

The Gospel (or the New) cannot be combined with the law of Moses (which is the old). There has to be a New Covenant and new bottles.

A second message:

The **Holy Spirit** will not come into an old bottle (this represents an unrepentant sinner).

For if the **Holy Spirit** would be put into an old bottle (or an unrepentant sinner), the result for the sinner could be catastrophic.

The bottles would break (or they would clash, or disagree) and the Holy Spirit (the New Wine) would run out.

The strength of the New Wine fermentation would be too much for the old wineskins. It would cause them to break.

But what does take place is the New Wine (the Holy Spirit) is put into new bottles, that is, into a repentant sinner, and both are preserved.

What is written? Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

As a result of God, Who came in the flesh, taking the sins of the repentant upon Him, man is now made free from sin and become servants to God-ref Ro 6:18, 22.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:17**, Neither do men put new wine into old bottles (or old wineskins): else (or otherwise) the bottles break (or the wineskins burst), and the wine runneth (or pours) out, and the bottles perish (or the wineskins are ruined): but they put new wine into new bottles (or fresh wineskins), and both are preserved.



(30 years + 26 months)

**Mt 9:18.** While he spake (or was saying) these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler (or synagogue official), and worshiped (or bowed or knelt down to) (or before) him, saying, My daughter is even now dead (or has just died): but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

**Mt 9:19.** And Jesus arose (or got up), and followed him, and so did His disciples.

**Mt 9:18.** As Jesus was speaking, a ruler came and worshiped Him. The fact that he worshiped Jesus indicates he recognized His deity and the authority He had.

Mk 5:22 indicates his name was Jairus. The ruler (or official) would have been very, very grieved, as his daughter, which was 12, had died (Mk 5:42). She appears to have died when he was seeking to find Jesus.

The ruler showed great faith as he explained to Jesus that his daughter was dead, but he knew that Jesus could do the impossible, that is, restore her back to life.

It may be said that the ruler's daughter was a type of the daughter of Zion. She was dead spiritually as well as nationally.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:18**, While he spake (or was saying) these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler (or synagogue official), and worshiped (or bowed, or knelt down to) (or before) him, saying, My daughter is even now dead (or has just died): but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

**Mt 9:19.** Jesus then got up and followed the certain ruler to raise her up.

His disciples also followed Him. It appears He did this with little delay.

One of many descriptions that can be given to the ministry of Jesus is that of being a servant, and being of service to others, so they might be saved.

He gave his life so that others might live for eternity.

Many asked Him for help, and He helped

**Mt 9:20.** And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood (or had been suffering from a hemorrhage) (or had been subject to bleeding) (for) twelve years, came (up) behind him, and touched the hem (or fringe) of his garment (or cloak):

them.

The apostles did as Jesus did. For those that wisely chose to follow Jesus, they are under the same calling.

Jesus was not self-centered at all. He came to serve.

If you are to follow Jesus, you must deny yourself and pick up your cross daily, and do as He did. You are to follow the calling He gives you. You are not to look back.

It appears that Jesus was constantly surrounded by crowds of people, which included 120 that followed Him from the beginning and which included the 12. So getting close to Jesus might not have been easy.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:19**, And Jesus arose (or got up), and followed him, and so did His disciples.

**Mt 9:20.** As Jesus was following the ruler, there was a woman that, for the last 12 years, had a bloody flux (or an hemorrhage, or a flow of blood). The bleeding was constant. It would seem she might have given up all hope of ever recovering from this condition.

She was unclean.

She was probably shunned by all around her as well as her family. She would not have been allowed in the synagogue.

One might think that she would have been a very bitter person, but this does not appear to be the case.

She had suffered through many things from physicians, note Mark 5:26.

She came up behind Jesus. It appears she hoped she would not be seen. She may have been afraid.

Who of us will not be afraid and in awe when the day comes that we stand before the Creator of the universe.

The woman slipped in from behind Jesus, where she would not be seen. Then she put her hand on the edge (or tassel) of His robe (or cloak).

The hem of Jesus' garment would be the edges, or fringes, or tassels.

Note Num 15:38, 39-Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the border of their garments and that they put upon the fringe of the border a ribbon of blue. And it shall be unto you for a fringe that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:20**, And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood (or had been suffering from a hemorrhage) (or had been subject to bleeding) (for) twelve years, came (up) behind him, and touched the hem (or fringe) of his garment (or cloak):

**Mt 9:21.** For she said within herself, If I may (only) but touch his garment (or cloak), I shall be whole (or get well) (or I will be healed).

