



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 10
- Exodus 3-14
- Matthew 3-9
- II Corinthians 4:7-15

Title:

PRACTICUM

- Let's go My People!
- Apostles
- Persecution
- Ultimatums

“Let My people go!” Those words were made famous when Moses echoed the heart of God in the presence of an obstinate king. At first, Moses was resistant; He was not an eloquent man. “What could I say? I don’t speak well. The best I can do is mutter and stutter a few words, certainly nothing a king would take seriously.” It would seem Moses was somewhat correct, as seven times he made that demand, each falling on deaf ears. But in the end, God did release His people to go, and the journey began for those who would soon become His bride at Mt. Sinai.

Everything that led up to the moment of their release is recorded in the catalogue of miracles, signs and wonders. God’s supernatural involvement continued as they headed toward the sea and then across. And His supernatural intervention kept coming as they wandered. In a sense, Israel was conditioned by supernatural encounters. They had witnessed ten plagues and the protection of a lamb’s blood. They watched a wall of darkness rise to hold back the most powerful military in the world, while the same cloud gave them light. They stood still to observe a small stick held over an ocean—powerful enough to part the waters, leaving a dry ocean bed. Yes, you could say they had become conditioned by the supernatural. And it didn’t end there. They drank water from a rock, ate bread from heaven, and wore shoes that never got old. And that strange cloud that protected them by the sea guided them on their journey, both day and night, its fiery glow lighting their way in the darkness. And it all began with four words, “Let My people go!”

Many generations later, our blessed Savior gathered His original twelve disciples, who had also been conditioned by witnessing the supernatural, and He conferred on them an apostleship; “Be My sent ones!” But, instead of making demands of an obstinate king to “Let My people go!” He now was the King making demands of His people; “Let’s go My people!” Maybe He was even more direct; “Go My People!” Perhaps He took a more informative approach, “I let my people go.” Or possibly He chose to be more instructive, “My people are let go.” Irregardless of which technique He implored, we know this... He was not demanding something from a king; He was the King demanding something from His people.

This was His sentiment... “You were introduced to the Kingdom of Heaven; you learned the truth about what your faith was always meant to be in My lengthy sermon on the mountain; and then you witnessed the supernatural in action—now it’s your turn to go and do. I am commissioning you, giving you the authority to perform all the miracles you’ve witnessed in Me. And I am certain you will feel just as Moses did, completely ill-equipped to speak on My behalf. But, don’t concern yourself one bit. You are not there to speak your own words anyway. My words will fill your mouth at the moment you need them.”

“And I am certain you are wondering if you will face pushback, rejection and persecution in the company of your own people, your own family, and also when you face secular leaders. Let Me put a rest to your wondering—you will! But, don’t

worry; if someone could steal your soul, then I'd say you should be concerned, but it's only your body they can harm, and for that you need not fear. And I am certain you are concerned about provision—food, clothing, shelter and money—don't be. "Don't worry; pagans worry about such things. And your heavenly Father knows what you need." Just go, build your faith muscle; it's time to transition from witness to participant, from taker to giver, from someone who sees and hears, to someone who does!"

PROPHETIC SEED:

"Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: '**Let My people go**, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.' " And Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, nor will I let Israel go.'" Exodus 5:1-2 NKJV

PROPHETIC FRUIT:

"And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, **He gave them power** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease." Matthew 10:1 NKJV

"These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "**Do not go into the way of the Gentiles**, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. **But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel**. And as you go, **preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'** Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:5-8 NKJV

LET'S GO MY PEOPLE!

1. Go, now it's your turn...

A. The Practicum: you've learned, now do!

(1) Practicum...the practical section of a course of study.

