

THE PURPOSE OF THE 70

Let's consider the purpose of the 70 sent, out by Jesus (Luke 10 1-9).

They were not offering people a new religious option which might have a gentle effect on their lives. They were holding out the last chance for people to turn away from Israel's flight into ruin, and to accept God's way of peace. God's kingdom, God's sovereign and saving rule, longing to enfold his people and the whole world with love and new creation, that had come close to them.

Now, as then, to reject Jesus, or even to reject his messengers, is to reject God himself.

