

Part 4, Paper 163, Ordination ...eventy at, Midwayer Commission

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

ordination of the 70, practical transformation, intensive training, inner circle, commitment, spiritual rewards, material possessions, spiritual growth, divine providence, personal transformation, spiritual hub, higher purpose, selfless service, miraculous healings, spiritual pride

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah



John 00:00

All right, so we're diving into some fascinating stuff today. Really fascinating. You know, these excerpts from the Urantia Book, they paint this vivid picture of Jesus transforming ordinary people into, well, powerful messengers, yeah,



Sarah 00:13

the ordination of the 70. It's not just some mystical event, you know? It's like a a masterclass in in practical transformation, exactly,



John 00:21

and that's we're gonna unpack today, how Jesus took these everyday folks and molded them into something extraordinary. It's



Sarah 00:28

all about the training, the challenges and the incredible impact they had. And



John 00:32

get this it all starts in this bustling camp in Magadan Jesus is back from Jerusalem. There are disciples everywhere, over 150 hoping to be chosen for this special mission. Can

- S** Sarah 00:42
you imagine the pressure? Talk about intense, and it wasn't just a quick blessing. Oh no. This was weeks of intensive training led by Jesus and his 12 apostles,
- J** John 00:51
like an ancient boot camp for spreading the word exactly.
- S** Sarah 00:54
Imagine Peter teaching public speaking, Nathaniel guiding them on lesson planning, right? Maybe even Matthew giving financial advice a full blown master class. Precisely so. For
- J** John 01:03
those who might not be familiar, when we say the big 12, who are we talking about,
- S** Sarah 01:08
right? So the big 12 refers to the 12 apostles chosen by Jesus early on. You've got your big names, Peter, James, John. These guys were Jesus's inner circle, his closest confidant, exactly. They were instrumental in spreading his teachings. So to
- J** John 01:24
be trained by Jesus and these 12 apostles, what an incredible opportunity. But here's the catch, not everyone made the cut. It's true, over 50 disciples were told Thanks, but no thanks
- S** Sarah 01:38
commitment, my friend, that's what it was all about. The text even mentions a disciple who wanted to delay his mission to bury his father. Understandable, right, of course, but Jesus emphasized the urgency of the message, wow, showing us that even family obligations sometimes had to take a back seat to this higher calling That's
- J** John 01:56
intense. And then there's the story of matadormus, yes, this wealthy young man, practically a celebrity, in Jerusalem. He wanted, oh

S

Sarah 02:05

how he wanted, to be one of the 70. Desperately. He approaches Jesus, and he's like, what else do I need to do to secure my spot in the kingdom of heaven? I follow all the rules exactly. But you see, Jesus saw right through it. He could see what was holding him back, material possession, this wealth, this status, it was a barrier. He was trying to serve two masters. You see, wanting

J

John 02:26

the spiritual rewards while clinging to his worldly possessions. It's like that old saying you can't serve both God and money.

S

Sarah 02:34

That's a timeless dilemma, isn't it? Absolutely

J

John 02:36

and it's not just about saying you believe. It's about action. It's about aligning your actions with those beliefs, even if it means making tough choices precisely.

S

Sarah 02:45

And that's the thing about the story of Matadors, it's not just some ancient parable. It's a mirror

J

John 02:52

reflecting our own lives, right? Exactly? What are we willing to give up to pursue our true calling?

S

Sarah 02:59

That's the question we all have to ask ourselves, so

J

John 03:01

we've got these 70 individuals. They've been through the wringer, made some tough choices. They're committed, yeah, now what? Where does the story go from here

S

Sarah 03:09

out into the world? My friend Jesus sends them out on their very first mission,

J John 03:14
time to put all that training into action, right? But

S Sarah 03:16
here's the thing, they're allowed nothing for the journey. Well, almost nothing, just the clothes on their back. Whoa,

J John 03:22
no money, no supplies, no

S Sarah 03:23
Jesus was really emphasizing something here. What like a lesson in trust, exactly, detachment, you know, trusting in divine providence. Wow, that takes faith, it does, and it shows how important it was to prioritize spiritual growth over material comfort. Imagine

J John 03:39
venturing out with only your faith as your guide. That's a pretty powerful message, right?

S Sarah 03:44
Think about the challenges they must have faced, I

J John 03:47
can't even imagine. So. Six weeks later, they return.