(a) You were introduced to the Kingdom of Heaven; you learned the truth in the Sermon on the Mount; and you witnessed everything Y'shua taught being put into action—now it's your turn to go and do

1. "These twelve Jesus **sent out** and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. **But go** rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And **as you go**, preach, saying, '**The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**'" Matthew 10:5-7 NKJV

B. The Preparation

(1) Introduction—Lessons—Observation

(a) The Kingdom of Heaven: INTRODUCTION (Mat. 3-4)

1. "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!**" Matthew 3:2

a) "...**The kingdom of God does not come with observation**; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, **the kingdom of God is within you.**" Luke 17:20-21 NKJV

2. "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**" Matthew 4:17 NKJV

(b) The Sermon on the Mount: LESSONS (Matthew 5-7)

1. "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. **I did not come to destroy but to fulfill** [and now it's your turn]." Matthew 5:17 NKJV
 - a) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these** he will do, because I go to My Father." John 14:12 NKJV
 - b) And... **"Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ."** I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
- (c) The Witness: OBSERVATION (Matthew 8-9)
 1. "Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, **preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing** every sickness and every disease among the people." Matthew 9:35 NKJV

APOSTLES

2. Go, now it's your turn...

A. Mission Possible: Go My people!

(1) The Commission for the Mission

(a) You've heard and seen, now it's your turn to go and do

1. "And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, **He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.**" Matthew 10:1 NKJV

(b) Naming names...

1. **"Now the names of the twelve apostles are these:** first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him." Matthew 10:1-4 NKJV

B. Guidelines for the Mission

(1) Don't go and go to; do and don't do!

(a) This trip is not for the Gentiles nor for your dispossessed Samaritan brothers. Go specifically to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

1. "These twelve Jesus **sent out** and commanded them, saying: **"Do not go** into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. **But go** rather to **the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**" Matthew 10:5-6 NKJV
2. "And the Lord said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. **Afterward he will let you go** from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether." Exodus 11:1 NKJV
3. "Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, **"Rise, go out** from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. **And go, serve the Lord as you have said.** Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also." Exodus 12:31-32 NKJV
4. "And it came to pass, on that very same day, that **the Lord brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt** according to their armies." Exodus 12:51 NKJV
5. **"Hear [sh'ma: listen, obey and do], O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:4-5 NKJV

6. "But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, **and I will show you my faith by my works.**" James 2:18 NKJV
 7. "Therefore remember that you, **once Gentiles in the flesh**—who are called *Uncircumcision* by what is called the *Circumcision made in the flesh by hands*— that at that time you were without Christ, being **aliens from the commonwealth of Israel** and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near** by the blood of Christ." Ephesians 2:11-13 NKJV
 8. "James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, **To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.**" James 1:1 NKJV
- (b) Go preach and go do!
1. "And as you go, preach, saying, '**The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:7-8 NKJV
 2. "Then Moses answered and said, "**But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice;** suppose they say, 'The Lord has not appeared to you.' " So the Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." And He said, "**Cast it on the ground.**" So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. Then the Lord said to Moses, "**Reach out your hand and take it by the tail**" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), "that they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." Furthermore the Lord said to him, "**Now put your hand in your bosom.**" And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, **his hand was leprous, like snow.** And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, **and behold, it was restored** like his other flesh. "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign. And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall **take water from the river and pour it on the dry land.** The water which you take from the river will **become blood on the dry land.**" Exodus 4:1-9 NKJV
 3. ""When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, '**Show a miracle for yourselves,**' then you shall say to Aaron, '**Take your rod and cast it before Pharaoh,** and let it become a serpent.' "" Exodus 7:9 NKJV
- (c) Don't bring extra provisions...
1. "**Provide neither** gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for **a worker is worthy of his food.**" Matthew 10:9-10 NKJV
 2. "And **I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed.** But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, **articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing;** and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians." Exodus 3:21-22 NKJV
 3. "Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, **articles of silver and articles of gold.**" And **the Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians.** Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people." Exodus 11:2-3 NKJV

