

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### **THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

#### **'Behold your King' - 15**

#### **Matthew 10 v16 - 33**

Key Verse (v16a) - "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves."

Key Text - (Jn 20 v21b) - "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Context - Jesus sending out the disciples (v5) - and sending us out as well. But - where does He send us? Answer - to where the wolves are! Think about this! See Ps 23 v4b, Jn 10 v11 - 12, Acts 20 v29. It's the wolves who come in amongst the sheep, not the sheep who go out amongst the wolves. And yet Jesus says here that He is sending us out to where the wolves are!

Application (v16b) - "Therefore....."

### **1. WE NEED TO BE PREPARED**

#### **A. WE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR HOW WE WILL SPEAK**

See v16b. Key Point - We're not to give the wolves an unnecessary excuse to attack us. Attack us they will (if we're faithful) - but don't bring it on by the way in which we ill-advisedly speak and the way in which we foolishly live.

#### **B. WE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR WHO WE WILL FACE**

Who are these wolves? Answer - men! See v17a. Notice how these men are put into various categories.

##### **(i) There is the church**

See v17, Acts 22 v19, 2 Cor 11 v24.

##### **(ii) There is the government**

See v18

##### **(iii) There is the family**

See v21

##### **(iv) There is the world**

See v22a

Key Question - What is it that's going to bring the wolves in to attack us? Note the key phrases! "On my account" (v18) and "because of me" (v22b). This will happen when we bear witness to Jesus - both speaking of Him and living like Him. The world is quite happy for us to talk about religion - but not about the living and saving Jesus.

## **2. WE NEED TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Jesus encourages us by giving us His word. "Do not worry....." See v19 - 20. "Do not be afraid....." Why are we not to be afraid?

### **A. OUR TRUST IN GOD**

See v24 - 26

### **B. OUR FEAR OF GOD**

See v27 - 28 & Heb 13 v6b

### **C. OUR VALUE TO GOD**

See v29 - 31

## **3. WE NEED TO BE ASSURED**

Note - Boldly standing firm doesn't mean that there won't be a time for us wisely turning back. See v23.

Our assurance - with a warning. See v32 - 33.