

The Gospel for the Distressed and Dispirited

Carl Thomas

Matthew 9:35–10:8; Luke 4:35; Romans 5:7–8

Whats the problem

Matthew 9:35–10:8 (NASB95)

35 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.

36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

37 Then He *said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

38 "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Jesus showed what one Holy Ghost empowered person could accomplish

- Jesus had chosen his disciples and worked out character issues.
- They finally gained compassion

Matthew 9:36 (NASB95)

36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were **distressed** and **dispirited** like sheep without a shepherd.

- Skylo kai ripto –
- Skeelo Ke Rheeto
- Skylo – Homestead channels. Idaho. Raising Goats. Had babies. One was getting picked on. He had to go in and protect it, bottle fed it, got to the place where the mother would let it nurse.
- Ripto –
- In Luke 4:35 the story of man with a demon. When they went to cast the devil out of him he was thrown to the ground. Ripto
- When Judas betrayed Jesus they gave him 30 pieces of silver. In matthew 27 Judas realizes what he did and he took the 30 pieces of silver and threew them in the temple to get that blood money away from him.
- Skylo kai ripto – Skeelo Ke Rheeto
- Harassed abused rejected and discarded like trash.
- Like sheep with no shepherd.
- **But they had a shepherd**
- **They were the children of God**

Humanity's problem became Jesus' problem because Jesus has compassion.

- Jesus could have said, not my problem.
- Jesus was going to do something about this. He could not minister to them all on his own.
- Letter from a Bihrmingham Jail

- He said we as humanity are all living lives that are connected. Our lives are interwoven together making one piece of cloth

- The Gospel let's abusers there is a coming judgment.
- This is the Holy Ghost
- Why would Jesus come to earth?
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- Why would people give their time and money to go on short term mission trips?
- Why do people like me lay aside careers to serve Jesus?
- God's love moves on our hearts and sees how God sees his creation.
- Skello kai rhipo – Skeelo Ke Rheeto
- Jesus had a plan to rescue humanity. He died on a sinners cross and the Father raised Him from the dead so that whosoever believes will not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 5:7–8 (NASB95)

7For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

8But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

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Matthew 10:1-8

1Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

2Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

5 These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "Do not go in *the way of the Gentiles*, and do not enter *any city of the Samaritans*;

6 but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

7 "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

- He gave that same power to his disciples.
- But not before they saw how it hurt his heart that people were being harassed by the devil.

Spiritual problems require spiritual solutions.

- The Gospel is the message of liberation
- The Second great awakening in the 1800s
- Charles Finney went out calling people to repentance.
- They thought they were saved because they got baptized at birth
- He preached the Gospel and told them they needed to make a decision.
- Not only a decision to be a Christian, but to renounce sin and the works of the devil.
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- Hated Slavery
- Said slavery was immoral and no Christian could own another human
- This was part of what caused the suffragist movement in the United State

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- Juneteenth
- Second Independence Day.
- Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation September 22, 1862. Goes into effect Jan 1
- Middle of the Civil War
- "I didn't own slaves" We need to talk about these things. Or we forget how sinful we can become.
- Without a prophetic voice, we live in sin.
- Just because people are Christians people still sin. Sometimes we use it to justify our sin.
- Since the capture of New Orleans in 1862, slave owners in Mississippi, Louisiana and other points east had been migrating to Texas to escape the Union Army's reach. In a hurried re-enactment of the original Middle Passage, more than 150,000 slaves had made the trek west, according to historian Leon Litwack in his book *Been in the Storm So Long: The Aftermath of Slavery*. As one former slave he quotes recalled, " 'It looked like everybody in the world was going to Texas.' "
- Civil War ended April 9, 1865
- People still didn't free their slaves.
- Wasn't till the Major General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865
- We now run Texas and the slaves are free.
- Presidential proclamation
- 13th Amendment to the Constitution
- Civil War
- Still slaves Because nobody told them they were free.
- Transition

How many people today are walking in bondage to the devil even though Jesus paid the price for their freedom?

- We need a prophetic eye, to view the world and see who is in captivity that should be free.
- We have to do the same.
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BOCA RATON, Fla. (CBS12) — In a joint effort by several agencies, a Boca Raton man, who had human trafficked multiple women for several years and made over \$257,000, was arrested.

The suspect, 42-year-old Brandon Robert Gutman, allegedly had complete control over three young survivors' lives - financially, emotionally and physically, the man's affidavit showed.

He was arrested Thursday night and taken to the Main Detention Center in Palm Beach County, according to police records. Gutman is charged with three counts of human trafficking of a minor, three counts of deriving money from prostitution and two counts of unlawful sex with a minor.

The Boca Raton Police Department's (BRPD) Vice Intelligence and Narcotics (VIN) Unit joined with the **Palm Beach County Human Trafficking Task Force (PBCHTTF)** and the FBI in Gutman's arrest.

He also expected her to work six days a week, making anywhere between \$600 to \$1,000 each day, which was all expected to be turned over to Gutman.

In addition to the financial abuse, the young survivor also was subjected to regular physical and sexual abuse -- multiple other women in the house also underwent the same experience -- for about three years.

All the fear and financial dependence on Gutman lead the young woman and others to continue doing sex work for him, the affidavit said.

- **Palm Beach County Human Trafficking Task Force (PBCHTTF)**
- This is one man in our city. This girl did not know she was free.
- There re people in our lives who are enslaved to the work of the devil.
- Whats the solution?
- The Gospel

6but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

7"And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

8"Heal *the* sick, raise *the* dead, cleanse *the* lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

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Make a commitment today. You are going to tell your testimony to

someone.

Invite them to church where they can learn about their freedom

Declare the word of the Lord over your life.