4. "Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians **articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing**. And the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, **so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.**" Exodus 12:35-36 NKJV
5. "Now Moses called all Israel and said to them: "You have seen all that the Lord did before your eyes in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land— the great trials which your eyes have seen, the signs, and those great wonders. Yet the Lord has not given you a heart to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day. **And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out** on your feet." Deuteronomy 29:2-5 NKJV
6. **"You shall not muzzle an ox** while it treads out the grain." Deuteronomy 25:4 NKJV
7. **"You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning.**" Leviticus 19:13 NKJV
8. **"Each day you shall give him his wages**, and not let the sun go down on it..." Deuteronomy 24:15 NKJV
9. **"Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.** For the Scripture says, **"You shall not muzzle an ox** while it treads out the grain," and, **"The laborer is worthy of his wages."** I Timothy 5:17-18 NKJV
10. **"Who ever goes to war at his own expense?** Who plants a vineyard and **does not eat** of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and **does not drink** of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, **"You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain."** **Is it oxen God is concerned about?** Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, **no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope**, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. **If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things?** If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat of the things of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake of the offerings of the altar? **Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.**" I Corinthians 9:7-14 NKJV

(d) Worthy or Not?

1. "Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out. And when you go into a household, greet it. **If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.** {14} And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you **depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet.** {15} Assuredly, I say to you, **it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!**" Matthew 10:11-15 NKJV
2. **"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.** For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? "" II Corinthians 6:14-15 NKJV

3. "But indeed **for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you**, and that My name may be declared in all the earth. **As yet you exalt yourself against My people** in that you will not let them go. Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause very heavy hail to rain down, such as has not been in Egypt since its founding until now." Exodus 9:16-18 NKJV
4. "**And the hail struck throughout the whole land of Egypt**, all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the **hail struck every herb of the field and broke every tree** of the field. Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, there was no hail."Exodus 9:25-26 NKJV

PERSECUTION

3. It's not a matter of if...

A. Don't Worry!

(1) Your Mission will not be without struggles...

(a) You are sheep among carnivores—go on this mission first knowing that, and then exercise wisdom.

1. ""Behold, **I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves**. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Matthew 10:16 NKJV
2. "Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the Lord; **I will bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, **I will rescue you** from their bondage, and **I will redeem** you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. **I will take you as My people**, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."Exodus 6:6-7 NKJV

(b) Persecution

1. "But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to **councils and scourge you in their synagogues**. You will be brought **before governors and kings** for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles." Matthew 10:17-18 NKJV
2. "Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. And they said to them, "**Let the Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh** and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.'" Exodus 5:20-21 NKJV
3. ""**Go in, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the children of Israel go out of his land.**" And Moses spoke before the Lord, saying, "**The children of Israel have not heeded me. How then shall Pharaoh heed me**, for I am of uncircumcised lips?" Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, and gave them a command **for the children of Israel and for Pharaoh king of Egypt**, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt." Exodus 6:11-13 NKJV
4. ""Come now, therefore, and **I will send you to Pharaoh** that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" So He said, "**I will certainly be with you**. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.'" Exodus 3:10-12 NKJV

5. "Afterward **Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh**, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.' " And Pharaoh said, "**Who is the Lord**, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? **I do not know the Lord**, nor will I let Israel go.'" Exodus 5:1-2 NKJV

(c) What will we say?

1. "But **when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak**. For **it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak**; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you." Matthew 10:19-20 NKJV
2. "Then Moses said to the Lord, "**O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.**" So the Lord said to him, "**Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the Lord? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say.**" Exodus 4:10-12 NKJV
3. "But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send." So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and He said: "Is not **Aaron** the Levite your brother? **I know that he can speak well**. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. **Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do. So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God.** And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do the signs.'" Exodus 4:13-17 NKJV
4. "And it came to pass, on the day the Lord spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, that the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "I am the Lord. **Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you.**" But Moses said before the Lord, "**Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh heed me?**" Exodus 6:28-30 NKJV
5. "So the Lord said to Moses: "**See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet. You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall tell Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.**" Exodus 7:1-2 NKJV

