

LUKE 9 vs 1

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¹ Then He called together His twelve apostles, and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.

² And He sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

³ And He said to them, Take nothing for your journey; no staff, no scrip / the shepherd's tool bag,

no bread, no money; not even two coats apiece.

⁴ And whatever house you enter, there abide / whatever house welcomes you, stay there,

and from there depart / where you are welcomed, stay until you leave. Don't spend time shopping around for something better.

⁵ And whoever receives you **not**, when you leave that city, shake off the very dust of your feet. / it's interesting: Jesus is saying, Use the same habit, you use when you visit the gentile nations.

shake off the very dust of your feet for a testimony against them / remember: Jesus is sending His disciples first... to the House of Israel.

⁶ And they departed,

and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.

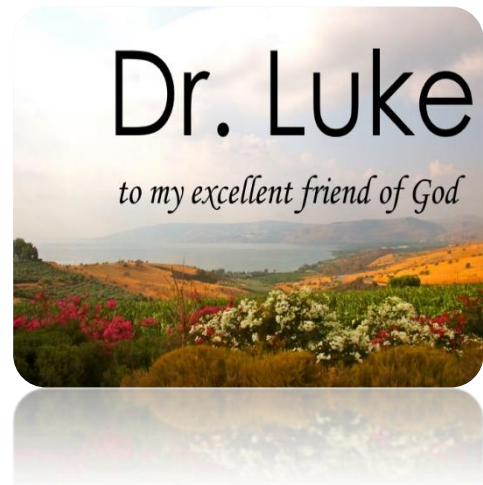
⁷ Now Herod heard of all that was happening:

And we read...

and he was **perplexed** / hmm?! Can't you see him scratching his vacant head? Typical bureaucratic buffoon; typical fat-head sitting in the seat of power... PERR-plexed! Sounds like all those in congress, don't it?! The trailer-trash of DC. Well, all of them; and a lot of the state and local governments, too: paid off politicians. Those who are mankind's missing-links; clueless buffoons, they don't represent us;

because it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead / the rumors were flying;

⁸ And of some / they said, **Elijah had appeared**; and of others, that one of the old prophets was **risen again** / they're all trying to figure out Jesus. Whatever Jesus was doing reminded enough people of what each of the prophets had foretold. And remember, after the resurrection He opened their understanding with all that was written concerning Him... starting with Moses and the prophets.



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So Herod is perplexed, eh? And Luke writes...

⁹ But Herod / probably muttering to himself...

said, John... I beheaded:

but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And Herod, the freak... desired to see Jesus.

And the disciples returned from their first mission,

¹⁰ And the apostles, when they had returned, told Jesus what they had done.

And He took them, and went aside privately to a desert place.

¹¹ And the people, when they knew it / when they had figured out where He had gone,

followed Him / those who with all their heart make the effort to get to Him:

He received them / He did to them, what He expects we do to the Holy Spirit He sends to help us,

He received them, and spoke to them of the kingdom of God,

and healed them / all those... who had need of healing.

¹² And when the day began to decline, then came the twelve / it sounds like they had a committee meeting...and maybe Judas was influencing the discussion... And they came...

and said to Him, Send away the multitude, that they go into the local towns and countryside, and lodge, and get some food:

And just in case Jesus hadn't noticed... they add:

for we are here in a desert place / oh really?!

¹³ But Jesus said to them / and it sounds like He had His own committee meeting...



YOU Give them something to eat.

/ And what we don't read from these compressed stories is... that without blinking they probably turned in terror and went on a scavenger hunt... for how long? It's hard to tell. But they returned to Jesus...**And they said** / maybe a little sheepishly,

We have no more than FIVE loaves... and TWO fish; except we go and buy FOOD for ALL these people!

14 For they were about five thousand men / so do the math; 5000 men could include... 5000 wives, and then add: 1 or 2 or 10 kids a piece for each couple.

And He said to His disciples have them sit down in groups of fifty / those trying to do the math. He was not coddling them; He was training them.

15 And they did so, and made them all sit down.

16 Then He took the five loaves and the two fishes / notice, Jesus takes what His disciples offer and without complaint works with it,

and looking up to heaven / with all those eyes following His,

He gave thanks to His Father, and He broke and gave the loaves and fish to the disciples to set before the multitude.

17 And they ate / and did you notice? They forgot to wash their hands. They violated the before-dinner washing ordinances. Oops!

and were all filled:

and the broken fragments that remained were picked up twelve baskets full. 12 small hand-baskets... one for each disciple.

