



HEROES OF THE FAITH "Matthew" Matthew 9:9-13

No. 3804

Stuart Briscoe

As soon as Jesus began His public ministry, He went out and called a number of men to follow Him. They were known as His disciples, and later as the "apostles" who were the "foundation" of the church. (Ephesians 2:20) Matthew, or Levi, was one of these men.

I. The Calling of Matthew. vv. 9-13

- A. A conversion.
 - 1. Sitting at his booth collecting taxes.
 - 2. Hearing a call to follow Jesus.
 - 3. Leaving everything and following Jesus. Luke 5:28
- B. A controversy.
 - 1. A celebration at Matthew's house.
 - 2. A complaint from the Pharisees.
 - 3. A clarification from Jesus.
 - a. Sick people need a doctor.
 - b. Sinful people need to come to repentance. Luke 5:32
 - c. Self-righteous people need to understand: "hesed" not sacrifice.

II. The Sending of Matthew. 9:35-10:42

- A. He recognized spiritual need. 9:36
- B. He understood spiritual responsibility. 9:37
- C. He accepted spiritual calling. 9:38
- D. He embraced spiritual challenge. 10:1ff
 - 1. "Freely you have received, freely give." 10:8
 - 2. "I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves." 10:16
 - 3. "Anyone who does not take his cross...is not worthy of me." 10:38

III. The Teaching of Matthew.

- A. The Son of God.
 - 1. Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God." 16:16
 - 2. Jesus is "Immanuel: God with us." 12:28
- B. The kingdom of God.
 - 1. "The kingdom of God has come upon you." 12:28
 - 2. Camels and needles, rich men and the kingdom of God.
- C. The church of God.
 - 1. Jesus is totally committed to building His church. 16:18
 - 2. All the forces of death will not defeat His objective.

Point to Ponder: Jesus called ordinary people to do extraordinary things.