

Workers in His Harvest

John 20:20-22 ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and *said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

As the Father sent Jesus, Jesus also sends us! What makes a man more than a man is the Holy Spirit in and upon Him.

Matthew 3:16-17 ¹⁶ After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Jesus was baptized and received the Holy Spirit. In this moment, He also experienced the affirming testimony of His Father in heaven that He was His Son, He was loved, and that God was pleased with Him.

As the Father filled, loved, and delighted in Jesus, Jesus also fills, loves, and delights in us!

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

At God's direction, Jesus now has His first experience in hand-to-hand spiritual combat. It was the fight of His life spiritually, and the fulfillment of His purpose was in the balance.

As the Father trained Jesus to fight the devil, Jesus also trains us!

In every way commending ourselves as servants of God...

2 Cor. 6:7 ⁷ in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left

Matthew 4:11 ¹¹ Then the devil *left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.

As the Father sent angels to care for Jesus, Jesus also sends angels to care for us!

Hebrews 1:14 ¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Matthew 4:17 ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

As the Father gave Jesus a message to share, so Jesus puts a message in us!

Matthew 4:23-24 ²³ Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people. ²⁴ The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.

As the Father gave Jesus His power to administer His compassion, so Jesus gives us His power to do good in His name!

What if the Church began to expect to be sent by Jesus just as the Father sent Him? How would this world be changed!

Our city, county, country...

Matthew 9:32-38 ³² As they were going out, a mute, demon-possessed man was brought to Him. ³³ After the demon was cast out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed, *and were* saying, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." ³⁴ But the Pharisees were saying, "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

Here is the chief objective of the kingdom of darkness: to silence the church through oppression and intimidation- to take away our voice.

This message I am sharing today is HATED by the kingdom of darkness

The pharisees- these hand-puppets of their father, the devil- were desperate to discredit the work of God. The devil made them do it!

How many believers have had their true identity as the spirit-filled, sent-out servants of God stripped from away them?

How many have just laid down and accepted it? Remember what the people said: "NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER BEEN SEEN...!"

These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also... Acts 17- Thessalonica

³⁵ Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

Now hear the bleeding heart of Jesus in this impassioned call for co-laborers- workers in God's Harvest!

³⁶ Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then He *said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

They were told to pray, but who ended up being the answer to the prayer?

Pray, Pray, that workers will be sent into this Harvest and that we will be those workers- sent by Jesus to work like Jesus in this glorious harvest of souls!

Ministry focus: who has lost their voice? Who has lost their zeal? Who is ready to embrace their calling and sending?