

# Matthew 10:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying,  
Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the  
Samaritans enter ye not:

## Analysis

Jesus' instruction 'Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not' limits the initial mission to 'the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' This isn't permanent ethnocentrism but strategic sequencing—the gospel must first go to God's covenant people (Romans 1:16). After the cross and resurrection, the mission expands globally (28:19). This also fulfilled prophetic priority: Messiah comes to Israel first.

## Historical Context

Jews despised Samaritans as half-breed heretics. Most expected Messiah to exclude Gentiles. Jesus' restriction here was temporary—testing Israel's response before expanding the mission. Post-resurrection, Jesus explicitly sends disciples to all nations, including Samaria (Acts 1:8).

## Related Passages

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does understanding God's strategic timing help you accept His current directives for your life?
2. What does this passage teach about God's covenant faithfulness to Israel?

## Interlinear Text

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Τούτους τοὺς δώδεκα ἀπέστειλεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς  
These G3588 twelve sent forth G3588 Jesus  
G5128 G1427 G649 G2424

παραγγείλας αὐτοῖς λέγων, εἰς ὁδὸν ἐθνῶν μὴ<sup>μὴ</sup>  
and commanded them saying into the way of the Gentiles not  
G3853 G846 G3004 G1519 G3598 G1484 G3361

ἀπέλθητε καὶ εἰς πόλιν Σαμαρειτῶν μὴ εἰσέλθητε.  
Go and into any city of the Samaritans not enter ye  
G565 G2532 G1519 G4172 G4541 G3361 G1525

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 4:9** (Parallel theme): Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

**1 Thessalonians 2:16** (Parallel theme): Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

**Luke 9:2** (Parallel theme): And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.