The Gospel of Mark The Apostles Sent Out Mark 6:7-13

1. The Evangelistic

Following His second rejection in Nazareth, Jesus began sending the twelve apostles out for their first evangelistic ministry (Mk. 6:7; cf. Lk. 10:1). Jesus sent them in pairs (Mk. 6:7) for their own benefit (cf. Ec. 4:9-12) as well as for the confirmation of their message (cf. Dt. 17:6; 19:15). He also delegated unique authority to the apostles in order to authenticate their message (Mk. 6:7; cf. Lk. 9:1-2).

2. The Evangelistic

In this initial missionary endeavor, the disciples were prohibited from taking provisions for their journey and were to be dependent upon local hospitality (Mk. 6:8-10). If the disciples are received warmly, they are not to move from house to house (Mk. 6:10). But if the message is not received by any in the town (cf. Mk. 6:3), then the disciples are to make it clear that they do not want to be polluted with that town's unbelief (cf. Mt. 10:15). The disciples have witnessed Jesus as the focus of hatred and attacks (cf. Mk. 3:21-22), and now He has prepared them to endure similar experiences (cf. Mt. 10:24-25).

3. The Evangelistic

Mark does not include specific instructions on exactly what they were to preach, and he simply indicates that they preached that men should repent (Mk. 6:12). The mission of the apostles was to preach the message that the kingdom of God (Lk. 9:2) is at hand (Mt. 10:7). They were to preach the gospel (Lk. 9:6) which is the same message that Jesus had been preaching (Mk. 1:15; cf. Mk. 1:4). Repentance is a change of mind from believing what is false to believing what is true. Repentance is a turning from sin and a turning unto God (Acts 26:17-18; 1 Thess 1:9). Biblical repentance engages every faculty of man's being: our intellect (Job 42:3; Ps. 51:3-4), our emotions and affections (2 Cor. 7:10; cf. Matt 5:4), and our will by which we direct the course of our lives (Isa. 55:7; Ezek 33:19; Jon. 3:10; 2 Chron. 7:14).