**Mt 9:21.** She was thinking to herself, "If I can just put a finger on His robe (or cloak), I'll get well." That is faith. That kind of faith few people have in this generation where people leave their Bible collecting dust.

Regretfully, most professing Christians in this latter day generation have their mind centered in this world much more than it is centered in God's Word.

**Mt 9:22.** But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort (or take courage); thy (or your) faith hath made thee whole (or well) (or healed you). And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Many in this lukewarm, wretched, and somewhat faithless generation, shrink back easily when encountered with obstacles. Few are strong in faith as in the Philadelphia church age.

Some preachers do speak of faith in Christ, but fail to tell the people where this faith comes from. It is by both hearing and reading, that is, devouring the Word of God—the Bible.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:21**, For she said within herself, If I may (only) but touch his garment (or cloak), I shall be whole (or get well)(or I will be healed).

**Mt 9:22.** When Jesus turned, the woman was probably terrified. He had caught her. Virtue or power had gone out of Him, and He had sensed it.

She probably wanted to run away.

But then Jesus reassured her with the gentle words of comfort: "Courage, daughter. You took a risk of **faith or trust**, and now you're well."

The words of "good comfort" from Jesus should have helped the woman to relax.

Jesus, the Son of God, had called her "**daughter**." This acknowledges she was a woman of faith and loved by Jesus.

As Jesus had been walking, many, at times, may have bumped into Him or touched Him, but nothing occurred. Her touch was different.

This miracle appears to be the only one in God's Word that took place **without Jesus knowing it**. He did not know she was present. Her faith caused the miracle to happen, as she touched His garment.

The woman was healed and made well from that time on, because of her trust in Jesus.

**Mt 9:23.** And when Jesus came into the ruler's (or official's) house, and saw the minstrels (or flute players) and the people (or crowd) making a noise (or noisy disorder),

Jesus said: BE OF GOOD COMFORT.  
THY FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.

Faith comes only from hearing and/or reading God's Word. Without faith (or hearing and/or reading God's Word), there is nothing.

God responds to love and faith. Faith can move God. If a person wants to find favor with God, repentance, immersing oneself in the Bible, and **obeying** it are the keys.

To have fellowship with Jesus is to have fellowship with the Bible.

To hear God speak to you is to hear or read the Bible.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:22**, But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort (or take courage); thy (or your) faith hath made thee whole (or well) (or healed you). And the woman was made whole from that hour.

**Mt 9:23.** As already covered, this ruler had great faith in that he was certain that Jesus could even raise the dead back to life-ref Mt 9:18.

Jesus and His disciples arrived at the house. There undoubtedly was a huge crowd that followed Him, as it seemed everywhere He went, this was the case.

As He arrived, there was a great commotion and lots of noise. People were playing funeral music on their instruments (such as the flute). The people were crying loudly.

This commotion and noise was typical in those days when someone had died. Sometimes people were also hired to do this. There were professional mourners.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:23**, And when Jesus came into the ruler's (or official's) house,



**Mt 9:24.** He said unto them, Give place (or depart): for the maid (or girl) is not dead, but sleepeth (or is asleep). And they laughed him to scorn (or began laughing at Him).

and saw the minstrels (or flute players) and the people (or crowd) making a noise (or noisy disorder),

**Mt 9:24.** It would appear that a fair amount of time had passed since the girl's death. It would have taken time for the official to find Jesus and get through the crowd, and then finally be able to speak to Jesus, and then go back to the house.

Jesus told the people to go and clear out and make more room.

He then told them that the maid (or girl) was not dead, but was only asleep.

In saying this, Jesus was indicating she could be awakened.

The crowd laughed (or mocked) and ridiculed Him, even to the point of scorning Him, as they did not believe Him. Jesus' response to their unbelief would have probably been very sharp.

At a much later date, Jesus would also raise Lazarus after he had had been dead 4 days and had been wrapped in graveclothes.

All people need to beware and fear God. One that mocks God or His Word may already have one foot in the lake of fire. It is the childlike people that will see the glory of God for eternity. One also needs to be careful what they say behind closed doors, for God knows all that is said even in the most private and secret places.

