
Bible Lessons and Notes Written & Prepared by

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940 - 872 - 1270
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A Gospel of Luke

24 Chapters

AUTHOR: LUKE was a Physician, a friend and companion to the Apostle Paul. Luke joined Paul during Paul's Second Missionary Journey at Troas (Acts 14:10). He shared two prison terms with Paul and Paul called him ‘the Beloved Physician’ (Col. 4:14). Paul mentions a group of Gentiles in Colossians 4 and names Luke with them. Luke is the only Gentile writer in the Bible. The Gospel of Luke was written by a Gentile, addressed to a Gentile (Theophilus) and is the Gospel for the Gentiles. Luke was not one of the twelve, and neither was he one of the seventy. Luke and Mark were not Apostles.

THEME: The Book of Luke presents Jesus Christ as “The Son of Man.” As the Son of Man He came to Seek and Save.

INTRODUCTION: The Gospel of Luke reveals its purpose at the very beginning. Matthew's Gospel begins with a genealogy; the genealogy of the King and is followed by the account of the Wise Men coming to Jerusalem looking for the new born King of the Jews. Mark's Gospel begins with the baptism of Jesus and immediately rushes into the untiring ministry of the obedient Servant of Jehovah, Jesus Christ. This third Gospel begins completely different. It is perfectly human. A friend (Luke) writes to a friend (Theophilus, Luke 1:3), and also to us, presenting Jesus, the Son of Man.

All is new in the two opening chapters: 1 The details of John the Baptist's birth; 2 Gabriel's visit to Zacharias and later to Mary; 3 The Visit of Mary to Elizabeth and their songs of praise; 4 The beautiful Christmas story of our Lord's birth (No room in the Inn, the manger, the babe, the Shepherds, the Angels); 5 Jesus' youth (Child growing, 12 years old in the Temple, His increase in wisdom and stature. His favour with God and Man).


NOTE: Luke chapter 15 gives us a good example of the Son of Man 'Seeking and Saving that which was lost.'

1. (15:3-7) LOST SHEEP (1 out of 100) Work of the Son
2. (15:8-10) LOST COIN (1 out of 10) Work of the Spirit
3. (15:11-24) LOST SON (1 out of 2) Work of the Father
4. (15:25-32) ELDER SON ‘Would not come in’ No Work of Trinity

KEY WORDS: ‘Son of Man’ This is our Lord's favorite way of referring to Himself and is used 26 times alone in the Gospel of Luke. This expression identifies Jesus as the Representative Man. As Adam was the first Representative Man; even so, Jesus is the Last Representative Man (The Second Adam, the Last).

KEY TEXT: (Luke 19:10) “For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
A Gospel of Prayer

The Gospel of Luke especially emphasizes Prayer. It contains three parables on prayer not found in the other Gospels. The Friend at Midnight (11:5-8); the Unjust Judge (18:1-8); and the Pharisee and the Publican (18:9-14). It also records many of our Lord’s Prayers. Matthew, Mark and Luke all record His prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, but apart from that our Lord’s engagement in prayer occurs only once in Matthew and twice in Mark, but in the Gospel of Luke is mentioned repeatedly:

1. Luke 3:21 Only here we learn that Jesus was praying when endued by the Holy Spirit when He was baptized at the River Jordan.
2. Luke 5:16 That He prayed in His wilderness withdrawals from the crowd.
3. Luke 6:12 The He ‘continued all night’ in prayer before He chose the Twelve Apostles.
4. Luke 9:18 That He spent the night ‘alone praying’ before He asked the Twelve ‘Whom say ye that I Am?’
5. Luke 9:28 At His Transfiguration He had climbed the mountain ‘to Pray’.
6. Luke 9:29 And, that the actual Transfiguration took place ‘as He Prayed.’
7. Luke 11:1 That just before He gave His disciples the Model Prayer, He Himself was ‘Praying in a certain place.’
10. Luke 22:44 That in the Garden ‘. . . His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground . . . and when He rose up from prayer . . .’
11. Luke 23:34,39 That on the Cross both His First and Last Utterances were Prayers.

