

The Chosen, Season Two

Wednesdays at 6:30

Episode 3: Matthew 4:24

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Note: Some parts of The Chosen are in the Bible, but other parts are not. This sheet contains a summary of each part of **episode 3** from wikipedia as well as my own comments. *Blessings on reading, watching, and understanding!*

This episode focuses on this verse and tries to supply the details of what may have been happening as many heard, came, and were healed: ^{NAS} **Matthew 4:24** *And the news about Him went out into all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, taken with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.*

1. In [Syria](#), the disciples take shifts to help Jesus deal with a large crowd hoping to be healed.

Jesus' followers marvel that they know and are working with Jesus, the very Messiah!

2. Philip continues to mentor Matthew, while Mary Magdalene and Ramah start to study [Torah](#).

We can imagine them helping each other to grow in the Scriptures.

3. An exhausting day turns into night as the disciples share how they perceive the Messiah.

Jesus' followers discuss a time when Jesus will lead His followers to victory over earthly enemies. Jesus' followers mentioned something similar on the day Jesus ascended into heaven: ^{NAS} **Acts 1:6** *...when they had come together, they were asking [Jesus], saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"*

4. Jesus' mother arrives from Nazareth to help with her Son's students.

- a. We can only imagine how everyone lived and worked together.

- b. They discussed what they might be willing to give up for money. That reminds me of these words of Jesus: ^{NAS} **Mark 8:36-37** *"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"*

5. Around the campfire, the group tries to get to know each other better. They discuss their experiences and their inner turmoil, but tensions erupt when Simon argues with Matthew about being chosen. Tempers flare as sides are taken as the disciples forget the purpose of why Jesus chose them in the first place. In the commotion, an exhausted Jesus returns and says good night to them and his mother attends to him. The disciples listen and watch in shame.

- a. Only Jesus was *"tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin"* (Heb. 4:15 NAS). It's difficult to imagine having a sinless child who is also the very Son of God.

- b. The Son of God did put on flesh from Mary; she and Joseph raised Jesus according to His human nature, but the Son of God needed nothing from His earthly parents.

- c. The disciples shared some of their struggles and sins with each other. The Bible does not record such things, but, like us, all have sinned (Rom. 3:23) and *"there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins"* (Eccl. 7:20 NAS).

- d. The occupation: Even since the Babylonians conquered the southern kingdom of Judah in 587 BC and through the time of Jesus, Israel was ruled / occupied by other nations, namely, Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome.
- e. Mary Magdalene: “...from whom seven demons had gone out” (Luke 8:2).
- f. Matthew / Levi: ^{NAS} **Luke 5:27-29** “...He went out, and noticed a tax-gatherer named Levi, sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’ And he left everything behind, and rose and *began* to follow Him. And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax-gatherers and other *people* who were reclining *at the table* with them.”
- g. Forgiveness: An important topic; the words on forgiveness in this episode are not recorded in the Bible.
 - i. ^{NAS} **Matthew 6:14-15** “For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.”
 - ii. ^{NAS} **Mark 11:25** “And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your transgressions.”
 - iii. ^{NAS} **Ephesians 4:32** “...be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.”
- h. As we reflect on Jesus’ holiness and humility, we can see our need for a contrite heart:
 - i. ^{NAU} **Philippians 2:6-8** “...although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”
 - ii. ^{NAU} **Psalms 51:17** “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.”

Going Forward: Regarding “The Chosen, Season Two,” we are generally planning to meet each Wednesday at 6:30 to watch an episode, consider my handout, and engage in pertinent discussion. *Everyone is welcome to attend!*

NO CLASS on Wednesday, May 17

Join us for the Ascension of Our Lord on Thursday, May 18: food at 6:00, service at 7:00

The Season Two Conclusion:

- Wednesday, May 24 – Episode 6
- Wednesday, May 31 – Episode 7
- **Thursday, June 1** (back-to-back) – Episode 8

Pastor Green

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