It is unclear what they had heard, regarding Jesus and the miracles He did in other places.

Do "you" walk by sight, or rather by God's Word?

Most walk and believe by what they see, but when it comes to trusting in God's Word, their

**Mt 9:25.** But when the people (or crowd) were put forth (or were put out), he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose (or she got up).

**Mt 9:26.** And the fame thereof (or this news) went abroad into all that land (or through all that region).

faith is no faith or just very shallow faith.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:24**, He said unto them, Give place (or depart): for the maid (or girl) is not dead, but sleepeth (or is asleep). And they laughed him to scorn (or began laughing at Him).

**Mt 9:25.** The faithless mourners were removed or forced from the ruler's house.

Finally, after the crowd of unbelieving people had been put outside and the house had been cleared, Jesus went in.

Through all of this unbelief and commotion, the faith of Jairus remained steadfast in Jesus.

We are reminded of the Scripture about don't cast your pearls before swine-ref Mt 7:6.

He took the hand of the daughter of the ruler, and the girl (or damsel) then rose up.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:25**, But when the people (or crowd) were put forth (or were put out), he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose (or she got up).

**Mt 9:26.** Jesus was becoming more and more famous in all the surrounding areas, as the news of the miracle that had happened spread throughout all that region.

We are reminded that when a person receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, they are often times surrounded with unbelievers and mockers trying to overturn their trust in Jesus.

There are many miracles that Jesus performed in the Scriptures.

However, Jn 21:25 reminds us that there were so many more miracles that Jesus did, that if they should be written everyone, (John)

**Mt 9:27.** And when Jesus departed thence (or went on from there), two blind men followed him, crying (or calling out), and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.

**Mt 9:28.** And when (or after) he was come into the house (or had gone indoors), the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, (or yes) Lord.

supposes that even the world could not contain the books that should be written.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:26**. And the fame thereof (or this news) went abroad into all that land (or through all that region).

**Mt 9:27.** Afterward, Jesus departed from the house where the girl had been healed.

As He departed, there were two blind men that followed behind Him.

As they followed, they were crying out, and shouting, and saying, You, Son of David, have mercy (or pity) on us (or deal kindly with us).

They acknowledged that **Jesus was the son of David**. They may have been acknowledging that they believed He was the Messiah that should come and would bring in the Kingdom. They appeared to be humble.

In addition to the two blind men, there was also a massive number of people that continued to follow Jesus and His disciples. He continued teaching and doing miracles that no one had done before Him.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:27**, And when Jesus departed thence (or went on from there), two blind men followed him, crying (or calling out), and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.

**Mt 9:28.** Finally, Jesus came to a certain house and entered into it. This may have been Matthew's house.

At that time, the two men that were blind came to Him.

Jesus asked them a question. He appears to have asked, if they believed that He was able to restore their sight, or do you have faith I can do this?

**Mt 9:29.** Then (he) touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it (done) unto you.

The two blind men answered, Yes, Lord, or yes, Lord, we do.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:28**, And when (or after) he was come into the house (or had gone indoors), the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, (or yes) Lord.

**Mt 9:29.** After they confessed openly that they believed that Jesus was able to restore their sight, then He touched their eyes.

When He touched their eyes, He said, As your faith is (or what you really believe in your heart), accordingly, it shall be done.

In this latter day generation that we are now living in, there are few that have real faith. Few make time to read the Bible as they should. People have time to be on their handheld devices. They have time for pleasures. They have time to watch the television and listen to the radio in their car. But where is Jesus in their life? He is on the outside looking in.

Are people listening to the Bible on a CD or another device?

When the Rapture comes, few will be taken. When Armageddon explodes and Jesus returns, most will have turned from Jesus or been beheaded. Yet a remnant shall remain protected by Jesus. It is written: **NEVERTHELESS, WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMETH, SHALL HE FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?**

Regarding the time just before the Rapture, the Bible clearly reflects that strong and obedient faith will be rare.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:29**, Then (he) touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it (done) unto you.

**Mt 9:30.** And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straightly charged them (or Jesus warned them sternly), saying, See that no man know it (or see that no one knows about this) (or see here, let no one know about this).

**Mt 9:30.** The results revealed that they did believe in their heart that Jesus was able to restore their sight.

They did have faith to be healed. They had faith in Jesus. Their eyes were opened or healed, and they were able to see.