Lessons on Prayer in Luke

1. Luke 11:5-10 The Parable of the Midnight appeal ‘Friend, lend me three loaves . . .’ Teaching IMPORTUNITY in PRAYER.
2. Luke 18:1-18 The Parable of the Unconcerned Judge and the Persistent Widow - - - Teaching CONSTANCY in PRAYER.
3. Luke 18:9-14 The Incident of the Pharisee and the Publican praying in the temple - - - Teaching HUMILITY in PRAYER.
5. Luke 22:46 Only here the second time ‘rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.’- Teaching WARNING in PRAYER.

Special in Luke

1. Only Luke records the Annunciations to Zacharias and Mary.
2. Records the songs of Elizabeth and Mary.
3. Records the Birth and Childhood of John the Baptist.
4. Records the most complete account of the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ (Who was better qualified?)
5. Records the Angel’s message to Shepherds and their visit to the Manger.
6. Records the Circumcision and Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.
7. Records the incidents of both Simeon and Anna.
8. Records the only details of Jesus’ childhood.
9. Records the inner thoughts of Mary.
10. Records the most complete biography of Jesus.
11. Records Jesus weeping over Jerusalem.
12. Records the conversation of Moses & Elijah on Mt. of Transfiguration (9:30-31).
14. Records Christ before Herod (23:8).
15. Records Christ’s words to the women of Jerusalem (23:28).
17. Records the walk to Emmaus (24:13-31).
18. Records 20 Miracles - - - 6 not found elsewhere.
19. 23 Parables - - - 18 not found elsewhere.
20. Luke is a Universal Gospel – It says more about 1 Women, 2 Children, 3 Gentiles, 4 Sinners and Publicans, 5 Poverty and Wealth, 6 Life and Death, 7 Prayer, and 8 Praise.
The Gospel of Luke

OUTLINE

Key Verse: (Luke 19:10) ‘For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.’

INTRO:

I. (1:1–4:13) THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND ADVENT OF THE SON OF MAN.
   A. (1:1-4) Preface, the Introduction.
   B. (1:5-25) Announcement of John the Baptist’s miraculous birth.
   C. (1:26-38) Annunciation of the Birth of Jesus to Mary.
   D. (1:39-56) Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth.
   E. (1:57-80) Birth John the Baptist.
   F. (2:1-20) Birth of Jesus, the Son of Man.
   G. (2:21) Circumcision of Jesus (Further proof of His Humanity).
   I. (2:40-52) Boyhood of Jesus (Even at 12 years of age He appears as more than man).
   L. (3:23-38) The Genealogy of the Son of Man. This is Mary’s Genealogy. Joseph was thus ‘Son-in-law’ of Heli. Joseph’s name was used rather than Mary’s in accordance with Jewish custom. Traces Jesus back to Adam, as the Son of Man.
   M. (4:1-13) Temptation of the Son of Man (As the Perfect Man He must triumph where the first Adam failed).

II. (4:14–19:27) THE WORDS AND WORKS OF THE SON OF MAN.
   A. (4:14-30) Rejected at Nazareth (They over-emphasized His Humanity, saw only His Humanity).
   B. (4:31-44) The Son of Man Teaches and Heals in Galilee.
   C. (Ch. 5) Calls His First Disciples, Heals Leper and Paralytic, and Answers Scribes.
   D. (Ch. 6) The 12 Disciples Chosen & Instructed as to their conduct in the World.
   E. (Ch. 7) Miracles Performed, Relieves John’s doubts, & visits in a Pharisee’s Home.
   F. (Ch. 8) Gives Parables, Stills Storm, Heals the Sick & Raises the Dead.
   G. (Ch. 9) Feeds the 5000, Transfigured, Announces His Death.
   H. (Ch. 10) Sends out the 70, Denounces Unbelieving Cities, Gives Parable of the Good Samaritan, Visits Martha and Martha.
   I. (Chs 11-14) Various Parables and Other Teachings.
   J. (Ch. 15) Four Parables (Lost Sheep, Coin, Son & Elder Son).
   K. (16:1–19:27) Instruction on Various Subjects (Several Miracles).

