

Jesus Teaching Evangelism

Lu 10:1-12; 1 "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. 2 Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. 3 Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. 4 Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. 5 And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. 6 And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. 7 And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. 8 And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: 9 And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. 10 But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, 11 Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. 12 But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.

Lu 10:1 "and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come." Jesus sent out these disciples to go forth and evangelize before him in the places he will visit. **Lu 10:4 "Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way."** Jesus commanded them to not carry any provisions for natural sustenance as it will be provided by their brethren. Understand: these were sent unto Israel, not into all the world. They were sent to places that Jesus would visit in person. Wherefore, we understand that this is a preparatory work, just as John the Baptist was the forerunner, announcing the coming of Christ.

The word "scrip" means: *a wallet, a bag for carrying things, such as food or other supplies*. We could easily describe scrip as a toolbox, lunchbox, or briefcase since the intent is to carry your necessary supplies with you. I would point out: When I was young, scrip was wrongly defined and misused by unlearned men, who believed it meant a bible text or prepared sermon. This was one of the texts used by ministers for a reason to not come prepared with a pre-chosen text, or a prepared sermon to preach. Clearly this is not what scripture teaches.

Lesson for our young people: this is why your parents, and the church, are trying to teach you the truth of the bible, in its entirety. When you read the bible, and find words you do not understand, ask, and search and find the correct meaning, so you do not get led to believe something that is not true.

Lu 22:35-37; 35 "And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye anything? And they said, Nothing. 36 Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. 37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.

Some would say that this is contradictory; Jesus told them to take nothing one time and then take everything the next time. They would try to make this be a discrepancy in the bible, and in Jesus's teaching. May God help us to clarify and dispel any such notions of man.

Consider the context of the two different texts. In Luke 10 Jesus is sending the disciples to places he is going to visit. He is sending them to their own brethren, who were taught to provide their every

need in nature. He is sending them on short trips, and he will come to them, or they will return to him, and where they can report their successes and failures.

When we get to Luke 22: Jesus is sending the disciples forth to all the world to preach, see: **Mr 16:15**. Jesus will no longer be incarnate. They will no longer have the wonder, of his coming to where they are to perform miracles, to open and supply their needs. They will be going on long trips, among the Gentile people of the world, who do not know, or care, about Jesus. In the kingdom of Israel, it was safe to travel from place to place as they lived by the law commandments and thieves, robbers, murderers, and such like were put to death.

Jesus will shortly sacrifice himself on the cross. The hatred against him by the leaders of Israel (not the common people of Israel) and the Roman empire, will be accomplished, and they will crucify Jesus. Henceforth, this hatred will be directed at his disciples (and those who believe that Jesus is the Christ) as they continue his assigned work of evangelism. They will preach to their brethren in some places, but as they are rejected of Israel, they will go abroad unto the Gentiles. In the Gentile world, they will not always find people like their brethren, who are willing to meet their every need. They will be going from place to place in the world, and will be meeting robbers, murderers, thieves, and all manner of ungodly people. This necessitates that they carry with them: the things required for them to exist in nature; as well as weapons with which they can defend their natural lives. Wherefore, we see that the different instructions are for different circumstances, and are not conflicting in any way.

What kind of application can we make of these instructions of Jesus in our own lives today? When we travel among brethren, we understand that we do not have to have provisions and weapons. We are among our own kind of people who are given to hospitality and kindness. Ministers often visit other churches at the request of that church, or its pastor, and that church will make provision for their natural needs. They need only bring the things they need to minister as is their duty. Evangelists, who are sent forth to people who are not brethren, must make provision for themselves. They need to carry the things they need for their natural sustenance with them, and they may also need to bring weapons to defend themselves against criminals.

In a spiritual application, to both ministers and all evangelists; (all God's professing people are evangelist) we all need to carry our scrip (toolbox), filled with both the physical and the mental needs of our body, heart, and mind). We need our spiritual scrip, which should have our well-studied bible, and other things needed, to be able to minister to others, as occasion may arise. We should have our hearts and minds thoroughly prepared, filled with thorough biblical knowledge, prior to going forth in an evangelic effort. Our hearts and minds should be filled with "**thus saith the Lord**," whereby, we would be enabled to always give a ready answer.

Before we evangelize; we should have spent time in fervent prayer to God, through Christ, asking for clear instruction of what God would have us to do. We should move, when prompted by the Holy Spirit, and put forth our best efforts, to produce an acceptable work in Christ. Ministers, especially, should know, in their hearts and minds, that God has sent them where they are going to minister. They should go fully prepared and willing to do that which God requireth. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your written word of testimony, by which we may be guided to faithful ministry. Dear God, we pray; that you make our work be fruitful in Jesus Christ, and your name to be glorified now and ever, Amen!