

**THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW**

Chapter 9:32-10:4

Thursday Morning Bible Study
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Wauwatosa, WI

1

Jesus Heals the Blind and Mute – 9:27-34

- 32 -The final miracle in Ch. 8 & 9 is the healing of a demon-possessed man who is rendered mute.
- 33 – Three speakers are noted in this story:
 - 1) The mute man himself
 - 2) The crowds who marveled at the results of Jesus’ ministry. What they say is true: this has not happened in Israel before.
 - V. 34 – The 3rd speaker is the voice of the Pharisees. Their words portend the shape of their increasingly hostile reaction to Jesus. They attribute his power to Satan.

2

The Workers are Few – 9:35-38

- V. 35 – This verse is the back end of a bracket that Matthew has placed around the entire section from 4:23 to now, and introduces the next sermon (chapter 10).
- Jesus has been demonstrating his authority over evil; disciples have been called; many crowds are marveling, though most do not believe; and some, like the pharisees, have begun to set themselves in opposition to Jesus and the reign of God.
- Jesus, meanwhile, keeps on traveling in Israel, fulfilling his promise.

3

The Workers are Few – 9:35-38

- V. 36-38 – Jesus is about to send out his 12 disciples, but here we are given the reason why. Jesus has compassion on the people like a shepherd has compassion on his sheep.
- In words reminiscent of Ezek. 34:5-6, 12, Jesus sees the people like sheep without a shepherd, harassed and helpless.
- They are like a great harvest, and there is an urgent need for workers.

4

The Calling of the Apostles – 10:1-4

- V. 1 – Jesus knows he cannot physically get to all the people who need to be touched with the good news of the kingdom, so he commissions his 12 and gives them the authority that had been given to him.
- This authority will extend over unclean spirits and every manner of illness.
- Their message will be same as Jesus: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
- In sending out 12, he is reconstituting the true Israel.

5

The Calling of the Apostles – 10:1-4

- V. 2 – All these men are labeled “apostles.” The word can be used in two senses:
- 1) – The name simply means “sent ones” and in the broad sense it applies to all of us sent by Jesus in the Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-28)
- But in the New Testament, the word is used in a specific sense for the 12. Included, but not listed here are Matthias, chosen to replace Judas, and Paul, who also claimed apostleship after his call by Jesus on the road to Damascus.

6

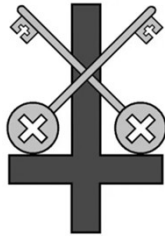
The Calling of the Apostles – 10:1-4

- The names vary from list to list (Luke, Mark and Acts) but Peter is always listed first and Judas Iscariot last.
- There are two sets of brothers, Peter and Andrew and James and John. Some suggest that James, son of Alphaeus and Matthew are brothers, since their fathers had the same name.
- Let's meet the twelve:

7

Simon Peter

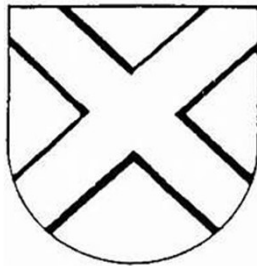
- Named "Petros" by Jesus which means "Rock"
- A fisherman from Bethsaida and brother of Andrew.
- He was given the keys of the kingdom (Mt. 16:18-19)
- He was arrested in Rome by Nero and crucified upside down in 64 AD



8

Andrew

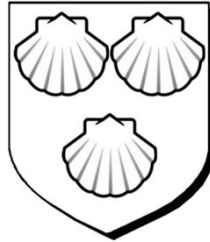
- The 1st disciple. He was a disciple of John the Baptist.
- He recruited Peter.
- He was the one who found the boy with his lunch to feed the 5000.
- According to tradition, he was crucified on an X shaped cross in Patras, Greece in 60 AD



9

James (Major)

- Son of Zebedee and brother of John. A fisherman
- His mother, Salome, was a follower of Jesus.
- He and John were the "Sons of Thunder."
- He, with Peter and John was one of the "inner circle".
- Made a mission trip to Spain and was beheaded by Herod Agrippa in 45 AD



10

John, Son of Zebedee

- The youngest of the disciples.
- In his Gospel he refers to himself as "the one Jesus loved."
- Assigned by Jesus to care for his mother.
- Author of 5 books of the Bible.
- Exiled to the Island of Patmos, he ultimately died of old age in Ephesus. The only one of the 12 not executed.



11

Philip

- A Hebrew with a Greek name.
- The one who told Jesus they didn't have enough to feed 5000.
- Approached by some Greeks to meet Jesus (Jn. 12:20-22)
- Preached the Gospel in southern France.
- Martyred in Hierapolis (Turkey), either by crucifixion or beheading.



12

Bartholomew (Nathaniel)

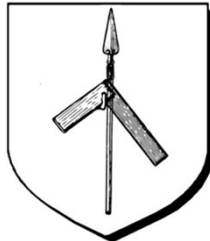
- The Gospels tell us almost nothing about this apostle. John calls him Nathaniel.
- Bartholomew may have been his surname: "son of Tolmai".
- He was a missionary to India, and was with Philip in Hierapolis.
- He was in ancient Armenia where he was skinned alive and then beheaded.



13

Thomas the Twin (Didymus)

- Although branded as a doubter, he was a very influential missionary, especially to India. He is the patron saint of India.
- Depicted with a builder's square because he built churches.
- May have gone as far as China.
- After angering a local official he was stabbed in the back by three spears in 72 AD



14

Matthew Levi, son of Alphaeus

- A tax collector in a very rich position in Capernaum.
- He preached in Judea before going to other countries, probably Ethiopia.
- Tradition says that while in Ethiopia he angered the King who had him killed while he stood at the altar leading worship.



15

James, son of Alphaeus (James the Less)

- His mother was Mary of Clopas, a sister of Jesus' mother.
- There were three James: James Major, James the Less, and James the brother of Jesus.
- If he and James, the brother of Jesus are the same person, he died at the hand of the High Priest who threw him from the temple and then was sawn in two.



16

Thaddeus (Jude or Judas)

- Matthew and Mark call him Thaddeus; Luke calls him Jude; John calls him Judas (not Iscariot).
- Asked a question at the Last Supper.
- The "Saint of Lost Causes"
- Missionary to Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Iran
- Martyred c. 60 AD near Mt. Ararat when he baptized the daughter of the local king.



17

Simon the Zealot

- Was he a zealot?
- One tradition is that he went with Joseph of Arimathea to Britain.
- Probably traveled to Persia, Armenia and the Republic of Georgia, maybe with Jude.
- It was in Georgia that he spent the last 10 years of his life, dying at the hand of Roman persecution in 55 AD



18

Judas Iscariot

- “Iscariot” probably means “man of Kerioth, a town in Judea. If so, he was the only non-Galilean in the 12.
- We know he was the “treasurer” of the group.
- We know nothing more about him than that he was the betrayer who took his own life.