

The Missionary Discourse
*A colometric-concordant translation*¹

Matthew 10:5-16

5a *These twelve Jesus sends out
instructing them with the words:*



5b On a road of foreigners you will not go
and a city of Samaritans you will not enter,
6 but moreover

7 you shall go out to the lost sheep of the house of Israel; [cf. Jer. 50:6]
and while you go out you shall proclaim with the words:
'the kingdom of heaven has come near'.

8 The sick you shall heal, the dead you shall rise,
lepers you shall cleanse, demons you shall throw out –
you received without paying, give without pay.



9 You will acquire no gold, nor silver, nor copper in your belts,
10 nor a bag for the road, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor a staff,
for the worker is worthy of his food.

11 And whatever city or village you enter,
examine who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart; [cf. Num. 18:31]
12 when you enter the house, you shall greet it,
13 and when the house is worthy, your peace shall go to it,
but when it is not worthy, your peace shall turn back to you.

14 And whoever does not welcome you, do not listen to² their words,
and while you depart from that house and that city
you shall shake off the dust from your feet;
15 for sure, I say to you, more bearable it will be
for the land³ of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgement [cf. Gen. 19:24f]
than for that city.

16 See! I send you as sheep in the midst of wolves;
therefore, be clever as serpents [cf. Gen 3:1]
and pure as doves. [cf. Gen. 8:8; Lev.
12:6]



¹ This is based on the work of F.H. Breukelman, *Bijbelse theologie. I,1 Schrift-lezing*. Een verhandeling over de kolometrische weergave van bijbelse teksten als hulp bij het lezen en als grondslag voor de exegese (Kampen: Kok, 1980) – probably a good reason to learn Dutch. Some information about colometry, as distinguished from stichometry, in classical texts was already in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 11th Edition (1910 pass.), now on [Wikipedia](#). More can be found in: Bruce M. Metzger, *Manuscripts Of The Greek Bible. An Introduction to Greek Palæography* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1981), which is on [Google Books](#) now.

² Or: hear.

³ Or: earth.

Matthew 10:17-33

- 17 Beware of the people,
for they will hand you over to councils
and in their synagogues they will flog you,
18 and before governors and kings you will be brought for my sake
as a testimony to them and to the foreigners; *[cf. Deut. 31:26]*
19 whenever they hand you over,
do not be anxious about what to say,
because it will be given to you in that hour what to say; *[cf. Ex. 4:12]*
20 for it is not you who speak,
but the Spirit of your father speaking in you.
- 21 And a brother will hand over a brother to death and a father a child, *[cf. Mic. 7:6]*
and children will rise against parents and hand them over to be killed,
22 and you will be hated by all because of my name,
but the one who endures till the end will be saved. *[cf. Dan. 12:12f]*
23 Whenever they expel you in this city, flee to the other;
for truly, I say to you,
you will not have ended [going through] the cities of Israel
before the son of man will come.
- ❖
- 24 A follower is not above the teacher
and a servant not above his lord;
25 sufficient it is for the follower to become like his teacher,
and the servant like his lord;
if they call the master of the house Beelzebul,
how much more those of his household?
- ❖
- 26 Therefore, do not fear them,
for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered,
or hidden that will not be made known;
27 what I say to you in the dark, you shall say in the light;
and what you hear in your ear, proclaim it from the rooftops;
28 and have no fear for those who kill the body,
but they cannot kill the soul;
rather fear the one who makes soul and body get lost in 'gehenna'.
29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?
and will not one of them fall on the earth without your father's knowledge?
30 and are not the hairs on your head all counted? *[cf. 1 Sam. 14:45; 2*
31 *Sam. 14:11]*
therefore, do not fear –
you are worth more than many sparrows.
- 32 Therefore, everyone who acknowledges me before the people,
I will also acknowledge before my father who is in heaven;
33 but whoever denies me before the people,
I will also deny before my father who is in heaven. *[cf. 1 Sam. 2:30]*
- ❖❖

Matthew 10:34-11:1

34 Do not think that I come to bring peace to the earth;
I do not come to bring peace, but a sword –
35 for I come to divide *a man from his father,* [= Mic. 7:6]
and a daughter from her mother,
and a daughter-in-law from her mother-in-law;
36 *and the people's enemies are the members of their household.*

37 Whoever loves father or mother above me, [cf. Deut. 33:9]
is not worthy of me;
and whoever loves son or daughter above me,
is not worthy of me;
38 and whoever does not take up his cross and follows me,
is not worthy of me.

39 Whoever finds his soul, will lose it,
but whoever loses his soul for my sake, will find it.



40 Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me, welcomes the one who sends me;
41 whoever welcomes a prophet in name of a prophet, [cf. 1 Kings 17:9-24,
18:4; 2 Kings 4:9-37]
will receive a prophet's reward;
and whoever welcomes a righteous man in name of a righteous man,
will receive a righteous man's reward;
42 and whoever gives one of these little ones to drink only a cup of cold water,
in name of a follower,
for sure, I say to you, none of them will lose their reward.



1 *And it happens,*
when Jesus ends directing his twelve followers,
that he goes on from there to teach and proclaim in their cities.