Now, they were going to be **tested**.

Life is a test.

Will they obey what God is going to command them to do? They had asked Jesus to have mercy on them. He did.

Now Jesus then gave them a direct command: See that no man know this.

Be careful. Let none have knowledge of it.  
**Don't tell anyone.**

Do not let any person know how this took place.

Jesus was ordering them to keep what had happened to themselves.

Their joy and emotions, at this time, must have been overwhelming. They probably wanted to proclaim to everyone what had happened.

It is written, Heb 5:9-**He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.**

So what did they do? Did they obey God? They did not. They departed and began to tell people all over the area what Jesus had done for them.

Many professing Christians have some faith. However, they will not read God's Word as they ought, and neither will they obey God's Word.

Their excuses are many. The bottom line is, they just don't want to take the time from their schedule to follow Jesus by being in His Word.

Few pastors and few TV or Internet Bible teachers exhort people to devour God's Word, as if it is more necessary to them than the food they consume.

The question is asked: When Jesus returns, shall He find faith? This question reveals that a lack of reading and obeying the Bible will exist in the days before Jesus returns. These are the latter days which began May 14, 1948, which was when Israel was reborn.

According to God's Word, the last church age (which is right now) is: wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. Most know little of God's Word. In addition, most are hostile toward obeying God's Word and their minister. This is the "self" generation. It is a generation that is not humble, broken, or obedient to God's Word. It is a generation of "me, myself, and I." It is a generation that produces lukewarm Christians which will not be raptured.

Many have gone to an altar in a church or gone forward in an evangelistic crusade. They prayed something like, "Jesus, save me," or "God have mercy on me a sinner."

But they will not follow Jesus by dwelling in His Word. And of the very few that will dwell in His Word, an even fewer number will do what it says.

Few real miracle healings are evident in this latter day, lukewarm, faith generation.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:30**, And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them (or Jesus warned them sternly), saying, See that no man know it (or see that no one knows about this) (or see here, let no one know about

**Mt 9:31.** But they, when they were departed (or went out), spread abroad his fame (or the news about him) in all that country (or all over that region) (or in all that land).

this).

**Mt 9:31.** The two blind men departed. A miracle had happened. They could now see. God had healed them. Their joy was great. But upon leaving, they began to **disobey** the words of Jesus. Jesus died for those that would obey Him-ref Heb 5:9.

It may be said that as soon as they left, they took no heed to the warning that had been given to them. It appears they began telling everyone they came in contact with what had happened.

They began to tell many people throughout all the area the news of the miracle. They spread the name of Jesus through all that land.

It seems when their eyes were blind, their heart was open. But when their eyes were opened, their heart became blind-ref Jn 9:39-41.

Initially, many may come to faith in Jesus Christ. But as time progresses, most fall away as a result of the cares of this life, the lusts of other things, the deceitfulness of riches, the pleasures of this life, and fears that arise from persecutions, or death because of following Christ.

Faith comes from the Word of God. When there is a lack of hearing God's Word or a lack of being in the Bible, faith shrinks; and when temptations come, most fall away. Many are called, but only a few are chosen

As it has been said in **Mt 9:31**, But they, when they were departed (or went out), spread abroad his fame (or the news about him) in all that country (or all over that region) (or in all that land).

**Mt 9:32.** As they went out, behold, they

**Mt 9:32.** Jesus and His followers went out

brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil (and could not talk).

**Mt 9:33.** And when the devil (or demon) was cast out, the (man who had been) dumb spake: and the multitudes (or crowd) marvelled (or was amazed), saying, It was never so seen in Israel (or nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel).

**Mt 9:34.** But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils (or it is by the prince (or ruler) of (the) demons that he drives out demons).

from what is believed to be Matthew's house at Capernaum. As the blind men departed, people brought to Jesus a man that was dumb. The reason was, that he was possessed of a devil or demon.

As mentioned previously, some believe the demonic spirits are those from a previous creation.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:32**, As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil (and could not talk).

**Mt 9:33.** After Jesus had cast out the devil, the man began to speak. The people that saw this were astonished and said, It was never so seen in Israel.

