

## For the Love of an Imperative Verb Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

*The Third Sunday after Pentecost, Year A, RCL*

<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and his brother Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but **go** [πορεύεσθε, **poreúesthe**] rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, **proclaim** [κηρύσσετε, **kērýssete**] the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup>**Cure** [θεραπεύετε, **therapeúete**] the sick, **raise** [ἐγείρετε, **egeírete**] the dead, **cleanse** [καθαρίζετε, **katharízete**] the lepers, **cast out** [ἐκβάλλετε, **ekbállete**] demons. You received without payment, **give** [δότε, **dóte**] without payment.”

<sup>9</sup>“Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, **find out** [ἐξετάσατε, **exetásate**] who in it is worthy and **stay** [μείνατε, **meínate**] there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, **greet** [ἀσπάσασθε, **aspásasthe**] it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, **let** your peace **come** [ἐλθάτω, **elthátō**] upon it; but if it is not worthy, **let** your peace **return** [ἐπιστραφήτω, **epistraphētō**] to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, **shake off** [ἐκτινάξατε, **ektináxate**] the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>“**See** [ἰδοὺ, **idou**], I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so **be** [γίνεσθε, **gínesthe**] wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>**Beware** [προσέχετε, **proséchete**] of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over,

do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a 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 because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, **flee** [φεύγετε, **pheúgete**] to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes." [NRSV89]

**10:6**

πορεύεσθε, **poreúesthe**; *vb: pres mid / pass imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from πορεύω:  
translations: **go** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **id** [IAdNT]

**10:7**

κηρύσσετε, **kērýssete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from κηρύσσω:  
translations: **proclaim** [NRSV89, ESV, NIV11, NJB, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], **make . . . proclamation** [NAB], also **preach** [NGEINT, NKJV; Filson], **proclamad** [IAdNT]

**10:8**

θεραπεύετε, **therapeúete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from θεραπεύω:  
translations: **cure** [NRSV89, NAB, NJB, NRSVue], also **heal** [ESV, NGEINT, NIV11, NKJV; Albright & Mann, Filson], **Sanad** [IAdNT]

ἐγείρετε, **egeírete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from ἐγείρω:  
translations: **raise** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Filson], **resucitad** [IAdNT]

Crossett: Albright and Mann exclude "raise the dead."

καθαρίζετε, **katharízete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from καθαρίζω:  
translations: **cleanse** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Filson], also **cure** [Albright & Mann], **limpiad** [IAdNT]

ἐκβάλλετε, **ekbállete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from ἐκβάλλω:  
translations: **cast out** [NRSV89, ESV, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], also **drive out** [NAB, NIV11, NJB], **expel** [Filson], **expulsad** [IAdNT]

δώτε, **dóte**; *vb: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from δίδωμι:  
translations: **give** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **dad** [IAdNT]

Albright and Mann: "The theme is common in a missionary context . . ."

Levine and Brettler [JANT, p. 30]: b. Bek. 29a shows one should teach the Torah without expectation of payment.

## Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23), continued

### 10:11

ἐξετάσατε, **exetásate**; *vb: aor act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pl* from ἐξετάζω:

translations: **find out** [NRSV89, ESV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], also **inquire** [NGEINT, NKJV; Filson], **look for** [NAB], **search** [NIV11], **seek out** [NJB], **averigued** [IAAdNT]

μείνατε, **meínate**; *vb: aor act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from μένω:

translations: **stay** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann], also **lodge** [Filson], **remain** [NGEINT], **permaneced** [IAAdNT]

### 10:12

ἀσπάσασθε, **aspásasthe**; *vb: aor mid imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from ἀσπάζομαι:

translations: **greet** [NRSV89, ESV, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], **give . . . greeting** [NIV11], also **salute** [NJB], **wish** [NAB], **saludad** [IAAdNT]

### 10:13

ἐλθάτω, **elthátō**; *vb: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor act imperative 3<sup>rd</sup> pers sg* from ἔρχομαι:

translations: **let . . . come** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue], **may . . . come** [NJB], also **let . . . rest** [NIV11; Albright & Mann, Filson], **venga** [IAAdNT]

ἐπιστραφήτω, **epistraphētō**; *vb: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor pass imperative 3<sup>rd</sup> pers sg* from ἐπιστρέφω:

translations: **let . . . return** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **may . . . come back** [NJB], **vuelva** [IAAdNT]

### 10:14

ἐκτινάξατε, **ektináxate**; *vb: aor act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from ἐκτινάσσω:

translations: **shake off** [NRSV89, ESV, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], **shake . . . off** [NIV11], **shake** [NAB, NJB], also **sacudid** [IAAdNT]

### 10:16

ἰδοὺ, **idoù**; *vb: 2<sup>nd</sup> aor mid imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers sg* from ὁράω, **horáō**:

translations: **see** [NRSV89; Albright & Mann], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV; Filson], **look** [NJB], **he aqui** [IAAdNT], not translated in NIV11 or NRSVue

γίνεσθε, **gínesthe**; *vb: pres mid / pass imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from γίνομαι

translations: **be** [NRSV89, ESV, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **llegad a ser** [IAAdNT]

10:17

προσέχετε, **proséchete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from προσέχω:

translations: **beware** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **be on . . . guard** [NIV11], **be prepared** [NJB], **cuidaos** [IAdNT]

10:23

φεύγετε, **pheúgete**; *vb: pres act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from φεύγω:

translations: **flee** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **take refuge** [NJB], **huid** [IAdNT]

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*Gene Crossett, Jr.  
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