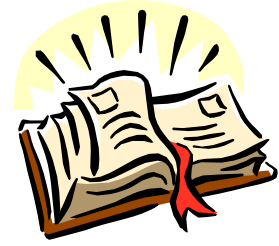


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*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## **Matthew 10.**

(2013)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it***

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## Matthew 10.

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### Topics.

- Jesus calls his twelve disciples and sends them to the lost sheep of Israel.
- The twelve were not to accumulate money for their ministry.
- The twelve were to stay in a house in the city and use it as a base station.
- Beelzebul.
- Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?

**The Previous Chapter:** Jesus sailed across the Sea of Galilee and healed a paralytic man lying on a bed, a woman who suffered a discharge of blood for twelve years, he resurrected a dead man's daughter, opened the eyes of two blind men, healed a mute man and every other disease. He told his disciples the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few and spoke about old and new wineskins. To the horror of the religious leaders he not only called Matthew (a tax collector), but went and ate with him.

**NOTE:** for information concerning people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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### Jesus calls his Twelve Disciples.

Matthew 10:1-4 -----<sup>1</sup>And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean (akathartos) spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. <sup>2</sup>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; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

**NOTE:** the very beginning of the next chapter begins with the words: -

- When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities (Matt. 11:1).

This shines a brilliant spotlight on the truth that though many of the principals in this chapter can apply to Christians today, the primary focus of Jesus message is to the twelve apostles.

**The Definition of an Apostle:** (apostolos) (apostello) means a delegate or a messenger set apart and sent out or sent forth on a mission as an apostle with miraculous powers who is sent especially as a commissioner of Christ and officially as an ambassador of the Gospel.

To be an apostle a person had to have been with Jesus from his baptism by John until his death and also have witnessed his resurrection so they could personally testify of it (Acts 1:21-22) (Acts 4:33).

**The Twelve Apostles.** (In alphabetical order).

1. **Andrew:** means, manly (as an individual male) he was the son of Jona and brother of Simon Peter (Cephas). He was a disciple of John the Baptist and a fisherman from Bethsaida. He reported the number of loaves at the feeding of the five thousand and met with the disciples after the Lord's ascension.
2. **Bartholomew:** is thought to be Nathanael.

3. **James:** the brother of John and son of Zebedee and Salome. Jesus gave James and John the name Boanerges (meaning sons of thunder). He was a fishing business partner with John (his brother) and Peter at Bethsaida. He was an intimate companion of Jesus and present with Jesus when he told the disciples to cast their nets on the right side of the boat, when Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law and raised Jairus daughter, at the transfiguration of Jesus and at the garden of Gethsemane and present at the Sea of Tiberias when Jesus revealed himself to the disciples after his resurrection, Herod had him killed by the sword.
4. **James:** the son of Alphaeus.
5. **John:** the brother of James and the son of Zebedee and Salome. Jesus gave him the name Boanerges (meaning the sons of thunder). He was intimately associated with Jesus and a fishing business partner with James (his brother) and Peter. He dwelt in Jerusalem where the rulers of the Jews imprisoned him overnight. He was at the temple when Peter healed a man in the temple and was present when Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law; at the raising of Jairus' daughter; when Jesus told the disciples to cast their nets on the right side of the boat; when Jesus was glorified at the transfiguration; when Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane; at the Passover; at the trial of Jesus before the high priest; at the crucifixion; at the sepulchre with Peter and when Jesus manifested himself at the Sea of Galilee. He prepared the Passover and was entrusted with the care of Mary the mother of Jesus. John was a pillar of the church sent by the church with the commission to Samaria and told he must prophecy to nations and kings. John wrote letters to the churches (1 John) (2 John) (3 John) and the apocalyptic vision from Patmos (Rev. 1:9).
6. **Judas Iscariot:** the treasurer of the disciples, exemplified covetousness by his bargaining with the Pharisees to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver (thirty days wages), after seeing how the Pharisees had Jesus brutally beaten and cruelly crucified Judas killed himself.
7. **Jude:** (Judas) (not Iscariot) also known as Lebbaeus (meaning a man of heart) whose surname was Thaddaeus (Matt. 10:3) (KJV). He was the brother of James the apostle.
8. **Matthew:** an Israelite called Levi and a receiver of taxes.
9. **Peter:** (Petros) means a piece of rock it is larger than the Greek word lithos which means a stone which figuratively carries the idea of a stumbling stone. He was also called Simon Bar-Jona and Cephas (Kephas) (meaning the rock) Cephas was Peter's surname. He was the son of Jona and a fishing business partner with James and John (the sons of Zebedee). Scripture records Jesus healing his wife's mother (Matt. 8:14) so we know he was a married man. Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ and was present at the transfiguration and at Gethsemane. Jesus sent him with John to prepare the Passover and commissioned him to feed flock of Christ.
10. **Philip:** means, dear like a friend or friendly he was one of the seven deacons and had four daughters who were prophetesses. Phillip successfully preached in Samaria and various cities, he expounded the Scriptures to the Ethiopian eunuch whom he baptised and then was caught away by the Spirit to Azotus, he abided at Caesarea and entertained Paul as his guest.
11. **Simon:** also called the Zealot and the Canaanite
12. **Thomas:** a twin called Didymus and his father was Alphaeus, he was loyal to Jesus and dwelt with the other apostles in Jerusalem. He was present at the raising of Lazarus and asked Jesus the way to the Father's house. Thomas was absent when Jesus first appeared after the resurrection and doubted when he did see him.

