

Matthew 10: Israel, Called To Be Disciples of Yeshua

Instructions: As you read the guide and the bible, write down any questions you come across. Try to find the answer on your own, but if you can't or do not know where to look, post your questions in the discussion. If you do find the answers, post your answers in the discussion. Chances are someone else had the same questions and you can help them out.

Summary:

Read Matthew Chapter 10 in the King James Version and compare it to the summaries below.

Verse	Summary
1	Yeshua called his 12 disciples to him and gave them power to cast out unclean spirits and to heal sickness and disease.
2-4	The names of the twelve disciples were provided.
5-6	When Yeshua sent the disciples out, he commanded them not to go to the Gentiles or into the city of the Samaritans, but only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
7-8	He tells them to go and preach to them, telling them the kingdom of heaven was near and to heal the sick raise the dead, and cast out demons. He warned them to give as freely as they had received.
9-10	He told them not to take or keep money or goods for their journey, because God provides for those worthy of their nourishment.
11-12	He instructed the disciples to find out who was worthy of their presence in their home and to go there. He said when they went to the house they were to greet it.
13	And if the house was worthy they were instructed to let their peace be with it, but if the house was not worthy they were to take their peace back to them.
14	And when people did not accept them or hear their words, when they left they were to shake the dust off their feet.
15	He says any city that rejected them would suffer worse than Sodom and Gomorrah, in the day of judgement.
16	Yeshua warned the disciples that he was sending them into danger. He told them to be wise or vigilant, but gentle.
17-18	He says that the people they would be among would deliver them into the hands of the enemy or the legal system and would whip them severely in their evil assemblies. He also said that they would bring them before the leaders for Yeshua's sake, as a testimony to the leaders and to the Gentiles.
19	He says when they were handed over to the legal system, they should not worry about what they would say, because it would be given to them at that time they needed it.
20	Yeshua told the disciples it was not them that would speak, but the Spirit of their Father that would speak in them.
21	He warned that brother would deliver up brother, fathers would deliver up their sons, and the children would rise up against their parents and cause them to be put to death.

22	He says that the disciples shall be hated of all men for his namesake, but he that endures to the end would be saved.
23	He told them when faced with persecution in one city, they were to flee to another. He said they would not have went into all the cities of Israel <u>until the son of man came</u> .
24	He warns that a disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master.
25	Yeshua told them that it is good enough to be like the teacher and the master. He says if the master of the house is called 'Beelzebub'(literally, lord of the house), which was name given to Satan, than they will call the servants even worse things.
26	He warned the disciples not to fear those who were against them, because there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be made known.
27	He tells the disciples they should go and make known all the hidden things he had told them and preach it on the housetops all the things they heard.
28	He says not to fear that which can kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul, but rather fear him who is able to destroy both the soul and the body in hell or 'gehenna', which is a place for the wicked.
29	He explains that two sparrows have little value; however, one shall not fall on the ground without the Father.
30-31	Yeshua said the hairs of our head are counted, so we need not fear, because we are far more valuable to our Father than two sparrows.
32	He explained whoever is in agreement with him before men, he will be in agreement with them to his Father, which is in heaven.
33	Yeshua said whoever denies him, he will deny him before his Father.
34	He tells us not to think that he came to bring peace on earth, he did not come to bring peace, but a sword.
35-36	Yeshua explained that he came to set family member against family member and the enemies of a man would be those in his own household.
37-38	He said those who loves their mother, father, sister, or brother more than him, is not worthy of him and those who does not pick up the cross and follow him is not worthy of him.
39	He says when one finds his life, he will lose it, but those who lose their lives for his sake, will find it.
40	Those that accepts or receives his disciples, also receives him and those who receive him, receives the disciples.
41	He that receives a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and he that receive a righteous man, will receive a righteous man's reward.
42	And he that give a cup of water to one of the lesser ones only in the name of a disciple, they will not lose their reward.

Instructions: After reading Matthew Chapter 10 in the King James Version and answer the questions below.

1. What are some deeper ideas and themes you notice about the story in Matthew 9?

2. Does anything speak to you?

Instructions: Take a second look at each of these messages in Matthew 10 and find the lessons hidden within each message.

General Insights:

This chapter explains that there is a difference between discipleship and other roles. First, it is important to know what a disciple is. The Greek word for disciple is ‘mathētēs’ which means LEARNER. This makes perfect sense, since the leader of a learner, in this chapter, is a teacher, just as the head of a servant is a master.

Yeshua specifies that learners receive the same knowledge, power, and pain as him – they follow in his path – receiving the good and bad. They are like an apprentice who follows a professional around, observing and doing whatever the apprentice tells and teaches him to do. When the apprenticeship is over, that individual will do his job almost identical to the person he learned from and his work is representative of the person who taught him.

Meanwhile, a prophet gives and receives what is given to a prophet, which is prophecy. A righteous person what is due to a righteous person, which is righteousness. A kind person what is due to a kind person, which is kindness.

Yeshua is explaining that whatever we are or do determines what we receive and what we have to give.

That being said, it is evident in this chapter that Yeshua and his disciples were teaching Israel to be disciples.

In other words, Yeshua is saying seekers of knowledge will be like him!

On the other hand, those who seek prophecy from a prophet will be like a prophet, those who seek righteousness from a righteous man will be righteous, and those who seek what belongs to a kind person, will receive kindness. However, those who seek knowledge and are willing to forsake the world, and bare the burdens Yeshua bore, will be like Yeshua.

Yeshua teaches us that there is a separation of roles and rewards. He is really telling us about diversity in the children of God. There are some who will take up the cross to be like him, some who will but recognize and represent him, some who will prophecy, and others who will show kindness. Each of these people will receive what is due to them according to what they put out into the world, rather it be good or bad.

