

Luke 9

Luke 9.1-6 (parallel accounts: *Matt. 10.1-42* and *Mark 6.6-13*)

V1 – What did Jesus authorize the 12 apostles to do? They would have power over demons and the power to heal diseases

-Did this include Judas? Yes

-What is the significance of that? Judas was not corrupt from the beginning, but was a faithful apostle at this point – he later yielded to the temptation that Satan put before him

V2 – Their two jobs? Preach the kingdom and heal diseases

-Notice the dual nature of preaching: Preaching the message first and helping people as we have the opportunity

-What were they to proclaim about the kingdom? *Matt 10.17* (parallel account): "The kingdom is at hand"

-Remember *Luke 7.28* – John the Baptist would be less than the least in the kingdom when it arrived (the kingdom had not yet arrived, but was close)

-*Mark 9.1* – Some standing there would be alive when the kingdom came

-What is the significance of this statement to those churches that teach premillennialism today? They teach that Jesus failed to establish the kingdom in the First Century, so he established the church as a "place holder" until the kingdom would be established at his second coming

V3 – A list of things not to take:

1. A staff
2. A bag
3. Bread
4. Money
5. Only one tunic

-Why did Jesus give them these restrictions?

1. When we travel, we don't have to take it all with us – we usually end up taking too much when we travel
2. They were to be dependent on others to support them
3. They were to represent modesty and humility
4. They were not to spend too much time in preparation

V4 – Why stay in one house only in each city? So people would know where to find them, and also they would not have to waste time moving from house to house

-*Mark 6.7* tells us that they were sent out two at a time

V5 – Reaction if they were not welcomed? To shake the dust off of their clothes and leave

-A Jewish custom – Paul:

1. *Acts 13.51* – at Antioch of Pisidia
2. *Acts 18.6* – at Corinth

V6 – They were to obey the commandments of Jesus

-What principle do we see here? Delegation of authority – Jesus didn't go everywhere, so he sent his apostles out to fulfill his mission

-This same principle applies to elders in the Lord's church – they can't do it all and must delegate

assignments to the deacons and to others in the congregation

Luke 9.7-11

V 7 – **Why was Herod confused?** Because of rumors that Jesus was John the Baptist raised from the dead

-See *Mark 6.14-29* – Herod felt guilty about having John the Baptist beheaded (seems to be implied)

V 8 – **Other rumors?** Elijah or another prophet

-See *Deut. 18.15, 18* – Moses told of a coming "prophet" to be raised up

-*John 1.20-21* – The Jews were confused

-*Acts 3.22* – Prophet = Jesus

V 9 – Herod was curious

V 10 – The 12 apostles returned and reported to Jesus

-We don't know what their report was (maybe not fantastic results?)

-**What did they do after returning?** Rested for awhile

V 11 – *Mark 6.34* – Jesus felt compassion for crowds

-**Two goals again?** Preaching the kingdom and healing the sick

Luke 9.12-17 – The feeding of the 5000

V 12 – Probably late afternoon

-The apostles had apparently no idea a miracle was coming

V 13 – **Why did Jesus command them to feed the people?** Possibly to emphasize their dependence on God (to establish that they were helpless in this situation)

-**The supply of food?** 5 loaves, 2 fish

V 14 – They were to group the people in 50's (God has order in everything)

V 15 – **Why recline?** It was the custom (they would be ready to eat)

V 16 – Notice that Jesus gave thanks before eating (as he always did)

V 17 – **How much was collected after the meal?** 12 baskets full

-**Did Jesus overestimate the needs of the crowd?** No, but it was to show that God abundantly supplies our needs - **Read Luke 6.38**

Luke 9.18-27 – The confession of Jesus

V 18 – **Why did Jesus question them?** To test their faith and strengthen them (not just for the information)

-Also, the "*modus operandi*" of Jesus was always to ask questions

V 19 – Similar to the thoughts of Herod

V 20 – Jesus really was not too concerned about what the crowds thought of him

-He was more concerned with what the 12 apostles thought of him

-**Peter answered?** The Christ of God

V 21 – **Why not spread the world?** The time was not ripe yet

V 22 – **What had to happen before they could proclaim him as the Son of God?** Much suffering, plus the crucifixion

-**When did the 12 apostles proclaim Jesus as the Christ?** Read Acts 2.36

V 23 – **Three steps to being a disciple:**

1. Deny self

2. Take up one's cross (suffering for the sake of the gospel)

3. Follow Jesus

V 24 – **Explain?** To make provisions for the flesh = to doom ourselves

-Survivalists are in the news from time to time (making preparations for nuclear war, climate change, overthrow of the government, foreign invasion, etc.)

