

ARE YOU A FAITHFUL REPRESENTATIVE?

Praise be to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus began His earthly ministry, He started alone, ministering personally and directly. But as His mission unfolded, He recognized the need to raise up disciples—followers who would continue His work after His departure

(John 14:12). He said, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few”

(Luke 10:2, NIV), emphasizing the great need for laborers in God’s kingdom.

Thus, Jesus gathered many disciples, appointing twelve apostles for special training and leadership (Luke 6:13-16). The apostles received unique teaching and authority (Matthew 10), distinct from the wider group of disciples, highlighting the hierarchical

structure Christ established for guiding His church.

Later, He sent the apostles out to preach the gospel, cast out demons, and heal the sick—demonstrating that the kingdom of God was breaking into the world through their ministry (Luke 9:1-6). However, realizing that more workers were needed, He appointed seventy others and sent them two by two, giving them the same authority and mission (Luke 10:1-9).

Luke 10:1-2 (NIV) states:

“After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place He Himself was about to visit. He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.’”

This passage reveals several important theological truths:

The Sovereignty of Christ in Mission: Jesus Himself directs where the gospel is to be proclaimed. The disciples do not operate on their own initiative but are sent to places He intends to go,

signifying obedience to His authority and purpose (John 20:21).

Representation and Stewardship: We, as followers of Christ, are His ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20). We do not own the message; we are stewards entrusted to faithfully proclaim what He commands (1 Corinthians 4:1-2).

The Urgency of Evangelism: The “harvest is plentiful” but “workers are few” points to the urgent need for evangelism. The mission field is vast, and Christ calls for laborers who will faithfully work in His vineyard (Matthew 9:37-38).

As representatives of Christ, our task is to preach the true gospel. Distorting or altering the message is dangerous and brings God’s judgment.

The Apostle Paul sternly warns in Galatians 1:6-9 (NIV):

“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently, some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying

to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!"

The gospel Jesus preached called for repentance, baptism, and a transformed life (Mark 1:15; Acts 2:38). If we neglect these core elements or replace them with messages of prosperity, power, or convenience, we distort the gospel's power (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Jesus taught radical love—even loving our enemies—and non-retaliation (Matthew 5:44; Romans 12:17-21). Preaching hatred or curses contradicts His example. He also taught spiritual vigilance, urging believers to stay alert and filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; 1 Peter 5:8).

Regarding marriage and morality, Jesus emphasized the sanctity and permanence of marriage (Matthew 19:4-6, 9). Divorce and remarriage outside God's design are presented as sin. Ministers who condone or facilitate divorce contradict biblical teaching.

Jesus demonstrated servant leadership and humility, exemplified by washing His disciples' feet (John 13:12-17). This act symbolizes the call for every believer to serve one another in love and humility.

If Jesus were physically present today, would He endorse messages that promote selfishness, worldliness, or false doctrine? Would He tolerate immorality and spiritual negligence? Would He condone trivializing His mission with jokes and entertainment? The answer is clearly no.

So, the question remains: Are you a faithful representative of Christ?

May the Lord empower us to be diligent, obedient, and humble ambassadors, faithfully fulfilling His mission every day.

May God bless you.

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