Furthermore, he explains in great detail what it means to be a learner or a disciple.

Insights for Application to Life:

Characteristics of a LEARNER:

- They are given power to cast out unclean spirits and to heal sickness and disease. (verse 1)
- Their duty is to teach Israel, and not gentiles or Samaritans. (verse 5-6)
- They give as freely as they receive – meaning they do not charge for their services or withhold from those they were sent to serve. (verse 8)
- They do not store up goods for their journey. (9-10)
- They bring peace to those who receive them. (verses 11-13)
- They aren't always accepted, but do not dwell on the rejection. (verse 14)
- Those who reject them suffers harsh judgement. (verse 15)
- They are in danger and must remain both, vigilant and gentle. (verse 16)
- They are sheep sent into a den of wolves, who would turn them over to the legal system and would cause them to be whipped severely. (verse 17)
- They are delivered to leaders as a testimony for Yeshua's sake. (verse 18)
- When speaking in the moment, they do not speak from themselves, but from God. (verse 20)
- They will be hated of all men, but those that endure will be saved. (verse 22)
- They are like Yeshua and not greater than him. (verse 24)
- They will be called Satan and other harsh names, because Yeshua was also called these names. (verse 25)
- Learners should have no fear, because all hidden things will be revealed. (verse 26)
- Learners are to proclaim all the truths taught to them, that they are no longer hidden. (verse 27)
- They should not fear what can only kill their body, but what can kill their body and soul. (verse 28)
- They are very valuable to God, therefore they should not fear. (verses 29-31)
- Learners are not peacemakers, but truth givers. (verse 34)
- They love Yeshua above their families. (verse 37-38)
- They pick up the cross and follow Yeshua. (verse 31-38)
- Learners are representatives of Yeshua and he is a representative of his disciples. They are one. (verse 40)

Deep Thought:

1. Do you notice any similarities between what would happen to disciples and what did happen to African Americans? Yes or No
 - a. What are they?
2. Are you a learner? Yes or No
 - a. If not, do you desire to be a learner? Yes or No
 - b. What will you do to become a learner?
3. If you believe you are a learner or on your way to being one, what are some things you still have left to work on? _____

Final Thoughts:

When studying the bible, you should always keep your eye open for divine messages from God. Here is an example of this.

Verse 1 reads: *And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.*

Verse 8 reads: *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.*

If you look at this from a deeper perspective, you can receive this narrative as a divine message from God. The divine message is that Yeshua calls us to himself and freely gives us what has been given to him by the Father. The evidence is in Yeshua's life and teachings. Yeshua goes around healing the sick, raising the dead, and casting out demons and asks for nothing in return. The message that we are called unto him and receive this power is also in his life and teachings. Remember his life is a testament to the power and will of God, as is our own lives.

A **scourge** is a whip or lash, especially a multi-thong type, used to inflict severe corporal punishment or self-mortification on the back.



[Scourge - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scourge)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scourge>

With this idea in mind, here are some other strong points that really stood out to me about this chapter. Already under suspicion about the similarities of Yeshua's description regarding the suffering of his disciples and the African American experience, I searched the word 'scourge' and this is what popped up.

Remember how God works! He is not vain, nor idol, but does everything with purpose. This is a famous picture of a slave who was scourged and for me it is God's confirmation of my suspicions. While Yeshua is describing the duties and expectations of his own first century disciples, he is also communicating a divine message to his people, Israel of this day.

He is confirming who we are and what we would experience because of him. He says it was for a testimony or witness to the leaders and the gentiles. (Matthew 10:18) This sounds very familiar as I read it I think back to my study of Revelations, Deuteronomy 28, and Isaiah.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. – Isaiah 42:1

I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; Isaiah 42:6

And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth. – Isaiah 49:6

Deuteronomy 28 talks about Israel being hated by all the nations and being called names and bywords, whereas, Yeshua warns in this chapter that his disciples will be called names and hated by all men. It also refers to the beatings and suffering Israel would endure.

Furthermore, Revelations 2:10 reads: *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*

This is the exact message Yeshua is giving to the disciples in verses 16-19 of Matthew. We do not serve a God of coincidence, but of purpose. So what does this all mean?

Chapter 10 is a look into the truth of the people the word calls, learners of Yeshua – his audience. Yeshua is speaking to the disciples of that time with the purpose of reaching his lost sheep of our time. He has taught us how to connect with our Father by being holy and now he is telling us that we are an image of him, we share an identity, power, and responsibility.

He tells us how to recognize a learner, so that we may receive what they have to offer. He explains that some people are simply prophets; others are righteous, while others are simply kind. He says that they only have to give, what they receive.

On the other hand, a learner receives the infinite knowledge and limitless power given to them by Yeshua, and this is what they have to give.

So rather you are or aspire to be a learner, this message is important to you. Israel has been called to be learners that they may be a witness of the One True and Living God. However, like the bible teaches us, many are called, but few are chosen. (Matthew 22:14)

Therefore, whatever you have received, you should give freely. If you have received the gift of prophecy, a kind heart, or righteousness, give it freely. Just know that all these things are limited to what they are. Limitless power and knowledge cannot come from someone who is only a prophet, righteous, or kind. It can only come from one who has it to give to another.

On the other hand, Yeshua is clear that those not willing to bare his cross, to love him first, to be like him, are not worthy of him. He didn't say this to the gentiles, but he instructed his message to go out to his own people, the lost sheep of the house of Israel... that is you!

Therefore, in closing, I pray God fills you heart with the desire to be a learner, a disciple, to walk in the steps of Yeshua and make your Father pleased with you – because this is His will for you.

Remember, if you have questions ask. If you don't have questions than share what you've learned in the discussion group so you can help others to understand.