

# The World through Jesus' Eyes

TEXT: Matthew 9:35-38

INTRODUCTION: Things are not always as they appear.

**Sometimes we just see something wrong.  
Sometimes it does not quite register correctly in our mind.  
Sometimes we forget.**

**That happens sometimes when we look at the world,  
When we look at ourselves,  
When we look at our place in the universe around us.**

Sometimes it helps us to get a different perspective, especially if we have reason to believe it is a better perspective, a more accurate look, a more perfectly remembered picture that records how things really are.

Our text in the Bible this morning offers that to each of us. It is Matthew 9:35 – 37. I call this passage, “The World Through Jesus' Eyes.”

**Matthew 9:35–38** 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.<sup>36</sup> But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.<sup>37</sup> Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers are few.<sup>38</sup> Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

Jesus sees things differently than we often see them. From this passage we learn ...

## I. WE ARE PART OF THE MULTITUDES JESUS CARED ABOUT.

- A. Jesus' first reaction when He looks upon us is compassion.**
- 1. Because we are made in the image of God,**
  - 2. because we are made for fellowship with God,**
  - 3. because God's purpose for us is to be a part of His family forever,**
  - 4. because Jesus sees our need.**
    - a. Weary – “hassled”**

**b. Scattered****c. Like sheep without a shepherd**

Do you know what sheep without a shepherd are like? I do.

Before we come to Christ, Jesus sees us as sheep without a shepherd because that is what we are.

**Isaiah 53:6a** All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;

That pretty well describes the problem.

Pretty well describes the world.

Pretty well describes the problem with the world, does it not?

It was not just Frank Sinatra who sang, "I Did It My Way."

Everybody sings it, and everybody does it. We do it our way.

A couple of chapters after Isaiah points out that we are all like hassled, scattered sheep because we are all doing things our own way, he tells us this.

**Isaiah 55:8** "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

My friend, that is why Jesus looks at us with concern and compassion. Because he sees what sometimes we fail to see about ourselves and about our lives is that the reason we are so hassled and weary and scattered is because we are doing things our way instead of God's way. And Jesus grieves for us.

**II. JESUS INTENDS FOR US TO BE PART OF HIS HARVEST.**

**A. First Jesus called the people "sheep" indicating their condition.**

**B. Second Jesus called the people "harvest" indicating God's intention.**

**C. Harvest = In Gathering = Bringing Home**

That is what Jesus is talking about. He is telling His disciples, "Hey, don't you see? There's lots of folks out there, hassled, scattered, doing their own thing. But the Father wants them all gathered in to His family. He wants them brought home. He wants them to live with Him forever.

**D. Jesus wants us to be part of His harvest so much that He did something about it.**

1. You see, our doing things our way instead of God's way creates a big problem. The Bible calls it sin.  
It may be that we lie when God's way is truth.  
It may be that we steal when God's way is contentment.  
It may be that we hate when God's way is love.  
It may be that we get even when God's way is forgiveness.

But the fact is **Romans 3:23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

And the consequence is **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Death means separation from God forever.

So if Jesus wants to gather in a sheep who is out there scattered, hassled, weary, doing things his way or her way instead of God's way, it's not just a matter of Jesus getting down on His knees and calling, "Here little sheepee, come to Jesus, let's go to harvest."

No. Going his own way has separated the creature from the creator. Sin has come between man and His God. There is a penalty to be paid, and that penalty is death.

Remember Isaiah, the one who said,

**Isaiah 53:6** All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;

Only I did not quote the whole verse. Here is the rest of it.  
**And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

The Holy Spirit said it again in **Romans 5:8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

This is why Jesus came to this earth and died on a cross. We were all sinners, wandering about doing things our way instead of God's way, and consequently separated from God, doomed to be apart from Him forever.

But Jesus came. He said I want you to be part of the harvest. I want you gathered in to the Father's house. I want you to live with me forever, so...

I am going to go to the cross and pay the death penalty for your sin.

By my death, I will purchase the gift of eternal life and offer it free to you.

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All you have to do is repent of doing things your way instead of God's way and trust in me.

**Romans 10:9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

I wonder if there are not some of you here today who would like to receive that gift.

Now real quick, let me show you one more thing.

### III. JESUS CALLS US TO LABOR WITH HIM IN THE HARVEST.

- A. That is the purpose of the church – to labor with Jesus in gathering the harvest.
- B. He tells us to do it in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the End of the Earth.
- C. That's what we are about at SABC. That is why we have a Benevolence Ministry and Medical Clinic. It's why we send teams to minister after disasters. It's why we have teams that go to Mexico, Brazil, Ghana, India, and Malaysia.
- D. Just in case there are some of you here today who believe the good life is more than 70 or 80 years of self indulgence. Just in case some of you want to join in a cause far bigger than yourself, we welcome you, but not to sit, not to watch, but to work – to join Jesus and us and labor together in the harvest.

CONCLUSION: **Matt. 9:38** Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

The Benevolence Center was full, not an oddity at all these days when so many are out of a job, losing their homes, and hungry. Windell picked up the next person to be called back, Mattie was her name. With the paper work secured, Windell asked the question: "*Is it OK to ask you a spiritual question?*" The reply was "yes."

God who always operates as He operates began a most unusual dialog between this middle-age lady, Windell, and the working of the Holy Spirit...unique, amazing, and rewarding. Windell uses a 5 question 5 Bible verse plan when he shares the gospel. He has it written out and he pastes it in the Bibles we give away in the Center. He high-lights with a highlighter the verses in the Bible making it easy for the person to find. Windell asks a question with the answer being found each time in the Scriptures. He reads each question and ask them to read from God's Word the answer.

Windell read question number one: "***Did you know that God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.***" Now it was Mattie's turn to read from **John 3:16-17**. She said to me "*I left my glasses at home...could I borrow yours?*" Well, this is certainly

different...he said sure if they will work for you. Guess what they worked perfectly as if God had prescription them just for her. This is not the end of the story. Back and forth from his eyes to her's Windell's glasses went the Holy Spirit blessing each exchange until she prayed the "sinner's prayer."

God did what He always does when anyone comes in repentance and faith. He ushers them into His eternal kingdom. Bells were ringing in heaven, angels rejoicing another soul had been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.