



The Ministry of the King in Matthew: Prayers to the LORD of the Harvest
December 16, 2018

HOLY TEXT: MATTHEW 9:35-38

1. Today, by God's grace, I'd like us to "pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matt 9:38, ESV)
2. Let us never forget His Great Commission which is stated in each Gospel: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-47; John 20:21-22.
3. Below is a collection of verses that highlight an aspect of God's character: **His heart for lost people**. Let us pray through these verses and ask Him to change our hearts to be more inline with His.

DEAR FRIENDS, THE LORD OF THE HARVEST...

Sees the brokenness in the world:

- Psalms 14:1-4

LORD of the Harvest, help us see more of what you see. Do not allow us to walk through life seeking pleasure and ease. Rather, help us live with a sense of the despair and depravity around us that we might be motivated to action.

Is merciful and compassionate:

- Ephesians 2:2-5
- 1 Peter 1:3-5
- Titus 3:3-6

LORD of the Harvest, show us how to speak and serve with mercy and compassion. Help us to be marked by mercy and labeled by love. Cause us to remember that You have NOT given us what we deserve and GIVEN us what we do not deserve (grace)! Since we have obtained mercy, help us to grant it!

Desires that none should perish:

- 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- 2 Peter 3:8-9

LORD of the Harvest, the truth that 150,000 people die each day (6300 per hour), and many of those do not know you in the pardon of their sins, should shake us. So many are perishing, spending an eternity without you in torment. Help us to see every life as precious and worthy of hearing the only life-saving message there is, your wonderful Gospel.

Wants men to see their need for Him:

- Jeremiah 29:11-14
- Acts 17:26-27

LORD of the Harvest, open of the eyes of the blind, the ears of the deaf, and the hearts of the rebellious! Use us as You see fit unto this purpose!

Desires to gather His flock:

- John 10:27-29
- Matthew 23:37-38

LORD of the Harvest, help us to be gatherers not scatterers. Help us to be peacemakers and builders of homes and churches! Help us to do the work of shepherding, protecting people and guiding them to You!

Has provided a Savior:

- Matthew 1:21-23
- Luke 2:10-11
- John 3:16-18

LORD of the Harvest, help us to preach Jesus! Help us to communicate and live out the whole Gospel before men. Give us courage that we might never be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (Rom 1:16)

Calls men to salvation:

- Acts 17:30-31
- Mark 1:15

LORD of the Harvest, help us do the same! Help us to preach like dying men and women to dying men and women!

Uses simple preaching:

- 1 Corinthians 1:23-27
- 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

LORD of the Harvest, give us the courage to open our mouths and declare Your Word, trusting You to anoint and empower!

Gave us His Word to preach and wield as a sword in the fight:

- 2 Timothy 4:2-5
- Hebrews 4:12

LORD of the Harvest, renew our daily thirst for Holy Scripture. Help us to study to show ourselves approved, workers that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth! (2 Tim 2:15)

Will one day Judge the living and the dead at His appearing (2 Tim 4:1):

- John 5:24-29

Finally, LORD of the Harvest, help us to understand the seriousness and finality of the coming judgement, and to live, preach, and disciple accordingly! Amen!