   B. (Ch. 20) He Answers Various Loaded Questions.
   C. (Ch. 21) His Last Prophetic Discourse (Unlike Matthew’s account, Luke gives considerable material as to Christ’s answers to the first question of verse 7).
   D. (Ch. 22) The Last Supper, Betrayal in the Garden & Examination before the Council.
   E. (Ch. 23) The Crucifixion and Burial.

IV. (Chap. 24) THE RESURRECTION & ASCENSION OF THE SON OF MAN.

“Behold the Son of Man”

I. (1:1–4:13) BEHOLD THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN.
II. (4:14–19:48) BEHOLD THE MINISTRY OF THE SON OF MAN.
III. (20:1–23:56) BEHOLD THE SUFFERING OF THE SON OF MAN.
IV. (24:1 - 53) BEHOLD THE VICTORY OF THE SON OF MAN.
Biographical Sketch of Jesus Christ
In the Four Gospels

Matthew, Mark, & Luke are called the Syn-optic (see alike) Gospels. They give the outward and visible activities of our Lord, and emphasize His Galilean Ministry.

Matthew

Jesus Christ
LION ROYALTY TAUGHT

King of Jews 'Fulfilled' to Abram thru David PROMISED SAVIOUR

Mark

Jesus Christ
OX ANONYMITY WROUGHT

SERVANT of JEHOVAH 'Straightway'
None POWERFUL SAVIOUR

Luke

Jesus Christ
MAN HUMANITY SOUGHT

SON of Man 'Seek and Save' to Adam thru David PERFECT SAVIOUR

John

Jesus Christ
EAGLE DIVINITY THOUGHT

SON of GOD 'Believe' To God – With God – Was God
PERSONAL SAVIOUR

The Gospel of John is called the Eagle Gospel. It is the Spiritual Gospel. It reveals the inward and personal facts of our Lord, and emphasizes Hisatter Judean ministry.

NOTE: As the Eagle flies higher and sees further; so, the Gospel of John.
Gospel of Luke

24 Chapters

I. The INTRODUCTION
   Luke 1:1-4

II. The PREPARATION
    Luke 1:5 -- 2:52

III. The PRESENTATION
     Luke 3:1 -- 5:15

IV. The MINISTRY
    Luke 5:16 -- 9:50

V. The MISSION
    Luke 9:51 -- 18:30

VI. The PASSION
    A. Events Enroute to Jerusalem
    B. Arrival at Jerusalem
       Luke 19:28-44
    C. Conflict at Jerusalem
       Luke 19:45 -- 21:4
    D. Prediction concerning Jerusalem
       Luke 21:5-38
    E. The Last Supper
    F. The Betrayal
    G. The Arrest and Trials
    H. The Crucifixion
       Luke 23:26-49
    I. The Burial
       Luke 23:50-56

VII. The RESURRECTION
     A. His Disappearance (The Empty Tomb)
        Luke 24:1-12
     B. His Appearance at Emmaus
     C. His Appearance in the Upper Room
        Luke 24:36-43

VIII. The COMMISSION
     Luke 24:44-49

IX. The ASCENSION
INTRO: Four Hundred years between the last Old Testament Prophet and John the Baptist. God had not dealt directly with His people for all these centuries. Now, a new age begins. All the promises of a Messiah in the O. T. are now about to be fulfilled in the coming of Jesus Christ. John is sent as the Announcer or Forerunner to prepare the people for Christ's (the Messiah’s) coming.

I. THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

A. (Luke 1:5-7) HIS PARENTS:

1. (Luke 1:8-10) His Father – ZACHARIAS (A Priest who was offering incense upon the golden altar in the Temple when the Angel Gabriel appeared to him and told him that his prayer was answered, that he and his wife would have a son, and his name would be ‘John’). Zacharias would be speechless (dumb) for doubting and as a sign.

2. (Luke 1:18-20) His Mother – ELIZABETH (Happy, her reproach is taken away).

NOTE: The case of Zacharias and Elizabeth is much like that of Abraham & Sarah (Old and Barren). Also, notice their Character and Ancestry.

