

13 - Matthew – Opposition to Christ – Matthew 9:1-38**Jesus ... is he just a great guy?**

Firstly - He has a great family genealogy.

Secondly - Jesus had God speak at both his birth and his baptism.

Thirdly - He could run rings around the religious leaders in his understanding of God's word and law.

Everyone likes a 'Jesus who made my life better now'

... growing opposition to Jesus.

#1 - The teachers of the Law (v1-8)

"this fellow is blaspheming".

An offer to forgive sins is easier to make if you are a fraud because you do not have to deliver immediately.

See also Isaiah 35:5-6 – *"the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf unstopped. The lame will leap like a deer and the mute tongue shout for joy"*.

2 – The Pharisee's (v9-13)

"Why does this teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

"I have come not to call the righteous but sinner"

#3 – John's Disciples (v14-17)**The right response towards Jesus**

the synagogue ruler and the sick lady ...

the two blind blokes and the demon possessed mute...

Workers for the harvest (v35-38)

For us today

1) Jesus is focussed on people who are sick

- 2) Jesus generated opposition**
- 3) Jesus desires mercy not sacrifice**
- 4) Mission work requires us to get dirty... it is part of following**
- 5) Just being excited by and praising God because of the incredible power and authority of Jesus is NOT faith**