(d) Family Rivalry

1. "Now **brother will deliver up brother to death**, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And **you will be hated by all for My name's sake**. But he who endures to the end will be saved." Matthew 10:21-22 NKJV
2. "So **the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people** and their officers, saying, "**You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before**. Let them go and gather straw for themselves. **And you shall lay on them the quota of bricks which they made before**. You shall not reduce it. For they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' Let more work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it, and let them not regard false words.'" Exodus 5:6-9 NKJV
3. "**Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, "Why are you dealing thus with your servants?** There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us, 'Make brick!' **And indeed your servants are beaten, but the fault is in your own people.**" Exodus 5:15-16 NKJV
4. "But he said, "You are idle! Idle! Therefore you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord.' Therefore go now and work; **for no straw shall be given you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks.**" And the officers of the

children of Israel saw that they were in trouble after it was said, "You shall not reduce any bricks from your daily quota." Exodus 5:17-19 NKJV

5. "Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. And they said to them, "**Let the Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh** and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us." Exodus 5:20-21 NKJV
6. "So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "**Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people?** Why is it You have sent me? **For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people;** neither have You delivered Your people at all." Exodus 5:22-23 NKJV
7. "Then they said to Moses, "**Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness?** Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? **Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt,** saying, '**Let us alone** that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." Exodus 14:11-12 NKJV

(e) More Persecution

1. "**When they persecute** you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, **I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.**" Matthew 10:23 NKJV
2. "**Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.** And then **many will be offended, will betray one another,** and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, **the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.** And **this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.**" Matthew 24:9-14 NKJV
3. "Assuredly, **I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.**" Matthew 24:34 NKJV
4. "Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that **God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near;** for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt." So **God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea.** And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt." Exodus 13:17-18 NKJV
5. "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, '**They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.**' **Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart,** so that **he will pursue them;** and **I will gain honor over Pharaoh** and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord." And they did so." Exodus 14:3-4 NKJV
6. "And when Pharaoh drew near, **the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid,** and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, **have you taken us away to die in the wilderness?** Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? **Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt,** saying, '**Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians**'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." And Moses said to the people, "**Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord,** which He will accomplish for you today. **For the Egyptians whom you see today,**

you shall see again no more forever. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.” Exodus 14:10-14 NKJV

7. **“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—** always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. **For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.** So then death is working in us, but life in you. And **since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak,** knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.” II Corinthians 4:7-15 NKJV

(f) If those you minister to reject the Messiah, don’t you think they will reject you also?

1. **“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.** It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. **If they** have called the master of the house Beelzebul, **how much more** will they call those of his household!” Matthew 10:25-25 NKJV
2. “Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. **But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”** John 5:45-47 NKJV
3. **““Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets** and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, **‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.’** “Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that **you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers’ guilt.** Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? Therefore, indeed, **I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city,”** Matthew 23:29-34 NKJV

(g) Have no fear...

1. “Therefore **do not fear them.** For **there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.”** Matthew 10:26 NKJV
2. “But **lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea** and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen.” Exodus 14:16-17 NKJV
3. “And **Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth,** while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. **Not so much as one of them remained.”** Exodus 14:27-28 NKJV

4. "So **the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians**, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so **the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.**" Exodus 14:30-31 NKJV
5. "And there is **no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.**" Hebrews 4:13 NKJV

B. Be bold!

(1) Do not operate in fear...

(a) Preach from the rooftops...

1. "Whatever I tell you in the dark, **speak in the light**; and what you hear in the ear, **preach on the housetops.**" Matthew 10:27 NKJV
2. "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen." Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV

(b) Be fearless!

1. "And **do not fear those who kill the body** but cannot kill the soul. But rather **fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body** in hell." Matthew 10:28 NKJV
2. "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment.** But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us." 1 John 4:17-19 NKJV

(c) As He sends them, He reminds them of His words in the Sermon on the Mount.

