

Jesus' Official Representatives

Mark 6:7-13



I. The Ministers (7-10)



□ B. Dependent on Christ's Provision (8-9)

- 8-9 - and He instructed them that they should take nothing for *their* journey, except a mere staff-- no bread, no bag, no money in their belt-- but *to* wear sandals; and *He added*, "Do not put on two tunics."
 - Cf. Luke 22:36 - And He said to them, "But now, whoever has a money belt is to take it along, likewise also a bag, and whoever has no sword is to sell his coat and buy one."
 - Matt. 10:10 - for the worker is worthy of his support.
 - Cf. 1 Th. 2:9; 1 Tim. 5:18
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I. The Ministers (7-10)



□ A. Appointed by Christ's Authority (7)

- 7 - And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.
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I. The Ministers (7-10)



□ C. Content with Christ's Provision (10)

- 10 - And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town."
 - Matt. 10:11 - "And whatever city or village you enter, inquire who is worthy in it, and stay at his house until you leave *that city*."
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Why Pairs?



- Companionship
 - Safety
 - Mutual encouragement
 - Past history
 - Eccl. 4:9-12 - wise Jewish practice
 - Jewish alms collectors.
 - Luke 7:18-19 - John the Baptist
 - Acts 13:2-3; 15:39-41; 19:22 - the early church
 - Mark 11:1; 14:13; Luke 10:1 - Jesus always sent out His disciples in this way.
 - The requirement for witnesses.
 - Deut. 17:6 - "On the evidence of two witnesses or three witnesses, he who is to die shall be put to death; he shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness."
 - Deut. 19:15 - "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed."
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II. The Mission (11-13)



□ A. The Seriousness of the Mission (11)

- 11 - "Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them."
 - Matt. 10:15 - "Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for *the* land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city."
 - Cf. Jesus' example - Nazareth (6:6)
 - Cf. the apostles' example - Acts 13:51; 18:6
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II. The Mission (11-13)



□ B. The Heart of the Mission (12-13)

- 12-13 - They went out and preached that *men* should repent. And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.
- Matt. 10:5-6 – These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "Do not go in *the* way of *the* Gentiles, and do not enter *any* city of the Samaritans; 6 but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- Matt. 10:7-8 - "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 "Heal *the* sick, raise *the* dead, cleanse *the* lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

Implications



- 1) Principles for all those who minister on Christ's behalf...
 - Appointed by Christ.
 - Dependant on God's provision thru His people.
 - Content with God's provision—whatever it is.
 - Regard the mission seriously.
 - Committed first and foremost to teaching and preaching—communicating on His behalf.

Implications



- 2) Jesus sent out the 12 to minister in His place.
 - His official representatives.
 - His official proxies or delegates.
 - He delegated His unique authority to those to whom He chose.
 - And then He gives them specific gifts that authenticate them as His messengers and confirm their message.
 - Cf. 2 Cor. 12:12 - The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.
 - Heb. 2:1-4