

## Day One – Recap of Ten Commandments: Lesson 13

I trust you understand the Ten Commandments is one link in a long, long chain of gracious things God has done for his people. I also trust you understand that chain is woven not only throughout the storyline of the Bible, but is also woven in and out of your own life. God *truly* is a prodigal father.

I haven't included a song in a while, but this particular one is a sober reminder of what life would be like without God's undeserved blessings. It is Bob Dylan, naturally.

*If you find it in Your heart, can I be forgiven?  
Guess I owe You some kind of apology  
I've escaped death so many times, I know I'm only living  
By the saving grace that's over me.*

*By this time I'd-a thought I would be sleeping  
In a pine box for all eternity  
My faith keeps me alive, but I still be weeping  
For the saving grace that's over me.*

*Well, the death of life, then come the resurrection  
Wherever I am welcome is where I'll be  
I put all my confidence in Him, my sole protection  
Is the saving grace that's over me.*

*Well, the devil's shining light, it can be most blinding  
But to search for love, that ain't no more than vanity  
As I look around this world all that I'm finding  
Is the saving grace that's over me.*

*The wicked know no peace and you just can't fake it  
There's only one road and it leads to Calvary  
It gets discouraging at times, but I know I'll make it  
By the saving grace that's over me.*

## Day Two – Read Matthew 11:1 and 11:2-6

In May we concluded our study of Matthew 1-10. Some have noted that you could summarize these chapters as the offer of Christ. In chs. 1-4, we are introduced to Jesus and we find out about his birth and infancy. Then we are taken to the beginning of his ministry as he is introduced and begins to preach and heal. In chs 5-7 we read King Jesus' words which leaves the crowd glorifying God and amazed at his authority. In chs 8-9 we observe his works which reveal his authority and compassion through a series of extraordinary miracles. Jesus Christ's background, words, and works reveal that he is truly the Messiah

that God promised would come to rescue his people. As we conclude chapter 9 we see that Jesus observes Israel and he says that they are sheep without a shepherd. He sends out his disciples into the harvest to shepherd his people Israel. They are to follow his pattern of ministry.

How does Matthew 11:1 bring a conclusion to Ch. 10 and an introduction to Ch.11?

Where was John the Baptist (11:2 cf. 4:12)? What did John the Baptist ask Jesus?

How did Jesus respond? What did he say was happening?

Why would John have been surprised by Jesus ministry (3:11-12)?

Look up Is 35:5-6 and 61:1-2, do you notice similarities with Jesus' response to John?

When you read Jesus response what does this tell you about Jesus ministry? How does it reveal his authority?

Jesus answers John's question in the affirmative. Why did John struggle with knowing whether or not he was Messiah?

Sometimes in the Old Testament, it seems that when the kingdom comes that it would be a day for the enemies of Israel to be defeated and that Messiah would set up his reign. The anticipation of the Messiah's coming was that he would defeat Israel's present enemies (i.e. Rome) and all of Messiah's deliverance would be physical. As you read the New Testament it seems that the struggle with Jesus ministry is that he comes as a gentle suffering servant as Isaiah revealed (Is 52:13-53:12) and somehow a crucified Savior didn't work in their plan. Ultimately, Jesus will return as reigning Lord but the cross comes before the crown.

**Day Three – Read Matthew 11:7-11**

What does 'a reed shaken by the wind imply? What about a man dressed in soft clothing?

Describe John the Baptist as man? as a preacher?

What was John's primary message (3:2-3)?

Should we model John's preaching when trying to prepare people to hear the message of the gospel? Why or Why not?

In the last part of v.11, what do you think is meant by 'least in the kingdom is greater than he'?

## **Day Four – Read Matthew 11:12-15**

How does v.12 relate to John the Baptist imprisonment? How were the prophets often treated?

What made John distinct from all the other prophets? In light of v.14, read Malachi 3:1 and 4:5. Note what you learn.

In v. 6 and v. 15 what does Jesus seem to be saying?

### **READ: Matthew 11:16-19**

How does Jesus contrast his ministry with John the Baptist ministry in vv. 17-18?

What does this reveal about the response of Israel?

What do you think he means by 'wisdom is justified by her deeds'?

## **Day Five – Read Matthew 11:20-24**

Why does Jesus denounce cities?

Read vv. 21-22. What was presented to them that would have prepared them to repent?

Finish the following GREATER REVELATION = GREATER \_\_\_\_\_.

Look up the following about Tyre and Sidon. **Tyre and Sidon** were Gentile cities in Phoenicia and were often the object of condemnation by OT prophets for their Baal worship and arrogant materialism. (ESV Study Bible)

Why this a fearful thing?

vv. 23-24 Capernaum might have thought they would be exalted but instead they are \_\_\_\_\_.

What do you learn about Sodom (Gen 18:20)?

Why is it more tolerable for the cities of old than the cities in Jesus day?

## **Day Six – Read Matthew 11:25-27**

What does Jesus thank the Father for?

What do you learn about the type of people who understand the kingdom?

What do you learn about the Son and the Father?

What is the only way that someone can understand? What must the Son do? Read John 17:6-7. What do you learn about Jesus people?

**READ: Matthew 11:28-30**

How does Jesus extend the call?

Why are the people burdened down?

Although they will be taking a new yoke, how will it be different than their former condition?

How might you summarize this chapter? How is it related to your response to the revelation given from John and Jesus?