B. (Luke 1:57-66) HIS BIRTH:

1. His Naming – Family and Friends wanted to name this new baby after his father ‘Zacharias,’ but Zacharias wrote, ‘His name is JOHN.’

2. Zacharias’ tongue was loosed (The first time he had spoken in 9 months). What happened? He ‘praised God’ (v. 64), and he ‘was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied.’ (v.67).

II. THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

1. HE WAS NAMED BEFORE HIS BIRTH. (Luke 1:13)

2. HE WAS A 2nd or 3rd COUSIN OF JESUS.

3. HE WAS A MAN SENT FROM GOD. (John 1:6)


5. HE WAS SENT TO BEAR WITNESS OF THAT LIGHT (Jesus). (John 1:8)

6. HE TESTIFIED THAT JESUS WAS BEFORE HIM (Eternal). (John 1:15)

7. HE WAS THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS. (v. 23)


9. HE BEAR RECORD THAT JESUS WAS ‘The Son of God.’ (John 1:34)

10. HE INTRODUCED JESUS as ‘The Lamb of God.’ (John 1:29, 36)

11. HE SAID, ‘He must increase, but I must decrease.’ (John 3:30)

12. JESUS CALLED HIM ‘Much more than a prophet.’ (Luke 7:26)

13. HE BAPTIZED JESUS & ALL OF HIS APOSTLES. (Matt. 3:13-27 & I Cor. 12:28)

NOTE: John the Baptist’s ministry was so exciting and challenging that people were leaving the Temple in Jerusalem and coming to the country around the Jordan River where John was preaching and baptizing in multitudes. This created much envy among the priests and clergy of that day and they bitterly opposed his ministry and refused to acknowledge that it was of God.

III. THE DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

A. John Was Imprisoned Because of His Preaching. (Matt. 14:3-4)

B. Herod the Tetrarch, Has John Beheaded to please Herodias, his mistress. (Matt. 14:6-11)

C. John’s Disciples Bury John. They go and tell Jesus. (Matt. 14:12)
None Born of Women Greater than . . .

Luke 1:15-16; Luke 7:24-28; Mark 1:6-7

INTRO: All down through the ages history has produced many great men, but according to our Lord, ‘There were none born of women greater than John the Baptist.’ (Matt. 11:11 & Luke 7:28). What an assessment! Especially coming from the Lord Himself. We greatly admire men like Enoch, who walked with God; Noah, who built the Ark by faith; Abraham, who believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness; Joshua; David; Daniel; Paul; John; John the Baptist. What are some of John’s characteristics:

I. (John 1:19-23) **HE HAD A SPIRIT OF HUMILITY & SERVITITUDE:**

**Two Characteristics of True Greatness**

**A. HUMILITY:**

**THOT:** Important committee from Jerusalem ‘Who are you?’ --- ‘Are you the . . . Messiah?’ - - - ‘I am not the Christ.’

‘Promised One’ - - - No!

‘Elias’ - - - No!

‘That Prophet’ - - - No!

Then, Who are you?

‘Just the Voice of one crying in the wilderness.’

‘He must increase - - - I must decrease.’ (John 3:30)

**B. SERVITITUDE:**

1. The next day, John the Baptist pointed out the Lord ‘Behold, the Lamb of God . . .’

2. He baptized Jesus - - - ‘. . .not worthy to lose shoe lachet.’

3. He tha would serve God, must serve Men. ‘As much as ye do it unto the least . . .’

II. (Prov. 11:3) **What Else Identifies True Greatness? HONESTY & COURAGEOUS.**

‘The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.’ Simply means: ‘Honesty builds - - - Dis-honesty Destroys’

**True of a Nation, Church, Family, Ministry, Business, Individual.**

**ILLUST:** A College Professor was giving two exams: One of Trigonometry and the other on Honesty. He said, ‘I hope you pass both tests, but if you fail one, fail Trigonometry.’

**THOT:** Today, honesty is an ol’ time virtue that is almost forgotten. Deceit reigns! Dis-honesty in School, Marriage, Business, etc. White collar crimes cost our nation billions.

