Matthew: Jesus, The King of Kings

# Moved With Compassion

Matthew 9:27-38

# Seeing Jesus as King: What is he like? How is he received? How is he treated? How does he treat others?

# **Previously in Matthew:**

- Rich ruler with a dead daughter
- Woman without hope
- Jesus was never too busy to fulfill their faith in him

# Today:

- Two Blind men
- A mute & demon possessed man
- Many, many weary people

Matthew 11:28 NKJV - "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

# [Pray]

# 9:27-31

#### Blind men followed him We take this for granted! How?

"Blindness was a distressingly common disease in Palestine. It came partly from the glare of the eastern sun on unprotected eyes, and partly because people knew nothing of the importance of cleanliness and hygiene. In particular the clouds of unclean flies carried infections which led to loss of sight." (Barclay)

I'd add, we also take vision for granted. Blindness is quite the spectrum. Legal blindness still actually sees some. Bad vision, cataracts, glaucoma, injury, diet...

# Son of David

Who's David? King of Israel. Man after God's own heart. Promised his descendents would be on the throne forever.

#### Jesus is his descendent. But it meant more than that. <u>It meant Jesus was the Messiah.</u>

Psalm 110:1 NKJV - A Psalm of David. The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Came into the house, context here at least points to it being the house of the blind men

They went inside. A more intimate conversation away from the crowds. Something special for these men.

Jesus wasn't ready to clearly announce to the world he was Messiah.

Interesting to think about, leaving clues - and bold ones at that Literally sin to some to tell who he was when he commanded them not to (last week)

# Wanting people to get to Him on their own. Not head knowledge, heart knowledge.

I think a problem with Christianity in America is just that. A lot of people factually, intellectually say "I'm a Christian. Or I believe in Jesus." But they don't really know Him personally. I'm not sure, from the outside, we can always tell (fruit of course), but there are many tares mixed in with the wheat, especially in the last days before the harvest. "Let them grow together until the harvest." Matthew 13

# Jesus asked if they believed. They give a simple answer. Yes.

## Real faith is simple faith.

It doesn't require a lot. It doesn't ask for pomp and circumstance. It lets its request be made known, and trusts God for the outcome.

**DGC** - Faith does not guarantee healing for every individual, yet there are undoubtedly multitudes that are not healed because they lack faith.

#### In other gospel healings, disciples ask, "Who's sin,

his or his parents..." - the superstitious view in their day that ailments were the result of sin.

### Sin will cause problems, but it is not the only cause.

# Even though they could not see, they recognized Jesus as the Messiah.

Jesus called the pharisees (religious) the Blind Leading the Blind

## Our physical eyes get in the way of our spiritual sight

When we look around, how do we see the world? With what lens? What prescription? Do we see things as God sees? As someone else tells us to see? Or do we see for ourselves?

That's the problem today, people don't do the research themselves. We take too many things on sight - fake news, AI video, things out of context

God wants you to see for yourself.

# Psalm 34:8 NKJV - Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

## Doubting Thomas...doubted because He hadn't seen

John 20:29 NKJV - Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus touches there eyes...and says "according to their faith" In a way, because they believed, he healed

Like last time, it wasn't the amount of faith, it was where it was placed: <u>In The Son of David.</u>

# **Their faith asked for healing, but as an act of mercy** *DGC ...knowing they didn't deserve healing.*

# Jesus sternly warns them! But do they listen? They can't contain it.

Again, Jesus not trying to stir up praise for Himself. Attention from the masses. He wanted intimate encounters with those genuinely seeking.

Problem with "faith healers" - it's loud and brings attention to self, not glory to God

**Seeker friendly** - some sense I get it, but in a real sense, it doesn't make real converts. And when it does, it doesn't make real disciples.

# :32-34

#### Jesus and the disciples left the house...and more folks are bringing people to him

(again) The importance of bringing people to Jesus that can't make it on their own In prayer, in evangelism, in outreach

#### Two things to note:

- The man couldn't get to Jesus, perhaps directly because of the demon (Gayle Erwin: girl not getting out of the car)
- The demon prevented the man from speaking (control of his brain? Of his mouth? Of his will?)

