

# The Gospel According to Matthew

## “Church of Love”

Matthew 16:21-23

**The Church should be known for showing God’s Love to each other and the world.**

1. God’s Love Details His Other Attributes
2. God’s Love Remains Despite our Attitude
3. God’s Love Demands our Allegiance
4. God’s Love Dictates our Activity

## **Vs 20 – secrecy and the Christ**

8:4 – leper sworn to secrecy, but told to go to the temple for cleansing

9:30 – two blind men told to keep quiet, but they spread the news around the region

1st time that Jesus tells the disciples to keep quiet.

17:9 – told to keep the vision of transfiguration quiet until the Christ has risen from the dead.

John 6:15 – after the feeding of the 5000, they wanted to make him king by force.

16:22 – See what the disciples want to do in response to Jesus' new teaching – Peter pulls him to the side and rebukes him.

## **Vs. 21**

From that time, - this is a reminder that Jesus' teaching is continuing to be added. The disciples claimed Him to be the Christ. He now has to teach them what the Christ is all about.

Suffer – The acts of the Jewish leaders/council will be horrendous. Their desire to keep the Law, and their right understanding/interpretation. Will lead to a militant outpouring of chastisement.

This move to Jerusalem and the prediction of his death and resurrection give voice to the fact that this plan was from the beginning. It is necessary to redeem that which was lost. His loving care for this lost and broken world.

## **Vs 22 –**

Took him aside, indicates an intimate contact, not necessarily a removal from the other disciples.

Notice the use of 'began' here echoes the previous verse

Rebuke – strong wording. Like that of a father, teacher, disapproving of their charge.

Far be it from you, lord – “God Forbid” God have mercy/ God forgive you “You may rest assured lord

## **Vs. 23**

Get behind me satan – Remember in chapter 4 when he said get away from me satan – This is a call to remove temptation.

Hindrance – stumbling block Isaiah 8:14 And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.