

10/16/20

Pastor John W. Brown

Calvary Chapel Central Phoenix

Outlines: <http://www.calvarycentral.org/media>

RSS: <http://www.calvarycentral.org/feed>

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT

LUKE 17:20-37

I. INTRODUCTION

A. We will start our teaching today in **Luke chapter 17**.

1. We are in what we will call the “parable” section of Jesus’ teachings, and the last teaching ended with a conversation heaven and hell.

a) ...With the rich man in hades, begging Abraham to send Lazarus to his to his home to testify to his family, so that they would not end up in his place of eternal torment!

(1) **Luke 16:29–31 (NKJV) — 29 Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ 30 And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ 31 But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”**

(2) It is not uncommon to hear someone say the same thing as this rich man, “If I could see someone legitimately raised from the dead, I would believe!”

(a) But we biblical evidence right here that – that is simply not true.

(b) The evidence for Jesus as Lord and Savior is insurmountable – if folks will just open their eyes.

(i) Now, we move on chronologically to **Luke 17:20**.

II. **LUKE 17:20–21 (NKJV) — 20 NOW WHEN HE WAS ASKED BY THE PHARISEES WHEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD WOULD COME, HE ANSWERED THEM AND SAID, “THE KINGDOM OF GOD DOES NOT COME WITH OBSERVATION; 21 NOR WILL THEY SAY, ‘SEE HERE!’ OR ‘SEE THERE!’ FOR INDEED, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU.”**

A. I think it is safe to say that what the Pharisees were asking and the answer that Jesus gives them are two different things.

1. I think the Pharisees were wondering when the current social and political “world” as they knew it, would be overthrown.

a) Because you see, traditional Jewish thought was that - **KINGDOM OF GOD** (also “kingdom of the Lord,” “kingdom of heaven”). Refers primarily to God’s kingly power exercised over creation and people.¹

2. But Jesus’ response, like always gets to the heart of the matter.

a) The true Kingdom of God is not visible to the naked eye.

¹ Seal, D. (2016). [Kingdom of God](#). In J. D. Barry, D. Bomar, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, D. Mangum, C. Sinclair Wolcott, ... W. Widder (Eds.), *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

- b) You can't find it on Waze or Google maps.
- c) You cannot find it with your GPS because it does not have a physical location!
 - (1) ...**the kingdom of God is within you!**
 - (2) Now, I think it is obvious that Jesus was not saying that the Kingdom of God was "in" the Pharisees because when He uses the phrase, "**The kingdom of God does not come with observation;**", the word actually means by "hostile observation".
 - (a) So, they were basically saying, "You claim to be the Messiah that will establish God's Kingdom on the earth, so put up or shup up!"
 - (3) The King of the Kingdom of God was standing right in front of them. He was "in" their midst, and they rejected Him!
 - (a) And you cannot have a kingdom without a King!
 - (i) Then Jesus turns His attention to His disciples.

III. LUKE 17:22–24 (NKJV) — 22 THEN HE SAID TO THE DISCIPLES, "THE DAYS WILL COME WHEN YOU WILL DESIRE TO SEE ONE OF THE DAYS OF THE SON OF MAN, AND YOU WILL NOT SEE IT. 23 AND THEY WILL SAY TO YOU, 'LOOK HERE!' OR 'LOOK THERE!' DO NOT GO AFTER THEM OR FOLLOW THEM. 24 FOR AS THE LIGHTNING THAT FLASHES OUT OF ONE PART UNDER HEAVEN SHINES TO THE OTHER PART UNDER HEAVEN, SO ALSO THE SON OF MAN WILL BE IN HIS DAY.

- A. Jesus completed His mission and returned to the Father, but I think many of us long for His return: **to see one of the days of the Son of Man.**
 - 1. But this is a warning to be careful about what "They say". Who are "they"?
 - a) Well, right now, it is the media, but there will always be false prophets until Jesus returns.
 - b) There will always be people who say, "**'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them**".
 - 2. Satan know how to capitalize on our desire to see Jesus and for all of this to over with.
 - a) David Koresh, Jim Jones, Sun Myung Moon, and many, many others have all claimed to be the Messiah. Many Orthodox Jews thought that a Brooklyn Rabbi named Mendel Schneerson was the Messiah, and Messianic fervor heated up in Israel. Yellow billboards were erected across Israel with the slogan PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH. Bumper stickers and electric signs on cars said the same thing, and one group took out a full-page ad in the New York Times announcing, "The Time for Your Redemption Has Arrived." David Guzik e-sword commentary
 - (1) Dr. Charles Fineberg, a noted Jewish-Christian scholar, says that in the course of Israel's history since the time of our Lord, sixty-four different individuals have appeared claiming to be the Messiah. David Guzik e-sword commentary
 - b) And folks I am going to step on a few toes here, but I genuinely mean it in love:
 - (1) Be careful about getting caught up in Pastors and teachings that constantly focus on the end times.

