

“A Bridge To Somewhere”

The Compassion of Jesus

Matthew 9

The Context

Matthew:

Jesus is King

5:1-9:38

The King's Authority

5:1-7:29

The King's Message:

Sermon on the Mount:

High Cost of Discipleship

8:1-9:38

The King's Mercy

Authenticating Miracles

10:1

The King's Commission

Matthew 9:10-13

Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?" But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. "But go and learn what this means: "I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE," for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:35-38

Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Matthew 9:35

9:35

“villages & synagogues”

= lowly, obscure places &
main gathering places

“teaching, proclaiming, healing”

= message AND mercy

Matthew 9:36

“seeing the people” = He noticed!

“compassion” = “pity, sympathy”

spiritual, not physical

Isaiah 53:3b

Matthew 9:36

“distressed & dispirited” = “harassed, thrown down, troubled, scattered suddenly without purpose”

“not nourished or equipped to bear affliction, isolated, lonely, unable to resist temptation”

Matthew 9:37-38

Reality: “harvest is plentiful”

“workers are few”

“God is the Lord of the harvest”

John 15:1; 1 Corinthians 3:9;

Isaiah 5:7

Priority of Prayer

“A commission to go
as an answer to
prayers
is the most likely to
succeed.”

Acts 9:11, 15;
Isaiah 6:8