

May 21, 2017

Jesus' Messianic Authority

Matthew 9:18-38

- In this last set of four miracles, Matthew continues to show how the works of Jesus “destroy the works of Satan” (**1 John 3:8**) in keeping with **Gen. 3:15**.

Four Miracles

First & Second Miracles (*v. 18-26*)

- Jesus, interrupted with urgent needs.
 - The leader in the synagogue
 - The woman who suffered for 12 years
- Jesus stopped and rewarded the woman’s faith by pronouncing her healed. But the time he arrived at the house, it was too late, and the little girl had died.
- But, as with the storm (**8:23-27**), Jesus is not deterred.
- This miracle is one of three that foreshadowed the miracle of Jesus’ resurrection (Lazarus in **John 11** and the son of the widow of Nain in **Luke 7**).

Third Miracle (v. 27-31)

- The blind men called Jesus by His Messianic title (the third of ten times that Matthew records this title).

2 Sam 7:12-13 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your seed [zera-Gen.3:15] after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish His kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My Name, and I will establish the throne of His kingdom forever...

- Although this promise was provisionally fulfilled in Solomon, it waited its full fulfillment in Jesus (**Col. 2:17**).

Fourth Miracle (v. 32-34)

- Jesus restores speech to the mute.

Is. 35:4-6 ...Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

- Some of the Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out Satan by Satan.

A Summary (v. 35)

Introducing the Mission (v. 32-34)

- Now that Matthew has explained the Character of the Kingdom (**ch. 5-7**) and has shown us the Authority of the Kingdom (**ch. 8 – 9:34**), he uses these verses to introduce us to the Mission of the Kingdom in **ch. 10**.
- Jesus uses the common metaphor of sheep to describe God's people. Because of the helpless nature of sheep, their inability to detect danger and to protect themselves from it, sheep are in desperate need of shepherds.

***Ezek 34:1-16** The word of the Lord came to me: 2 "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? 3 You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. 4 The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. 5 So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. 6 My sheep were scattered; they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.*

7 "Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: 8 As I live, declares the Lord God, surely because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild beasts, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep, 9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: 10 Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep. No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.

11 "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

- Jesus will solve the problem by sending His disciples into the field to gather God's people.