INTERMEDIATE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

14 MAY 2023

**Text: Matthew 10** 

**Subject: SENDING OUT THE APOSTLES** 

<sup>27</sup> "Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. <sup>30</sup> But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 10:27-33

#### PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL

- 1. Understanding certain expressions
  - a) "Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light"
    - This is a reference to what the Lord Jesus taught His Disciples privately
    - ii) They must not be afraid to proclaim the Truth publicly and clearly
  - b) And what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops
    - This is a similar expression
      The Lord Jesus had taught many Truths to the Disciples personally
    - ii) They must find the courage to proclaim publicly (housetops)
- 2. The Ministry of preaching
  - a) This must be done courageously
  - b) It must be done faithfully

#### **OVERCOMING FEARS**

1. Fear of Man (Councils, Kings and Governors)

- a) This fear must be fought and overcome
- b) The fear of man can ensnare a person
- c) One may be afraid of losing his life

## 2. Fear of God

- a) God is the One to be feared
- b) He can destroy both body and soul
- c) He can send one to hell (reference to death and beyond)

## 3. Of Value to God

- a) The sparrow is one of the most common birds in the world
- b) Nevertheless, God takes notice when a sparrow falls
- c) The Lord has numbered the amount of hair follicles
- d) We are of more value than sparrows and human hair
- e) We are reminded that we are of even greater value

### **CONFESSING AND DENYING**

- 1. Confessing is Expressing Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
  - a) Clearly
  - b) Confidently
  - c) Courageously
  - d) The Lord will confess us before the Father in heaven
- 2. Denying the Lord Jesus
  - a) Departing from the Lord John 6:66
  - b) Denying Faith in the Lord
  - c) The Lord Jesus will deny any relationship with us too

## **CONCLUSION**

# 1. A classic statement

<sup>11</sup> This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him.

<sup>12</sup> If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

<sup>13</sup> If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

2 Timothy 2:11-13

- a) Dying with the Lord Jesus
- b) Enduring persecution
- c) If we deny Him
  - i) Deliberate
  - ii) Disavowal
  - iii) We will be denied
- d) If we are faithless
  - i) We lack that Faith
  - ii) The Lord understands
  - iii) He remains faithful

# 2. Our Challenge

- a) To grow our faith
- b) To strengthen our spirit of courage and endurance
- c) To determine to be steadfast and faithful