

COMMENTARY

MATTHEW 11:

vs. 1-19:

Jesus had concluded His instructions to His disciples about going to the lost sheep of Israel and preaching. He was now going to go through the towns of Galilee to preach and teach.

John the Baptizer sent some of his followers to Jesus to find out if Jesus was the Messiah that God had promised through the Old Testament prophets. Jesus informs the followers of all the miracles that God is performing through Him and how people are hearing the word of the Lord. They had seen these things for themselves and were to go back and tell John about them also. Jesus also sends a message to John, encouraging him to remain faithful, in so doing John would find Gods' blessing and happiness.

Jesus then taught the people about who John really was. He explains how John was not only a prophet, but the prophet who was to be the forerunner of the Messiah. Since John began his ministry, the Kingdom continued to move forward. As great and with all the John accomplished, anyone who is part of the Kingdom is greater because they have the Holy Spirit dwelling within them.

Jesus described the people of that day, as being unwilling to recognize Gods' messengers. No matter what they did, the people weren't satisfied and failed to believe.

vs. 20-24:

Because of the unwillingness of the people to accept Gods' messengers and His message, Jesus denounced them. Korazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum were all in the region of Galilee where Jesus had spent much of His ministry teaching and performing miracles. Even though the people of these places had been eyewitnesses, they refused to believe. Jesus informs them that even the "Heathen" cities of Tyre, Sidon and Sodom would have repented if they had seen all that Jesus had done. Therefore, these Gentile cities, under Gods' curse because of their wickedness, would not be punished as severely as the Jewish Galilean cities of Jesus' day.

vs. 25-30:

Jesus praised God for God had made known His will to the simple people and not to the "Religious" and hypocritical scholars. Jesus further declares that He has done everything at the will of the Father, and only He can truly know Him, unless Jesus reveals God to others.

Jesus concludes calling for people to come to Him and find the rest that they need from lifes problems. He promises that He will help them bear the load and it will never become unmanageable.

STUDY GUIDE

MATTHEW 11:

1. What did John want his disciples to ask Jesus?
2. According to verse 5, what was being done?
3. Who is blessed, according to verse 6?
4. What did Jesus say about John in verse 9?
5. Who is greater than John?
6. What had the kingdom of heaven been doing, since the days of John?
7. What did John not do, causing people to say, "He has a demon"?
8. What did they say when Jesus came eating and drinking?
9. Why did Jesus denounce the cities where most of His miracles had been done?
10. Why did Jesus praise the Father, in verse 25?
11. Who are to come to Jesus?
12. What are those who come, to do?

BONUS:

1. What was so important about John? Explain.
2. Why do you think the people failed to repent, even after seeing the miracles? What evidences do we have, that people fail to accept?