What happened next **should strike fear in every person.**

**It should be a warning to all people to be VERY, VERY CAREFUL WITH THEIR WORDS.**

Beware that you never attribute the works of God to the work of the prince of the devils.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:33**, And when the devil (or demon) was cast out, the (man who had been) dumb spake: and the multitudes (or crowd) marvelled (or was amazed), saying, It was never so seen in Israel (or nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel).

**Mt 9:34.** Note, the **Pharisees** said. The Pharisees were the religious establishment at that time.

A **Pharisee** was a member of the Jewish sect that had flourished from before the time of Jesus till Israel was destroyed in 70 AD.

They followed after strict observances of religious ceremonies and practices. They adhered to oral laws and traditions. They did believe in life after death and that the King of



Israel was coming to usher in the Millennium. They were self-righteous and hypocritical. There were thousands of these Pharisees.

Jesus tells us about these religious Pharisees in Mt 23.

They were teachers of the law.

He calls them hypocrites.

They shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against men.

They would not enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

They hinder people from entering heaven.

They travel to win a convert, and when they succeed, they make him twice as much a son of hell as they were.

They were blind guides.

They taught incorrectly.

They did tithe.

They make a big deal of little things, and may ignore important things.

They swear by something that is insignificant and not by something important.

They neglected the more important things of the law, such as justice, mercy, and faith (or faithfulness).

They strain at a gnat, but swallow a camel.

They make themselves look good on the outside, but inside, they are full of extortion and excess.

They look real good on the outside, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

They look good on the outside, but inside are full of hypocrisy and iniquity or wickedness.

They lie to themselves.

They are serpents and shall not escape hell.

They persecute, and scourge, and kill the prophets that God sends.

They love the uppermost seats in the synagogues.

They love to be greeted in public.

They make themselves look good on the outside, but, on the inside, they are dead.

The people think they are God's children, but they are the children of hell.

These verses occurred about 26 months into the ministry of Jesus. A very similar incident took place about 3 months earlier, which is in Mt 12:22-24. This appears to be the reason Jesus gave the warning regarding the **unforgivable sin** in Mt chapter 12, but not in Mt chapter 9. (Mt 9:34 happened chronologically after Mt 12:24 by several months.) Matthew's Gospel was not written chronologically.

Regarding Mt 9:34: The religious leaders, that is, the Pharisees, that were present at that time, **said words they will regret for ever, and ever, and ever.**

IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR ALL TO READ CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING.

There is an unforgivable sin. Beware of what comes out of your mouth.

The religious leaders made an accusation. They said **HE** (which is Jesus) **CASTETH OUT DEVILS THROUGH THE PRINCE OF THE DEVILS.**

With these words, they committed the unforgivable sin, by equating the work of the Holy Spirit with the work of the devil.

In saying this, they were indicating that Jesus was in union with Satan.

How many of the religious leaders committed this sin is unknown.

#### **The Unforgivable Sin: Warning**

The Bible does speak of a sin that is unforgivable. It is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Should a person commit this sin, there is no hope. There can be no forgiveness.

It is written: Mt 12:31,32-WHEREFORE I SAY UNTO YOU, ALL MANNER OF SIN AND BLASPHEMY SHALL BE FORGIVEN UNTO MEN: BUT THE **BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST** SHALL NOT BE FORGIVEN UNTO MEN. AND WHOSOEVER **SPEAKETH** A WORD AGAINST THE SON OF MAN, IT SHALL BE FORGIVEN HIM: BUT **WHOSOEVER SPEAKETH AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST, IT SHALL NOT BE FORGIVEN HIM**, NEITHER IN THIS WORLD, NEITHER IN THE WORLD TO COME.

It is also written, in Mk 3:28-30-VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, ALL SINS SHALL BE FORGIVEN UNTO THE SONS OF MEN, AND BLASPHEMIES WHEREWITH SOEVER THEY SHALL BLASPHEME: BUT HE THAT SHALL **BLASPHEME AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST HATH NEVER FORGIVENESS**, BUT IS IN DANGER OF ETERNAL DAMNATION: BECAUSE THEY SAID, HE HATH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT.

This is further confirmed in the following. 1 Jn 5:16,17-...**THERE IS A SIN UNTO DEATH**: I DO NOT SAY THAT HE SHALL PRAY FOR IT. ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS IS SIN: AND THERE IS A SIN NOT UNTO DEATH.