1. "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. **Do not fear** therefore; **you are of more value than many sparrows.**" Matthew 10:29-31 NKJV
2. "**Look at the birds of the air**, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. **Are you not of more value than they?** Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? {33} **But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:26-27, 33 NKJV
3. "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, **for I am fearfully and wonderfully made**; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. **My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought** in the lowest parts of the earth. **Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.** And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them. **How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!** How great is the sum of them!" Psalms 139:13-17 NKJV

ULTIMATUMS

4. Stipulations: what to look for in those to whom you minister!

A. A Line in the Sand

(1) Confession and Division

(a) Not knowing is one thing—denial is altogether more serious!

1. “Therefore **whoever confesses Me before men**, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But **whoever denies Me before men**, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 10:32-33 NKJV
2. “And Pharaoh said, “**Who is the Lord**, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? **I do not know the Lord**, nor will I let Israel go.”” Exodus 5:2 NKJV
3. After the lice... “Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “**This is the finger of God.**” But **Pharaoh’s heart grew hard**, and he did not heed them, just as the Lord had said.” Exodus 8:19 NKJV
4. Before the hail... “But indeed for this purpose **I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you**, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.” Exodus 9:16 NKJV
5. After the hail... “And Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “**I have sinned this time. The Lord is righteous**, and my people and I are wicked. Entreat the Lord, that there may be no more mighty thundering and hail, for it is enough. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer.”” Exodus 9:27-28 NKJV
6. After the locusts... “Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and said, “**I have sinned against the Lord your God and against you**. Now therefore, **please forgive my sin only this once**, and entreat the Lord your God, that He may take away from me this death only.”” Exodus 10:16-17 NKJV
7. “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, **because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them**. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, **so that they are without excuse**, {28} **And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge**, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;”Romans 1:18-20, 28 NKJV
8. After the darkness... “But the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he would not let them go. Then Pharaoh said to him, “**Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face you shall die!**””Exodus 10:27-28 NKJV
9. What to do... “And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you **depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet.**” Matthew 10:14

(b) I am not trying to be popular—I am here to bring truth!

1. “**Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword**. For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; and ‘**a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.**’” Matthew 10:34-36 NKJV
2. “But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “**Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation**, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.” Matthew 12:25 NKJV

3. "And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**" Joshua 24:15 NKJV
 4. "And the people said to Joshua, **"The Lord our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!"**" Joshua 24:24 NKJV
- (2) It's all about finding disciples—not just converts! "*Go therefore and make disciples...*" Matthew 28:19
- (a) Of course you should love your family, but if you had to choose...
 1. "He who loves father or mother more than Me **is not worthy of Me**. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me **is not worthy of Me.**" Matthew 10:37 NKJV
 2. ""If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he **cannot be My disciple.**" Luke 14:26 NKJV
 - (b) If you are not willing to suffer...
 1. "And he **who does not take his cross** and follow after Me is not worthy of Me." Matthew 10:38 NKJV
 2. "And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me **cannot be My disciple.**" Luke 14:27 NKJV
 - (c) If you had to put your life on the line...
 1. "He **who finds his life will lose it**, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it." Matthew 10:39 NKJV
 2. "So likewise, **whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.**" Luke 14:33 NKJV
- (3) Close Associations
- (a) You become who your friends are...
 1. "**He who receives you receives Me**, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."
 2. "Do not be deceived: **"Evil company corrupts good habits."**" I Corinthians 15:33 NKJV
 - (b) Don't lose your flavor!
 1. "**He who receives a prophet** in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And **he who receives a righteous man** in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward."
 2. ""Salt is good; but **if the salt has lost its flavor**, how shall it be seasoned? **It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill**, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Luke 14:34-35 NKJV
 - (c) As you did to others, you did to Me!
 1. And **whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water** in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward." Matthew 10:40-42 NKJV
 2. ""Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, **when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison**, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, '**Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.**' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Matthew 25:44-46 NKJV
 3. "...when Jesus finished commanding His twelve disciples, **He departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities.**" Matthew 11:1