

The Gospel of Luke
An Invitation to be Reassured
Sunday, November 10, 2013

Luke 11:37-12:12

I. Introduction

Focus Point: The religious man focuses on the external to impress man and the righteous man avoids hypocrisy and focuses on the heart to impress God.

Christianity is primarily a matter of the heart. Everything flows from a heart relationship with God, who transforms our hearts when He regenerates us

II. The Religious Man (11:37-54)

The Pharisee (v.37-38)

1) Outside clean, not inside (v.39-41)

When you find yourself just trying to make things look good but not making sure your heart is right, that is dead religion. It is not about image. It is about heart.

2) Woe: neglecting God's justice and love (v.42)

They tithe very herb but neglect justice and the love of God.

3) Woe: loving the best seats (v.43)

The Pharisees loved the honor which came from their reputed meticulous observance of the law.

4) Woe: leading people to death (v.44)

People who follow the Pharisees are deceived, for they become 'unclean' before God without even knowing that the Pharisees have led them astray.

The Lawyer/Scribe (v.45)

1) Woe: giving burdens to others, but you don't keep them (v.46)

They have burden the people with extrabiblical traditions and they don't keep them either and don't help the people.

2) Woe: building the tombs of the prophets (v.47-48)

The point is that the spirit that caused their ancestors to slay the prophets still lives with them, as their rejection of Jesus shows.

3) Prediction of persecution and judgment (v.49-51)

Those who live hypocritical and unrighteous lives will forsake the wisdom of God and that generation will be held accountable.

4) *Woe: taking away the key to knowledge (v.52)*

Jesus condemns the lawyers for their interpretations of Scripture that deprive the people of the key of knowledge needed to understand God's plan of salvation.

They try and trap Jesus (v.53-54)

III. The Righteous Man (12:1-12)

1) *Avoid Hypocrisy (v.1-3)*

"Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees" – metaphor for the self-centered and hypocritical living.

2) *Fear God (v.4-7)*

Don't fear those who can kill the body because physical death is not the final destiny of those who love Jesus.

Lesser to greater value (sparrows and hair) If 'A' is true how much great is 'B.'

3) *Confess Jesus (v.8-12)*

To confess Christ means to proclaim to others the fact that Jesus Christ is our Savior and Lord and that our salvation is all from Him and not at all from us.

IV. Conclusion