**Super Apostles:** the Scriptures also speak of super apostles who say they work on the same terms as the apostles but are actually workmen who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. These men are deceitful, egotistic, prideful, conniving, cunning and full of selfish ambition they boast of their own human

efforts and achievements, disguise themselves as apostles of Christ, but twist and distort the Scriptures and take advantage of their followers by using them for their own gain. They put on airs because they think they are important and famous and not only exalt and disguise themselves as honest, caring, truthful, but also appear as a nice person (i.e., as an angel of light), but lead their followers astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ by undermining the apostles' message and teaching a distorted Gospel that leads their converts away from grace and brings them back to self-effort and works (i.e., strictly adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days and keeping religious customs and traditions) to be saved or to maintain their salvation.

They proclaim a different Gospel (a legalistic one grossly lacking grace) and another Jesus and people under their ministry receive another spirit and embrace it eagerly (2 Cor. 11:4). Timothy warned that the prophetic Spirit says, "In the latter times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons (1 Tim. 4:1). They can be pastors, ministers or religious leaders of a Christian institution or organisation, Scripture calls them satan's and serpents (2 Cor. 11:2-20).

**A biblical test for an apostle:** is to examine if they are seeking the Kingdom of God first, (i.e., are they kind, caring and giving or do they indulge themselves in the riches and wealth of this world) and do they give Jesus first priority in their life by denying themselves and taking up their cross daily or are they looking back regretting their calling and wishing they had the riches and the successful life those in the world have.

### **Jesus sends the Twelve Apostles to the Lost Sheep of Israel.**

Matthew 10:5-10 ----- <sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And proclaim as you go, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand. <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. <sup>9</sup>Acquire no gold nor silver nor copper for your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, nor two tunics nor sandals nor a staff, for the labourer deserves his food.

Jesus sends the twelve to the lost sheep of Israel he tells them not to go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, the Gentiles embrace everyone who is not a Hebrew or Jew.

**A brief overview of the history of the Samaritans:** during the Old Testament era the land of Samaria was occupied by the ten tribes of Israel, but when they were taken into captivity the Assyrians occupied their land. After their seventy-year captivity to Babylon many Jews returned to their homes in the land of Samaria (they became known as Samaritan Jews) and took foreign women for their wives and because of this their Jewish faith become polluted by the gods of the people they were living amongst. It was because of this the Jews at Jerusalem and the surrounding regions had no dealings with them (Samaria today is modern Syria).

**NOTE:** the phrase the Kingdom of heaven does not mean that the Kingdom is in heaven, Matthew is the only writer that uses this term, both Mark and Luke say the Kingdom of God, the two titles refer to the same Kingdom which is God's Kingdom on earth.

### **The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand.**

The Kingdom of God was the message the apostles were to proclaim, the Kingdom at hand refers to the Kingdom of faith, grace and conscience it began with the death and resurrection of Christ. The message of the cross and God's grace is the Gospel of the Kingdom and the beginning of the New Covenant. Christ death and resurrection totally destroyed the Old Testament Covenant by doing away with the need for the Levitical priesthood, a human high priest, the holy days and sacrifices because everything now concerning salvation is in Christ.