What we call the unforgivable sin can be accomplished with your mouth. Note the word "speaketh" in Mt 12. It is further written in Mt 12:37-FOR BY THY WORDS THOU SHALT BE JUSTIFIED, AND **BY THY WORDS THOU SHALT BE CONDEMNED**.

What had caused Jesus to speak on this subject? Mt 12:22-24 tells us that there WAS BROUGHT UNTO (Jesus) ONE POSSESSED WITH A DEVIL, BLIND, AND DUMB: AND HE HEALED HIM, INSOMUCH THAT THE BLIND AND DUMB BOTH SPAKE AND SAW. AND ALL THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED, AND SAID, IS NOT THIS THE SON OF DAVID? BUT WHEN THE PHARISEES HEARD IT, THEY SAID,

THIS FELLOW DOETH NOT CAST OUT DEVILS, BUT BY BEELZEBUB THE PRINCE OF THE DEVILS.

Jesus replied in v.28- BUT IF I CAST OUT DEVILS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD, THEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COME UNTO YOU. Jesus then proceeded to say the words listed above about the unforgivable sin.

What had these emotional, unsaved, religious leaders said or done to sentence themselves to eternal death? They had attributed the works of the Spirit of God to the devil, when they accused Jesus Christ of casting out devils by the prince of the devils. They had blasphemed AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST. They had spoken AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:34**, But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils (or it is by the prince (or ruler) of (the) demons that he drives out demons).



(30 years plus 28 months)

**Mt 9:35.** And Jesus went about all the cities (or towns) and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching (or proclaiming) the **GOSPEL (or Good News) OF THE KINGDOM**, and healing every (kind of) sickness and every (kind of) disease among the people.

**Mt 9:35.** This verse tells us that Jesus went to "all" the cities and towns teaching. He taught in their synagogues.

He healed **EVERY** sickness.

He healed **EVERY** disease.

The miracles Jesus did could leave no doubt that this was the Messiah that was to come. Even His enemies (the chief priests and Pharisees) later on confessed that this man doeth many miracles-ref Jn 11:47.

He preached the "**Gospel of the Kingdom.**"

It has been said that two-thirds of the name of God is "**GO**". It is the first part.

One-third of the name "Gospel" is "**GO.**" It is also the first part.

Jesus preached in Israel.

The apostles extended this to many parts of the world, especially Paul that came later.

And now the Gospel can be heard through the radio, through shortwave, through the television, through handheld devices, and through other means also.

**Preaching** is to proclaim truth, which is God's Word.

**Teaching** should explain it in detail.

**The Holy Spirit** gives the understanding.

The word **preach** is referred to 3 times in the Old Testament and 47 times in the New Testament.

The word **preaching** is referred to 1 time in the Old Testament and 26 times in the New Testament.

The "**Gospel of the Kingdom**" is referring to the Millennial Kingdom. This shall begin shortly after Jesus returns at the time of the Battle of Armageddon.

At the time Jesus was teaching, the people thought this Kingdom would then take place, as the King was present.

However, they did not understand that Jesus had to first come and die for the sins of the people that would believe on Him, and then be resurrected and ascend up to be with the Father.

They did not understand that 7 church ages

would begin after Jesus ascended into heaven; and then an event called the Rapture would occur.

They did not understand that following the Rapture (which is called the Translation or "caught up") of the saints, a 7 year Tribulation would take place. However, the Lord will shorten those days.

They did not understand that immediately after the Tribulation, the one day Battle of Armageddon would explode. Then Jesus would return and all the saints with Him.

They did not understand the Millennial Kingdom would begin after Armageddon, and 1000 years of peace would follow, as Jesus would then reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. The Gospel of the Kingdom is the Millennial Kingdom mentioned in Mt 4:23; Mt 9:35; Mt 24:18; and Mk 1:14.

It has been said regarding the word JOY:

J. **Jesus** first.

O. **Others** second.

Y. **You** are last.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:35**, And Jesus went about all the cities (or towns) and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching (or proclaiming) the **GOSPEL (or good news) OF THE KINGDOM**, and healing every (kind of) sickness and every (kind of) disease among the people.

**Mt 9:36.** When Jesus saw the multitudes and looked out over the crowds that followed Him, He had **compassion, sympathy, and pity** on them. It was like His heart broke. The word "compassion" used here suggests deep emotions.

