

Jesus Sent Them Away... Why are we Sent?

Mark 16:15 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Matthew 14:9-24 21st Century King James Version (KJ21)

⁹ And the king was sorry; nevertheless for the oath's sake, and those who sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her.

¹⁰ And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison.

¹¹ And his head was brought on a charger and given to the damsel, and she brought it to her mother.

¹² And his disciples came, and took up the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

¹³ When Jesus heard of it, He departed thence by boat into a desert place apart. And when the people had heard thereof, they followed Him on foot out of the cities.

¹⁴ And Jesus went forth and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and He healed their sick.

¹⁵ And when it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a desert place and the time is now past. **Send the multitude away**, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves victuals."

¹⁶ **But Jesus said unto them, "They need not depart. Give ye them to eat."**

¹⁷ And they said unto Him, "We have here but five loaves and two fishes."

¹⁸ And He said, "Bring them hither to Me."

¹⁹ And He commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves and the two fishes; and looking up to Heaven, He blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to His disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

²⁰ And they all ate and were filled. And they took up the fragments that remained, twelve baskets full.

²¹ **And those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.**

²² **And straightway Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a boat and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.**

²³ And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up onto a mountain apart to pray. And when evening had come, He was there alone.

When he had sent the multitudes away — As well as his disciples, and was now alone, *he went up into a mountain apart* — Though Christ had so much to do with and for others, yet he chose sometimes to be alone; and those are not his followers who are averse to solitude, and out of their element when they have none to converse with, none to enjoy, but God and their own souls; *to pray* — This was our

Lord's business while alone; not merely to meditate, but also, and especially, to pray to his heavenly Father. It is true, he had not the same reasons for prayer that we have, for he had no sins to be pardoned or conquered, nor any depravity of nature to be subdued and taken away; but he had a variety of infinitely important services to perform, many temptations to overcome, and unparalleled sufferings to endure; and in all these, as man, "of a reasonable soul, and human flesh subsisting," he had need of divine supports and consolations. *Benson Commentary*

²⁴ But the boat was now in the midst of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.

now the church of Christ is like a ship in this troublesome sea; where the true disciples and followers of Christ are selected together; and are preserved from the pollutions of the world, and from the danger to which the men of it are exposed, being in their sins, and liable to the wrath and curse of God, and eternal damnation; which, they that are in Christ, and members of his body, are secure from; the port or haven to which they are bound, is heaven and eternal happiness; their's and Christ's Father's house, where are many mansions provided for them; and where they long to be, and hope, and believe, ere long they shall arrive unto; and hope is as an anchor of their soul, sure and steadfast: but in the mean while, whilst they are sailing through the sea of this world, they are often, as the church of old, tossed with tempests, and not comforted, [Isaiah 55:11](#) with the tempests of Satan's temptations, the storms of the world's persecutions, and with the winds of error and false doctrine; and then is it most uncomfortable to them, when Christ is not with them, which was the case of the disciples here.
Gills Exposition

Like Jesus

1. we must use private, as well as public and social prayer; and, as he directed, [Matthew 6:6](#),
2. must perform it privately. As he dismissed the multitude and his own disciples,
3. we must disengage ourselves from our worldly affairs, cares, and concerns, and
4. even withdraw from our Christian friends and the members of our own families, that we may converse with God in secret. *Benson Commentary*

Thank you for attending Bible Study.

Remember..."Life is short...Time is precious...Enjoy your day".

Rev. Terry B. Land, Pastor