S Sarah 03:51
They return to the new cam at Pella, buzzing with excitement, eager to share their experiences, I bet. Oh, absolutely. Not just stories of, you know, miraculous healings, although there were definitely those. Oh, there were miracles. Oh, yeah, but they also came back with these incredible stories that revealed a deeper understanding of Jesus's message. Give



J John 04:07
me an example. What kind of story are we talking about? Okay, so imagine one of them sharing

S Sarah 04:12
about healing a paralyzed man, right? But it wasn't just about some big display of power. It was deeper than that? Yeah, it was about helping this man find forgiveness, inner peace, that sort of thing. So

J John 04:26
the healing was about more than just the physical body exactly, or

S Sarah 04:29
someone else might describe, say, calming a violent storm, showing

J John 04:33
the power of faith over fear,

S Sarah 04:35
right? These stories weren't just about the events themselves.

J John 04:39
They were about the lessons learned along the way. Exactly. It sounds like they discovered that true power, real power, comes not from miracles or magic, no, but from that deep connection with

S Sarah 04:50
God yes and selfless service to others. Okay, so

J John 04:54
they come back. They're excited. They've grown. They have but,

S Sarah 04:56

 Sarah 05:15
you know, some are maybe a little too excited. How? So? Yeah. Well, some were boasting, saying even the devils were subject to us. A little bit of ego creeping in. It happens. But Jesus, he notices this, of course, and he while he throws in a bit of a curveball, he acknowledges their success, but cautions them he does. He warns against spiritual pride, reminding

 John 05:17
them it's not about personal glory, exactly without staying grounded, remembering who you're serving, precisely

 Sarah 05:23
humility. That's where the true power lies,

 John 05:27
not from miracles, not from personal charisma.

 Sarah 05:30
It's about that deep connection with God, just like you said.

 John 05:33
So after the training, the mission, the return, what happens next? What does this mean for Jesus's own mission?

 Sarah 05:39
Things shift. The focus changes. The camp at Pella, it becomes a spiritual hub. People are flocking to hear Jesus speak, yes, but it's not about the spectacle anymore. It's less about mass healings, more about personal transformation, a more intimate setting.

 John 05:56
He's laying the groundwork for something that can continue even when he's not there

 Sarah 06:00
exactly. And that's the story of the 70, isn't it? It shows that ordinary people with the right guidance can do extraordinary things. It's about tapping into something bigger than

themselves, yes, embracing those principles of the kingdom of heaven, acting

J John 06:14

as vessels for a love that goes beyond our understanding. Beautifully put, it wasn't about magic, you see, it was about their willingness to surrender to something greater than themselves. It really makes you think, doesn't it about what truly matters? It does. Is it about holding on to those things, you know, comfort, security, possessions, or is there something more, right? Something something bigger than ourselves? That's

S Sarah 06:36

the beauty of these stories. You know, they challenge us, they make us look inward. They're

J John 06:41

like a mirror,

S Sarah 06:42

exactly so someone listening right now, maybe they feel that pull, that call to something, something more. Yeah,

J John 06:50

that higher purpose. How

S Sarah 06:51

do they even start? How

J John 06:53

do you identify those things that might be holding you back, those treasures, so to speak? Well, it

S Sarah 06:58

starts with asking the tough questions, you know, being honest with yourself exactly what truly brings you joy, what makes you feel, you know, really alive,



John 07:07

and on the flip side, what are you holding on to out of fear or maybe obligation? It's



Sarah 07:13

like taking inventory.



John 07:14

Yeah, your life, your priorities, do they actually line up with what you want, with what really matters to you.



Sarah 07:20

It's about aligning your actions with your heart, even if it's uncomfortable, it's interesting,



John 07:24

isn't it? Because, in a way, we're all messengers, right? Maybe not the literal, Biblical sense, right? But we each have a story to tell. We do a message to share. We



Sarah 07:35

all have that potential, that light within us, absolutely,



John 07:38

and the more we lean into that purpose, the brighter that light shines. It's true. And that brings us back to those 70 messengers, cool circle. Their story is not just some ancient history lesson. It reminds us that we all have that potential within us. We



Sarah 07:53

don't need to be, you know, extraordinary individuals with special talents. It's about answering the call Yes, embracing the unknown, dedicating yourself to something bigger than yourself,



John 08:04

like those 70 messengers did, they went all in. So as you go about your day, think about it, what message are you carrying? What's holding you back? What will you choose?



Sarah 08:13

Because the most incredible journeys often start with a single, brave step.