There were times when there were 5000 men, plus women and children.

**Mt 9:36.** But when he saw the multitudes (or crowds), he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted (or were harassed)(or distressed), and were scattered abroad (or helpless) (or downcast), as sheep having no **shepherd**.

Some were scattered here and there.  
Others were faint, and some fainted.  
Some were troubled and fatigued.  
Some were harassed and distressed.  
Some were very confused and helpless.  
They wandered aimlessly in no certain direction.

Some were as wandering sheep that had no shepherd, or keeper, or guide to assist them.

Sheep with no shepherd wander aimlessly not knowing where they are going, and having no sense of direction, or no sense of a mission.

The people were in a state of hopelessness.

Many in the world are like this.

They have little food, little good water, and little hope.

Jesus was providing not only hope, He was doing miracles such as never witnessed.

The Pharisees were in their own little world of "self." They did not care for the sheep or people.

Is it any different today?

For those that compare the **Protestant** churches with the Bible, they should find it is lacking. Those that follow them are like them, and they do not even suspect what their end will be.

The Roman **Catholic church** is the great harlot of the Revelation. Those that follow them are like them, and they do not even suspect what their end will be. As many are deceived today, even so they will also be deceived when this time comes.

There are so many **cults**, who can number them? **False christs** and **false prophets** abound.

As I recall the most noted evangelist of our time has estimated there are about 25,000 of these.

Of the so-called Bible-teaching denominations, these are, according to God's Word, at best, wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. Those that follow them are lukewarm.

There are a few **Philadelphia**-type churches in this generation, but who can find them? (Note the Revelation, the sixth church). These are good, Bible-teaching churches that do not compromise God's Word. Out of every 500 churches, perhaps 1 might fit this description, perhaps.

What is so troubling about all this is that most people love to have it this way.

Churches that preach as Jesus did, who can find one?

When the **Word of God** that convicts people of sin comes forth, the people react. Many want to get away from it, even as in the days of Jesus. The religious leaders sought to trap Jesus in His words. Many wanted to silence him or kill him.

Who is the head of most churches today? Is it man, or Christ? Is it lots of stories, or God's Word?

The actual words of Christ makes unrepentant sinners uncomfortable.

Take the biggest of the Christian churches. Put someone in the pulpit that preaches only God's Word of conviction with power and no foolishness. Then watch people, one by one, seemingly heading to the bathrooms and then out the doors.

Watch the cars in the parking lot begin to thin



**Mt 9:37.** Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous (or plentiful), but the labourers (or workers) are few.

out.

The kind of preaching Jesus did is almost nowhere to be found anymore, and if it can be found, there may be a joke, now and then, making the Word of God less convicting and not so effective.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:36**, But when he saw the multitudes (or crowds), he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted (or were harassed) (or distressed), and were scattered abroad (or helpless) (or downcast), as sheep having no **shepherd**.

**Mt 9:37.** Jesus was saying that there are many souls that are to be harvested. It is an abundant harvest. There are many people to be saved from their sins. However, the number of people that will work at bringing in the harvest are only a few.

There is much grain, but there are so few to harvest it. It seems that there are not enough people to do the work of the Lord that needs to be done.

Many profess they are a Christian, but when the days come for them to serve God or labor for Him, their excuses are like running water.

It is not those that claim they are a Christian that shall inherit eternal life, but those that will obey the words of the Bible and do what it says. Serving God (in the way He directs) is what a person is called to do. Many profess they know Christ, but they refuse to serve Him. Many are afraid.

Some go forth to witness, but then are afraid.

Some go forth to tell their friends about Jesus, but they do not, as they are afraid.

Many have opportunities to testify of Jesus,

but they do not do so, because of the uptightness in their stomach. He that overcometh shall inherit all things.

In this latter day generation, the teaching of the Gospel has been largely replaced.

Much of the teaching now is storytelling, with an occasional joke, and stories about the preacher and his family.

Much preaching today has also been replaced with psychology and nice, uplifting, and edifying words. These may attract people, but only God's Word can produce faith and convict people of sin.

Teaching about hell, the lake of fire, the judgments, fearing God, obeying God, Satan, and the meat of God's Word, which is perfection, is seldom found. Faith is spoken of, but little is said that faith can only come from God's Word.

As has been said: congregations often know far more about the preacher and his family, than they do about God's Word.