The Kingdom that now exists is invisible and spiritual; it is a Kingdom of faith, through belief in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and trusting in him for salvation.

This invisible Kingdom of faith, grace and conscience that exists in the heart and mind of those who believe will be perfectly and gloriously outwardly manifested on earth when Christ returns as King of kings and Lord of lords to establish God's literal and visible Kingdom on earth during his millennial reign. At this present time the Kingdom is outwardly manifested through the lives and testimony of faithful believers and collectively by the visible church (howbeit certainly not perfectly)

For further information of the past present and future Kingdom see the title: -

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).

### **Heal the Sick, Raise the Dead, Cleanse Lepers and Cast out Demons (v8).**

Jesus gave the twelve apostles God's power, but with limitations, they could heal every kind of sickness and even raise the dead, but they couldn't control the weather, turn water to wine, walk on water or create bread as Jesus could.

**Acquire no gold or silver:** (v9) the twelve apostles were not to accumulate money, but the people who they ministered to were to supply their food clothing and shelter.

### **Stay in a House until you Depart.**

Matthew 10:11-16 ---- <sup>11</sup>And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly, I say to you it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town. <sup>16</sup>"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent (harmless in KJV) as doves.

The twelve Jesus sent out were to find a house in the city that would accept them and stay in that house while they went out and ministered to the city. They were to use the house as their base station for resting, eating and sleeping. If they found that the city folk rejected them Jesus said they were to wipe the dust off their feet (meaning not to worry or stress about it), because God will judge that city on the Day of Judgment. Obviously not all twelve stayed in the one house, they travelled in pairs or groups to different regions, towns cities and villages and stayed in the one house until they had finished proclaiming the Gospel in that region. In this way the Gospel spread throughout the nations.

**Be wise as serpents:** this means don't argue, stress or confront an angry person, don't be aggressive or enter into contention with people that may cause harm or attempt to reason with a prideful person it will only lead to strife, just leave. The principal is remain in peace always, don't carry the burden or worry about those who will not receive the Gospel, but be wise like the serpent and know when to back off so as not to arouse a persons anger and have them attack you (serpents flee when in danger).

**Innocent as dove's:** carries the idea of being gentle not aggressive, reason, but don't argue, Jesus is telling the disciples if it is possible don't stir up trouble for or put themselves in unnecessary danger.

### **Beware of Men they will Flog you in their Synagogues.**

Matthew 10:17-20 ---- <sup>17</sup>Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup>For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

This is absolutely tragic, Jesus said, "All the commandments concerning mankind can be summed up in the words, love our neighbour as ourselves" (Matt. 22:37-39) (Mark 12:28-31) (James 2:8).

Next to loving God with all our heart, mind and strength, this is the most important commandment to God's heart, yet here we have so called Jewish worshippers of God dragging those who don't agree with their doctrines into their synagogues and beating them. Sadly there are still some today in the body of Christ who would do the same thing if it was lawful and they had the authority. This is why Jesus warns the apostles to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

### **It is the Spirit of your Father speaking through You.**

The expression, "It is the Spirit of your Father speaking through you" does not mean the apostles had to continually seek for some new spiritual message from God to share with the governors, kings and Gentiles. Jesus is speaking to the twelve at this time he had taught them that the Son of Man will be killed, but on the third day will rise again and the things concerning the Gospel of the Kingdom. They did not fully understand what Jesus meant when he said, "The Son of Man will be killed, but on the third day will rise again until after his resurrection when he appeared to them in his resurrected body.

After this event God sent the Holy Spirit to them, to bring to remembrance all that Christ had taught them and to reveal to them that God was now accepting the Gentiles into His Kingdom, so now whenever they spoke of what had been revealed to them it was not them speaking, but the Spirit of God speaking through them. By extension whenever we share the Good News of the Gospel we can say that this is the Spirit of God speaking through us because it is His Gospel and his word that He planned and purposed in His eternal mind before time began.

### **Children will Rise against Parents and have them put to Death.**

Matthew 10:21-23 ---- <sup>21</sup>Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

This shows how legalistic and dogmatic the Jews were, for a person to deliver a family member over to death is not only a manifestation of extreme legalism and a total lack of mercy, love and grace, but also shows a total misunderstanding of what God is all about (i.e., how does handing anyone over to death because of their religious belief fit with Jesus words, "Love your enemies) (Matt. 5:44).