III. (Luke 1:15-16) **GOODNESS & FAITH.**

‘For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother’s womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.’

**A. Separation** - Abstain from strong drink, wine --- Nazarite vow of dedication.

**B. Spirit Led** --- ‘Filled with Holy Ghost from his mother’s womb’

**C. Soul Winner** --- ‘Many . . . shall he turn to the Lord. . .’

**Praise God! There is Hope!**

1. (Psa. 80) Three Times: ‘Turn us, O God, and cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.’ We can’t even turn ourselves. Even the turning must be of God.

(2 Chron. 7:14) ‘If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.’

2. Must Re-build the Foundations:
   - Must be a Humble People
   - Must be a Serving People
   - Must be a Courageous People

   - Must be a Honest People
   - Must be a Faithful People
   - Must be a Clean People

3. Must Do What John the Baptist Did: Share Jesus --- ‘Behold, the Lamb of God . . .’
The Annunciation of the Birth of John the Baptist

INTRO: The Birth of John the Baptist was miraculous, but not Super-natural. He was conceived by both a Father and a Mother (the miracle was their ages. Blessed of God in answer to their prayers).

I. (Luke 1:5-7) THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF JOHN’S BIRTH TO ZACHARIAS.
   A. (Luke 1:5-7) A Description of Zacharias
      1. (v. 5) He was a Priest of the Order of Abiah.
      2. (v. 5) His Wife’s name was Elisabeth.
      3. (v. 6) They were declared righteous before God.
      4. (v. 7) They were childless (Elizabeth was barren).
      5. (v. 8) They were old (Well stricken in years).

II. (Luke 1:11-17) THE MESSAGE OF THE ANGEL
   A. (v. 13) ‘Fear not’ - - - literally scared to death.
   B. (v. 13) ‘For thy prayer is heard’ - - - What Prayer? ‘For a son.’
   C. (v. 13) ‘For thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son. . .’
   D. (v. 13) ‘Thou shalt call his name John.’
   E. (v. 14) ‘Joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at His birth.’
   F. (v. 15) ‘He shall be great’
   G. (v. 15) ‘He shall drink not. . .’ (Separated & Consecrated).
   H. (v. 15) ‘He shall be filled with the Holy Spirit.’
   I. (v. 16) ‘He shall turn many to God.’
   J. (v. 17) ‘He shall go before him (Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elias . . .’
   K. (v. 17) ‘He shall prepare the way for the Lord.’ (Fore-runner, announcer)

   A. (v. 18) Doubts the Angel’s Word.
   C. (v. 20) Zacharias is made speechless because of his unbelief.

   A. (v. 13) To be Born to Zacharias and Elizabeth in their old age.
   B. (v. 24) Not a Virgin Birth, but the natural union of a man and a woman.

SPECIAL NOTE
There were approximately 20,000 priests at that time. They were divided into twenty-four (24) Courses. Abiah was the Eighth (8th) Course (I Chron. 24:10). Each Course officiated for one week. These weekly groups were sub-divided into five (5) to nine (9) smaller groups. Each officiated for one (1) day. The priests were chosen by lot. This was an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for any priest. This was considered the greatest privilege to offer incense (Twice a day at 9 A.M. and 3 P.M.). Along with the offering of incense, the priest could present his own petitions and this is exactly what Zacharias did.
The Announcement of Jesus’ Birth to Mary

Luke 1:26-38

INTRO: Man has had Life given
1. (Gen. 2) ADAM --- God without Man or Woman (Direct Creation)
2. (Gen. ) EVE --- God with Man without Woman (Semi-Creation)
3. ( ) ALL of Us --- God with Man and Woman (Natural) (Pro-Creation)
4. ( ) JESUS --- God with Woman without Man (Virgin Birth)
5. ( ) God by His Spirit (New Birth) (Re-Creation)

I. (1:26) THE TIME OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT.
Answer: Six month after the conception of John, the angel appeared to Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

