

In preparing to preach on Luke 10:1-12; Jesus sending out the seventy-two, I got reacquainted with this poem I wrote a couple years ago. Verse 3 of this text says, "***Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.***" Lambs among wolves. That sounds scary. It also sounds irresponsible for a loving Shepherd to do to His sheep. But it is not irresponsible for a couple reasons, (1) The mission is that important, (2) The Gospel is that effective, and (3) He would never send lambs if he thought they would fail. The fact is, God loves sinners and so He sends lambs, asking/commanding them to trust in His provision and to proclaim the Good News to people. And even among wolves, these lambs are perfectly safe as God never leaves His lambs to fend for themselves. And so, I circle back to this Gospel Poem that I wrote. God's heart for sinners is wider than the east is from the west. Receive this to the glory of God:

You are a sinner, that is true.

God's wrath you've certainly accrued.

Condemned to die, yes, you deserve.

A judgment from which you cannot swerve.

Salvation you can not obtain.

You can't do it, i'll say again.

You need help, you certainly do,

In order to be made brand new.

So, what's our hope? Well, i'll proclaim –

You're saved by Jesus holy name.

God's holy wrath, he took for us.

For His love is in great surplus.

Jesus took your sins to the cross.

So your life would not be a loss.
Jesus died but death did not win.
Jesus rose much to death's chagrin.

Now look to him and see God's grace.
For this gift is yours to embrace.
You are a sinner that is sure,
But Jesus lives so you'll be pure.

So repent and run fast to him.
And know peace filled over the brim.
Confess your sins, Yes, every one.
You are forgiven through the Son.

Now, Jesus lives and so will you.
And it excites me to review.
You are precious – his beloved bride.
Forever with him, you'll abide.