

MATTHEW 11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SENDS MEN TO SEE CHRIST (11:1-19)

Blessed Jerome on the greatness of St. John the Baptist:

“John is greater than the other prophets for this reason: the other prophets predicted to John that someone was to come, but John pointed out with his finger that He had indeed come...And he reached not only the rank of a prophet but even to that of Baptist, by baptizing his Lord. This heightened his significance.”

CHRIST REBUKES CITIES (11:20-24)

St. John Chrysostom on Chorazin and Capernaum being worse than Sodom and Gomorrah:

“It is not for nothing that Jesus mentions Sodom along with the others. He does this to heighten the charge against these cities. This stood as proof of their very great recalcitrance. For they were found to be as bad not only as other cities that currently existed but also as bad as any that ever existed!”

CHRIST GIVES REST (11:25-30)

St. Cyril of Alexandria on finding rest:

“Stand apart from the inclination to love sin and to love the flesh. Turn to deeds worthy of praise. Draw near to Me, so that you may become sharers of the divine nature and partakers of the Holy Spirit.”

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Quote Sources: Manlio Simonetti, editor. *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture: Matthew 1a and 1b* (IVP)
Blessed Theophylact. *The Explanation by Blessed Theophylact of the Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew* (Chrysostom Press)

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