HELP WANTED Luke 10:1-3

We find in these familiar verses many facts that should cause us to question whether or not we have become "neither cold nor hot" in our love and service for Christ. The main fact within these verses is that God has limited Himself by making it plain that it is by the prayers of His people which determine more or less laborers for His harvest. Ever asked yourself why not many are getting saved?

THE POTENTIAL OF THE HARVEST

Luke 10:2a; Mt. 13:37-38 Jesus says "the harvest truly is great...". The harvest of course represents the whole world. (Jn. 3:16) tells us that God loves the whole world, so truly the harvest is very great.
I Jn. 4:14 God makes it plain that the reason Jesus came into the world was to be the world's Savior. Mt. 22:14 All men and women are sinners and have need of Christ. If in fact only a very few will be saved, doesn't it make sense that we must make certain that we give every lost person at least a chance? Mt. 9:35-36; John 4:35 As Jesus looks at the potential of lost souls He has compassion because of

the lack of leadership and laborers. Jesus knows that the time for harvest is past for many lost souls.

THE PROBLEM OF THE HARVEST

Luke 10:2b Jesus now tells us that "the laborers are few:" When Jesus spoke these words some two thousand years ago there were approximately 150 million people living. Today there are approximately 7 billion people! The problem of laborers is worse today than it was back then with most people lost!

Matthew 20:1-7 This parable shows that Jesus never stops calling laborers into the His fields for the harvest. No matter when these laborers get involved with the harvest they are greatly rewarded.

Acts 1:8 It is true that we all know that there is a need for good pastors and missionaries to be able to witness and serve others. However, we are <u>ALL</u> called to be witnesses and laborers in the harvest.

THE POWER OF THE HARVEST

Luke 10:2c Jesus tells us to "pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest...". To be sure it is God who brings about the new birth, (Titus 3:5) but He works through and because of the prayers of His people.

I Thess. 5:17 When we have needs due to physical, relational, maybe financial problems we pray to God for help. Have we taken time to pray for God to save the lost in our services this Sunday? If we are commanded to seek first God's Kingdom, (**Matt. 6:33**), do we faithfully pray for the harvest of souls?

Jn. 15:7; James 5:16b If we are walking in the Spirit and are obedient to God He promises to hear and answer our prayers. It is the earnest, effectual and fervent prayers that will be heard and answered.

THE PERILS OF THE HARVEST

Luke 10:3; Mt. 7:15; 10:16 One of the major issues with believers today is that we are afraid of the *wolves* that Jesus spoke of. It is a fact that wolves strike fear into the hearts of the sheep! We are afraid of the negatives that come with being outspoken for God. God needs laborers that don't fear the enemy.

John 15:18-20; I Pt. 4:12-14 Jesus promised that if believers would take a stand for Him they will be persecuted and hated. He also said that there was no middle ground, we are either with Him or against Him. When we are under reproach for witnessing and standing for Him it is then that God is glorified.