II. (1: ) THE PLACE:
Answer: Nazareth in Galilee.

III. (1:26) THE ONE WHO MADE THAT ANNOUNCEMENT.
Answer: The Angel Gabriel

IV. (1:28-38) THE MESSAGE:
• The Angel salutes Mary.
• The Angel comforts Mary.
• The Angel expresses God’s grace to Mary.
• The Angel tells her of the birth of a Son.
• His name is to be called Jesus. Jesus is ‘Jehoshua’, ‘Joseph’ in Hebrew.
• He shall be great.
• He shall be called the Son of the Highest.
• He shall inherit the throne of David - - - Forever.
  (I Chron. 17:7-14; Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1; Psalms 132:11)

V. (1:34-38) MARY’S RESPONSE.
• Amazement - - - (v. 34) ‘How can this be, seeing I know not a man?’
• Submission - - - (v. 38) ‘Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.’

NOTE: From one extreme to the other. Elizabeth the old and barren to Mary the young and a Virgin. Both impossible without God.

VI. (1:35) The Angel’s Explanation to MARY of God’s Action in the Virgin Birth.
• The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee.
• The Power of the Highest shall overshadow thee.
• That which shall be born of Mary will be ‘That Holy thing.’
• Shall be called ‘the Son of God.’
Proofs of the Virgin Birth
Luke 1:26-38

I. TERM IN SCRIPTURE. (Matt. 1:1-17)
   ‘The generation of . . .’ (Occurs 10 times in Scripture)
A. GENERATION OF ADAM (Gen. 5:1) ‘Begat . . . and he died.’
B. GENERATION OF JESUS (Matt. 1:1-17)
   1. (1-16) ‘Begat’ (39 times) No Death.
   2. (v. 16) ‘Was born.’
   3. (v. 18) The only birth in the Bible that needed to be explained.
   4. God uses the first two chapters in New Testament to tell the events of His birth.

II. THRONE OF DAVID.
(cf David’s two sons, Solomon and Nathan and their succeeding genealogies.)

III. TRUST OF JOSEPH. (Matt. 1:18-25)
A. THE CONDITION OF MARY.
B. THE CHARACTER OF JOSEPH.
   1. (v. 19) Just Man.
   2. (v. 20) Thoughtful Man.
   3. (v. 21) Obedient Man.

IV. TRAVELS OF THE WISE MEN. (Matt. 2:1-10)
A. HIS SIGN. (Followed in Old Testament - Isa. 7:14)
   The Sign was ‘A virgin’ not a young maiden or young woman.
B. HIS STAR. (Followed in New Testament - v. 2)
   1. They knew nothing of:
      A Woman named Mary
      A Man named Joseph, nor
      A Child named Jesus.
   2. All they knew was:
      Bethlehem
      Birth (Virgin)
      Boy

V. TONE OF WORSHIP. (Matt. 2:11)
A. Choice of Worship. (The Babe not Mary)
B. Command of Worship.
   1. If Jesus wasn’t Deity, they might have brought gifts, but not worship.
   2. ‘Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only.’ (Deut. 6:13; 10:20; & Matt. 4:10).

VI. TRIP TO EGYPT. (Matt. 2:12-23)
A. God Intervened to save His Son.
B. If Jesus was illegitimate, God would never have sent an Angel.

VII. TITLES OF SPEECH. (Matt. 2:11, 13, 14, 20 & 21)
‘Young child and His mother . . .’ What are the odds of a Virgin Birth? Impossible!

VIII. TEACHING OF THE DISCIPLES. (Luke 1:1-4)
A. ‘Things . . . most surely believed among US.’ Chapters 1 and 2 tell of the Virgin Birth.
B. ‘Eye witnesses . . .’ from the beginning. (v. 3) ‘Perfect understanding of all things from the very FIRST.’ Was Dr. Luke Mary’s Doctor? A Virgin Birth is medically impossible, but Luke, a Doctor, believed and documented it.