**NOTICE:** Jesus says, the one who endures to the end will be saved, endures implies hardship, just because we are witnessing for Christ does not mean it is going to be an easy road or that we will have a charmed life, but when we are facing harm Jesus says flee from it. Jesus does not expect or require us to stay in dangerous situations (v22-23).

**Before the Son of man comes:** Jesus says, the apostles will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes, this most likely refers to his resurrection and his appearing to them, because it was then that the New Covenant and the Good News of the Gospel literally began in earnest and changed God's entire religious world and Kingdom forever.

### **Jesus is called Beelzebul.**

Matthew 10:24-25 --- <sup>24</sup>"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup>It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master) of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

**Beelzebul:** (also called Beelzebub) was the dung-god, the Baal of the fly he was a special deity of the Ekronites and the Philistines. The name Beelzebul was used as a name of satan because Beelzebul was believed to be the prince of devils (Matt. 12:24) (Matt. 12:27) (Mark 3:22) (Luke 11:15) (Luke 11:18-19).

The house in these verses is the house of God and the master of it is Christ, Jesus is saying if they (the Jewish religious leaders) have called him Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those who belong to his Kingdom.

The Jewish scribes believed the chief of demons, called Beelzebul possessed Jesus, which raises the question, "If the Jewish scribes believed Jesus was possessed by a demon and we know that is a totally wrong diagnosis, why would their belief that other people were possessed by demons be a correct diagnosis? (Mark 3:22). A person may have total faith and absolute belief in Beelzebul the god of the flies or even a monkey god, but that does not mean they exist

**For further information see:-**

Beelzebul in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU)

**A Disciple is not above his Teacher, nor a Servant above his Master.**

The teacher and master is Jesus and the servant/disciple are all those who belong to him. Jesus is saying don't strive to be above the master aim to be like him and warns that unbelievers called him evil so they will also call those who align themselves with him evil. This is especially true in countries that are very strong in their belief of an opposing faith such as the extreme radicals in the Jewish faith or the extreme radicals in the Moslem faith etc.

**Nothing is Covered that will Not be Revealed.**

Matthew 10:26-28 ---- <sup>26</sup>"So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. <sup>27</sup>What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. <sup>28</sup>And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul (psuche). Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell (geenna).

Jesus says, don't worry or stress over what people may say about you because God knows the truth and what is really true will be revealed at the judgement.

**Fear Him Who is Able to Destroy Both Soul and Body in Hell (Gehenna).**

**Destroy:** means to perish, to ruin and render a thing useless. To kill or declare that one must be put to death. It carries the idea of entirely abolishing and putting an end to a thing.

**HELL:** in this verse is from the Greek word Gehenna which was the Hinnom valley (of the son of Hinnom). It was a valley of Jerusalem that had continual fires burning because it was used as a refuse tip (a place where the filth and dead animals of the city of Jerusalem were cast out and burned) for the city of Jerusalem at the time of the New Testament. In this context Jesus is using it figuratively as a symbol of eternal death (i.e. total extinction) because fire consumes everything thrown into it until it is utterly destroyed so that it is entirely destroyed, abolished and eliminated.

The utter destruction of the soul will take place when God judges a person unworthy and they are cast into of the Lake of Fire (the Second Death) (Rev. 2:11) (Rev. 20:6) (Rev. 20:14) (Rev. 21:8). The Lake of Fire symbolizes utter destruction because fire burns everything until it is utterly gone thus it perfectly fits Jesus words, "God is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna" and perfectly depicts those who are judged to eternal death (i.e., total extinction) and perfectly fits the meaning of the word destroy (i.e., to perish, kill, entirely abolish and put an end to).

**Soul:** in this context refers to human life, it is God who determines eternal life this is the life we should be concerned about. Knowing that God has the power over eternal life overcomes the fear of man who only has power over mortal life. To overcome the fear of death, the treasure and the most valued possession of the heart and the mind must be God and His love. Jesus is saying to those who are being persecuted for proclaiming the Gospel, "Do not worry if they kill you because God who has the power of eternal life will resurrect them to eternal life.