#### We take demon possession lightly,

as something that can't or doesn't happen often, just horror movie stuff

(granted, some think it happens more often than it does...)

Halloween just happened, but we don't celebrate. It glorifies evil too much. No need for it, in our minds.

#### The dangers of dabbling with evil. Stay away!

God is clear about witchcraft, pharmakeia/sorcery/drug use, and the connection with the demonic

Great messages by Chuck Missler and Chuck Smith, search for either name and Halloween

## No one gets possessed by accident.

## Christians can't be possessed. The Holy Spirit takes up that "space" inside you.

We talk of possession, oppression (maybe depression), and attack

Possession is counterfeit to the Holy's Spirit's baptism So when something is wild and crazy like possession, know it's not the Holy Spirit

#### Jesus simply casts the demon out. No pigs requested this time.

The people marvel. Actually, it has been done. But there was something special about this case in their minds.

DGC It showed not only the complete authority of Jesus over the demonic realm, but <u>also the</u> <u>weakness of the rabbis' traditions.</u>

Certain circles of Catholicism make a job out of exorcism, and their methods are quite more involved than simply fasting, prayer and commanding. Remember, many will say "Lord Lord, we cast out demons in your name"

Compare the reaction of the people with the reaction of the religious "He casts out demons by the ruler of demons"

# They not only DON'T believe Jesus is God, they believe his miracles are of the HIGHEST ORDER OF THE DEMONIC.

**What are demons?** Fallen angels? Some angels can appear human, but I don't know that they possess humans. A certain rank/type of angel (biblical types). A form of a Spirits of the nephilim?

I'm not sure that we need to know exactly, other than:

- They are real
- They are spiritual
- Fallen in nature
- Not to be toyed with

1 John 4:4 NKJV - You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Misidentification of Jesus by the religious They were not only spiritually blind, but spiritually delusional Not just not seeing, but seeing things completely wrong

It was the poor, destitute, those seeking God who actually saw him rightly

#### Matthew 5:3 NKJV - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

# :35-38

#### mostly in Capernaum,

was an example of what Jesus did all over the Galilee region (DGC)

#### Teaching in their synagogues!

There were some Jews, some groups that were open to inviting Jesus in

## We need to take those opportunities when people are open to it. We don't need to force our way in, but if the world invites you in to share the truth, go.

#### Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom

- The Gospel, The "good news"
- Man has sinned but God has saved
- All are invited to the wedding
- Forgiveness only takes faith in the One whom God sent
- One only has to repent/turn from sin and turn towards God

(exactly the message the religious hated - it took the power from them and put it back to God)

## Jesus healed all types of sickness and disease nothing was beyond God's power to heal, fix or restore

## These things backed up the message. Proved Jesus wasn't making it up.

#### Moved with Compassion

to be moved as to one's bowels, hence to be moved with compassion, have compassion (for the bowels were thought to be the seat of love and pity)

#### A very deep feeling of pity. It really got to Him, seeing them.

Sometimes we see, but don't see. And we need to take a minute and look. Consider. Something that might not bother us, will bother us to the point of starting to say and do something about it.

#### Don't let those moments pass you by.

Why? Because they were weary, scattered, like sheep without a shepherd Weak, exhausted, faint Cast away, cast to the ground

#### Does life ever get you that way? Do you ever feel that way inside?

Stress affects everything. Makes you tired. Weak. Sick. You can see it all over someone.

#### That's these people. That's the world. Even the religious.

John 10:11-15 NKJV - "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. "But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. "The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. "As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

The good news is that we have a shepherd. One who cares for our souls

1 Peter 2:24-25 NKJV - who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

## <u>The gospel is about bringing people to Jesus.</u> <u>Lovingly shepherding them to His care.</u>

Psalm 23:1-3 NKJV - A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

That's making disciples of all nations. Not converting to an opinion. Not converting to an outward appearance. But bringing them to the one who can heal their souls.

When souls are healed, lives are changed.

#### Our role? Pray that the Lord would send laborers into the harvest.

There is a great harvest. The need isn't ours to figure out how to best reap it. We just pray that people would hear God's call to go out into the field.

#### Good shepherds. Good workers. Full of compassion. Full of the Word.