- (a) Scriptures tell us **Matthew 24:36 (NKJV) — 36** “**But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.**
- (b) **Mark 13:32 (NKJV) — 32** “**But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.**
 - (i) Am I saying that teaching on prophesy or teaching on end times is bad? NO!
 - (ii) What I am saying is that angels don’t know, and Jesus doesn’t know, and they are OK with that.
 - (a) So, even the best pastor/teacher of prophesy and the end times, is only guessing!
 - (b) **James 4:13–14 (NKJV) — 13** Come now, you who say, “**Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit**”; **14** whereas **you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow.** For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.
 - (i) So - I am saying just be careful that you don’t put too much importance on something that Jesus, nor the angels are concerned about.
 - (ii) And since he has a total grasp on humanity and knows people will be curious – he gives his disciples a few clues.

IV. LUKE 17:25–27 (NKJV) — 25 BUT FIRST HE MUST SUFFER MANY THINGS AND BE REJECTED BY THIS GENERATION. 26 AND AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH, SO IT WILL BE ALSO IN THE DAYS OF THE SON OF MAN: 27 THEY ATE, THEY DRANK, THEY MARRIED WIVES, THEY WERE GIVEN IN MARRIAGE, UNTIL THE DAY THAT NOAH ENTERED THE ARK, AND THE FLOOD CAME AND DESTROYED THEM ALL.

A. “Well, I have to suffer and die first, but people will be going on about their business as usual, but when it does happened it will sudden.

V. LUKE 17:28–30 (NKJV) — 28 LIKewise AS IT WAS ALSO IN THE DAYS OF LOT: THEY ATE, THEY DRANK, THEY BOUGHT, THEY SOLD, THEY PLANTED, THEY BUILT; 29 BUT ON THE DAY THAT LOT WENT OUT OF SODOM IT RAINED FIRE AND BRIMSTONE FROM HEAVEN AND DESTROYED THEM ALL. 30 EVEN SO WILL IT BE IN THE DAY WHEN THE SON OF MAN IS REVEALED.

A. And on that Day when Jesus is revealed there will be a little fire and brimstone from heaven and many will die!

VI. **LUKE 17:31–36 (NKJV) — 31 “IN THAT DAY, HE WHO IS ON THE ROOFTOP, AND HIS GOODS ARE IN THE HOUSE, LET HIM NOT COME DOWN TO TAKE THEM AWAY. AND LIKEWISE THE ONE WHO IS IN THE FIELD, LET HIM NOT TURN BACK. 32 REMEMBER LOT’S WIFE. 33 WHOEVER SEEKS TO SAVE HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT, AND WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE WILL PRESERVE IT. 34 I TELL YOU, IN THAT NIGHT THERE WILL BE TWO MEN IN ONE BED: THE ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND THE OTHER WILL BE LEFT. 35 TWO WOMEN WILL BE GRINDING TOGETHER: THE ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND THE OTHER LEFT. 36 TWO MEN WILL BE IN THE FIELD: THE ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND THE OTHER LEFT.”**

A. From what we can tell, there isn’t much difference in these pairs people.

1. Two men in a field working, two men asleep, and two women grinding grain for their families.

a) And yet **one will be taken and the other left** behind. Why? What is the difference?

(1) **1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (NKJV) — 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

(a) You won’t have time to prepare for the rapture - it will come suddenly and at an unexpected moment. The way to be ready is to be ready *now*.

VII. CONCLUSION

A. **Luke 17:37 (NKJV) — 37 And they answered and said to Him, “Where, Lord?” So He said to them, “Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.”**

1. **Job 39:27–30 (NKJV) — 27 Does the eagle mount up at your command, And make its nest on high? 28 On the rock it dwells and resides, On the crag of the rock and the stronghold. 29 From there it spies out the prey; Its eyes observe from afar. 30 Its young ones suck up blood; And where the slain are, there it is.”**

a) The birds of the air will clean up the mess of all the carcasses.

B. Now, you might say, “Pastor, this is pretty heavy stuff!”

1. Yes, it is. However if your life is secure in Jesus, you will be one of the ones taken up to always be with the Lord!

a) So **Matthew 6:34 (NKJV) — 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.**