**NOTE:** hell in the Old Testament is the English translation of the Hebrew word Sheol which means the grave and in the New Testament (except where Gehenna has been translated as hell) hell is the English translation of the Greek word Hades which also means the grave.

The traditional religious belief that God has created an eternal place called hell where the unbelieving dead go after death not only to be cruelly tortured, by evil eternal spirit creatures called demons for all eternity, but also to be burned in flames of fire all the while being fully conscious of the extreme pain they are suffering is not only a gross corruption and interpretation of Scripture, but also an extremely gross reflection of God, His heart and His nature. The only two eternal destinations the Bible teaches are eternal life and eternal death (i.e. total extinction).

**For further information see the titles: -**

- Gehenna.
- Hell.

Both titles are in Death (ON WEBSITE MENU).

**Are not Two Sparrows sold for a Penny?**

Matthew 10:29-33 ---- <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>Fear not therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup>So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

These verses are continuing on from verse twenty-eight so they are in the context of mortal life and eternal life. Jesus is saying, just as God sees the sparrow when it dies, He will also see you when you die because He even knows how many hairs are growing on your head and you to God are worth far more than any bird, so be comforted God will be with you when you die.

Jesus is telling the disciples not to fear mortal death because those who acknowledge Jesus, Jesus will acknowledge to God and God will know and be with them when they die. In contrast to this those who deny Jesus, Jesus will deny to God and God will not be there to comfort them when they die.

**Do not think that I have come to Bring Peace to Earth.**

Matthew 10:34-37 --- <sup>34</sup>Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

**Sword:** (machaira) means a knife or battle and figuratively war, judicial punishment, controversy and striving. Jesus is warning his disciples of what the repercussions of following him maybe (i.e. rejection by ones own household).

Jesus words, "Whoever loves father or mother, son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me," (Matt. 10:37) does not mean we are not to love our family members. Jesus is simply saying, if we deny him because our acceptance of him will cause some form of rejection or strife with a family member then we are not worthy of him. Obviously in this situation we are called to do all we can to heal the contention in the family, but if it ultimately becomes a choice between the family or a family member and Jesus and we choose the family member then we are not worthy of receiving Christ.

To be a disciple of Jesus he must be pre-eminent in our life, mind and our hearts. God the Creator and His Son must always come before the creation meaning that if a believer is forced to make a choice between Jesus, their family or a family member, Christ must always come first. For some following Christ will at times result in persecution, prison or even the loss of friends and family, Jesus is saying if anyone is put in any of these positions they must be prepared to suffer the loss to follow him.



**Whoever does not take his Cross and follow me is not Worthy of Me.**

Matthew 10:38-39 ---- <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

**Whoever does not take their cross:** refers to any obstacle that comes into the life of a believer because of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (obstacles could be, prison, persecution, loss of family members or friends etc.).

**Whoever finds their life will lose it whoever loses their life will find it:** means whoever forsakes Christ to gain the things of this world and thereby enhance their worldly and materialistic mortal life will lose eternal life, but whoever forsakes the things of this world and receives Christ and thereby miss out on much of what this world has will gain eternal life. To find eternal life requires putting God and the Lord Jesus Christ at the centre of one's life and heart. This does not mean that a Christian cannot enjoy the good things of the world, the focus is upon who sits as King of the heart, is it Christ or the things of this world.

**Whoever Receives You Receives Me.**

Matthew 10:40 ----- <sup>40</sup>Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.

Whoever receives you in this context embrace the idea of receiving the total person, (i.e. what they stand for and what they believe), to accept a disciple is to accept their message, so in that sense they receive Christ and in receiving Christ they are accepting God's word and so receive God.

**The One who receives a Prophet will receive a Prophet's Reward.**

Matthew 10:41 ----- <sup>41</sup>The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.

A prophet's and a righteous person's reward are the same which is, forgiveness of sins, favour from God and eternal life.

**Whoever gives a cup of cold water will receive a Reward.**

Matthew 10:42 ----- <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Jesus is saying to those who belong to Christ that they do not have to be a prophet or a teacher to receive a reward, just doing a simple act of kindness or giving aid to a helpless person will not go unnoticed by God. Doing any act of kindness toward another human and especially to those who belong to Christ stores up treasure in heaven.

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End