-**What is better in life?** To be spiritually-minded and to trust in God

V 25 – **What is of the ultimate value?** The soul

V 26 – Jesus identified himself with his words (to be ashamed of one was to be ashamed of the other)

V 27 – Kingdom was still to come

-Judas did not survive to see the kingdom

Luke 9.28-36 (parallel account: *Matt. 17.1-8, Mark 9.2-8, also 2 Peter 1.17-18*)

V 28 – One of the mountains near Caesarea Philippi

-**Which 3 apostles did he invite for this occasion?** Peter, James, John

V 29 – The face of Jesus became different

-*Matt. 17.2* – His face shone like the sun

-*Mark 9.3* – His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them

-**Where else do we see Jesus looking like this?** Read Rev. 1.14, 16, Rev. 21.23

V 30 – **Who were with Jesus?** Moses and Elijah

-**Why Moses and Elijah?** Moses = giver of the Law, Elijah = leading prophet (the two great concepts of the Old Testament)

-Moses was buried (*Deut. 34*); Elijah was gone, but not "asleep" (conscious)

-**How did Peter, James, and John know Moses and Elijah?** (Good question – any ideas?)

V 31 – **What were they talking about?** The coming death of Jesus (no other details)

V 32 – This seems to indicate that the three apostles were asleep at the beginning of the Transfiguration; the light awakened them
-Then they were "fully awake" (they were not dreaming)

V 33 – Peter was always the impulsive one
-Some always have to speak out – Peter was that way (until after Pentecost)
-His suggestion? To build three tabernacles (booths)
-The Feast of Tabernacles among Jewish people still involves building booths today

V 34 – Terrifying – a cloud surrounded them (technical name: "Shekinah")
See *Exodus 24.16-17, 2 Chron. 5.13-14, Isaiah 6.4, Acts 1.9*

V 35 – So similar to the voice at the baptism of Jesus
-What was the real message of the voice? Moses and the Old Law were passing away, and the prophets all told of the Messiah who was coming
-In other words, it was not the time to honor the Old Testament – It was almost over

V 36 – They were told not to tell anyone about this...until the proper time

Luke 9.37-45 (parallel accounts: *Matt. 17.14-20, Mark 9.14-29*)

V 37 – *Mark 9.14* – The scribes were in the crowd arguing with the people and disturbing everyone
-So the apostles possibly had weak faith at this time

V 38 – **The situation?** This man's only son was possessed by demons

V 39 – **Various details of what happened to the boy?**

1. A spirit would seize him
2. He would scream
3. He would have a convulsion and would foam at the mouth
4. The spirit would maul him when it left

-What does this passage tell us about the author of this book? A medical doctor

V 40 – The apostles could not heal the boy
-Remember *Luke 9.1* – they had power over demons
-What was the problem? It was a lack of faith on their part

V 41 – Jesus was disappointed with the scribes and the apostles and the general unbelief in human beings

V 42 – There was great calmness as Jesus healed the boy

V 43 – **What really amazed the people?** The greatness of God (quite a statement!)

V 44 – The coming death of Jesus – remember the conversation he had with Moses and Elijah

V 45 – They were not ready yet for the whole truth – when the time came for them to hear the truth,

then they would be ready

-Remember *John 14.26* – The Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth

-A school teacher does not give the students the hard material until they are ready to receive it

Luke 9.46-48 (parallel accounts: *Mark 9.33-37* and similar to *Matt. 18.1-15*.)

V 46 – People have to argue, don't they?

-If things are at peace, they will find something to argue about

-**What were they arguing about?** Who was the greatest in the kingdom?

V 47 – Jesus could read their minds; he knew about the argument

-Please notice: If Jesus had wanted Peter to be pope, this would have been the time to announce it!

V 48 – **What is the lesson here?** Humility, not power, is to be the hallmark of the Christian life

Luke 9.49-50

V 49 – H. Leo Boles: John brought up this subject to take their thoughts away from what had just happened

-We see the continuing pride among the twelve apostles

V 50 - **Who might this man have been?** Probably someone Jesus had healed, who had become one of his faithful disciples

-Jesus had granted him the power to cast out demons

Luke 9.51-56

V 51 – Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem (grim resolution)

V 52 – **Why did Jesus send messengers into the Samaritan village?** To make arrangements for him

V 53 – **Why did the Samaritans not want Jesus to stay there?** Because of their hatred for the Jews (racism can work in both ways many times)

V 54 - **What reaction did the apostles have when the Samaritans did not extend hospitality to Jesus and the apostles?** Bring down fire from heaven and destroy them

V 55 – **What was the reaction of Jesus to their anger and their tempers?** They were not of his spirit (but were being influenced by Satan)

V 56 – **The purpose of Christ on the earth?** To save people, not destroy them

Luke 9.57-62

V 57 – **What did one "follower" brag that he would do?** Go with Jesus wherever he went

V 58 – **What burden will some Christians have to bear?** The Christian way of life may require us to be homeless and hungry.

V 59 – **What excuse did another follower make for his delay?** His father had died, and he had to go and bury him

V 60 – **The answer of Jesus?** Let the dead bury the dead
-Meaning of that statement? Christ must be more important to us than our earthly relatives

V 61 – **What did another follower want to do?** Go home and say good-bye to his relatives

V 62 - **The answer of Christ?** When we put our hand to the plow, we are not to look back
-The point? To become a Christian is not child's play
-It is not painless, and it is not without cost
-It is very serious; we are to remain faithful until death
-Some people fail to realize the level of commitment that Jesus requires

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