The number of people that claim they follow Christ are many.

However, the number of people that labor in God's Word and labor at harvesting souls, as a testimony they follow Christ, are few, very, very few.

The love of God that is in the hearts of most professing Christians is such, that when a born again Christian knocks on their door, they may utter a few ugly words, and then slam the door in their face.

Those that will labor for Christ are few, and it is only a few that shall be raptured. It is only a few that when they die find they are with Jesus.

**A Certain Statistician  
HOW MANY MAY GO TO HEAVEN?**

A certain person that had a background in mathematics and in the Scriptures, set out to try and understand biblically, and from worldly statistics, how many people may go to heaven, even from the beginning.

Over and over, the Bible says that it is only a few.

However there are figures in the Bible that can be used.

The final conclusion was that less than 1 out OF EVERY 225 PEOPLE may inherit eternal life. Will you be among them?

Mt 22:14 tells us that MANY ARE CALLED, BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN.

A person that professes Jesus is their Lord and Savior can expect to go through many tests to see if their faith is real or not. Few will hear the words WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

Many do ask Jesus to be their Lord and Savior, but when He asks them to serve Him, they make excuses. Indeed, many are called to salvation, but only a very few will follow Jesus and do the works He has ordained for them to do. Those that refuse to follow Him and refuse to obey God's Word, shall find that hell and the lake of fire are ahead.

People that call themselves a Christian, but do not do what the Bible tells them to do, are illegitimate sons, false Christians, make-believe Christians. Not everyone that calls on the name of Lord shall be saved, but rather those that do what the Bible (or the Lord) tells them to do.

**DEATH**

## THE BIBLE

**Show me a so-called Christian that does not love God's Word, and I can show you a Christian that is one in word only.**

**The Bible is Jesus. Jesus is the Bible.**

**Not to love the Bible is not to love Jesus. They are one and the same.**

**Just because a person goes to a Christian church does not make him a Christian.**

A person that can dwell in God's Word (which is JESUS), but does not, is a person that does not want to be with Jesus. The only alternative is hell.

Have you ever heard a clergy say that the person in the casket went to hell—ever?

How then does the Bible teach that nearly all do perish?...and only a few inherit eternal life?

Either the clergy are very deceived, or they seek to please the people listening, more than they desire to tell the truth.

The reality of it is this.

No one wants to go to hell, but neither do they want to be with Jesus, Who is the Word of God. The proof of this can be measured in how much time do you spend in the Bible?

If it is a very little, yet there is a Bible in your house, this reflects your lack of wanting to be with Jesus. Again, **Jesus is the Bible, and the Bible is Jesus.**

Let it be made clear. Not all clergy are of God.

The vast majority are false teachers or blind teachers of the blind. They are false prophets, false apostles, false preachers, false priests, false rabbi, false clergy that seem like the real thing, but they are false. The people that look

**Mt 9:38.** Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers (or workers) into his harvest.

upon them are not aware they are false.

Why are so many people deceived, regarding who is deceived? They do not dwell in God's Word in repentance, so they can see clearly.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:37**, Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous (or plentiful), but the labourers (or workers) are few.

**Mt 9:38.** Born again Christians are to **PRAY** that Jesus (Who is the Lord and owner of the harvest) that He would move in people's hearts to go forth and work at harvesting and bringing in the souls into "His" harvest.

In other words, pray the Lord will send forth people to preach His Word and to witness and lead other people to receive Christ as their only hope of salvation.

Then, consider yourself. Will you go to labor to bring in the harvest? As one prays, they may find that they themselves are being sent to the fields to harvest souls.

Most clergy seek after their own desires.

They, like others, follow after:

the cares of this life,  
the deceitfulness of riches,  
the pleasures of this life,  
and the lusts of other things.

They do not seek after the things that be of God-ref Phil 2:20,21.

### **FASTING**

**Fasting** is something that all Christians should do.

Consider fasting one-half day or one full day a week; in addition, one week each year.

Some may seek to do more, such as 10, 21, or 40 days.

If you have now read all the commentary for the previous chapter, consider returning to the beginning of the chapter and read just the verses again. Each verse should now have much more meaning to you.



Fasting means no food and lots of water only.

As it has been said in **Mt 9:38**, Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers (or workers) into his harvest.

[Click here for Mt. Chapter 10](#)