IX. TALK OF GABRIEL. (Luke 1:5-33; v. 90)
A. Gabriel came from God - - - Spoke for God. (v. 19)
B. God called Mary - - - (see vs. 26-28)

X. TESTIMONY OF MARY. (Luke 1:34-38) ‘Not Guilty’
A. HER EXCLAMATION: ‘I know not a man . . .’ (v. 34)
B. HER SITUATION: (v. 35) This is the greatest commentary on the Virgin Birth.
C. HER SUBMISSION: (v. 38) ‘Be it unto me . . .’
XI. TIME WITH ELISABETH.  (Luke 1:39-45)
A. RIGHTEOUS WALK, the kind of Home God Uses.  (vs 5-6)
B. RELATIVES TALK, Mary’s first words ‘I’m pregnant!’
   You can’t fool your own family and friends.

XII. TRUTH OF VIRTUE.  (Luke 1:46-56)
A. PRAISE to the Saviour: ‘He’ (vs. 46-56)
B. PROPHECY of Study.  (v. 55)
C. PERIOD of Stay.  (v. 56)

XIII. THEME OF ZACHARIAS.  (Luke 1:57-80)
   Zacharias at the Birth and Naming of the son of his old age spoke of Jesus, not John (vs. 67-79)


XV. TIDINGS TO THE SHEPHERDS.  (Luke 2:8-20)
A. The PRAISE of the Angel.  (vs. 10-12)
B. The PSALM of the Heavenly Host.  (vs. 13-14)
C. The POINT of the Shepherds.  (No more need for Sacrificial Lambs . . . The Lamb of God is here)

XVI. THEOLOGY OF SIMEON.  (Luke 2:21-35)
A. SIGN SPOKEN AGAINST.
   The Virgin Birth is spoken against by Translators and Teachers  (v. 34).
B. SWORD AGAINST MARY’S SOUL.  (v. 35).
   God’s Only Begotten.
   Mary’s First Born - Mary had at least 4 more sons & 2 daughters (Matt. 13:55-56 & Mark 6:3).

XVII. THANKS TO ANNA.  (Luke 2:36-39)
A. Age.  (v. 36)
B. Attitude.  (v. 37)
C. Account.  (v. 38)  A pure Godly, good and great old Lady would never put up with an Impure girl.

XVIII. TWELVE IN THE TEMPLE.  (Luke 2:40-52)
A. CORRECTION:  (vs. 48 cf 49)  ‘thy father’ corrected to ‘My Father.’
B. SUBMISSION:  (Example)

XIX. TRINITY AT THIRTY.  (Luke 3:21-23)
A. The Son Submitting.  (v. 21)
B. The Spirit Descending.  (v. 22)
C. The Father Speaking.  (v. 22)

XX. TRIUMPH IN PUBLIC — Mary was with Jesus in Public at:
A. CRADLE
B. CANA
C. CALVARY
D. COMMUNION  (Upper Room - Acts 1)

   After His Ascension Mary was with the 120.  Suppose someone should ask her, ‘Why are you here?’ Her answer could have been, ‘All the rest of you believe in the Virgin Birth by TESTIMONY, but I believe in it by EXPERIENCE.’  She knew the:

   THE EMPTY WOMB
   THE EMPTY ROOM
   THE EMPTY TOMB
MATTHEW’S GENEALOGY

The Throne of His Father David.

LUKE’S GENEALOGY

‘Seed of the Woman’

GOD
- Adan
- Seth
- Enos
- Caiain
- Maleleel
- Jared
- Enoch
- Mathusala
- Lamech
- Noe
- Sem
- Arphaxad
- Caiain
- Salai
- Heber
- Phalec
- Ragau
- Saruch
- Nachor
- Thara

Solomon
- Roboam
- Abia
- Asa
- Josaphat
- Joram

Abraham

Isaac

Jacob

Joram

Ahaziah - Slain by Jehu (2 Ki. 9:27)

Joash - Slain by his servants (2 Ki.12:20)

Amaziah - Slain by people of Jerusalem

(2 Ki. 14:19) These three, their names blotted out for idolatry (Deut. 29:20)

Ozias

Joatham

Achaz

Ezekias

Manasses

Amon

Josias

Jehoiakim

Jehoiachin

(Coniah)

Jechonias

Salathiel

Zorobabel

Abiud

Eliaikim

Azor

Sadoc

Achim

Eliud

Eleazar

Matthan

Jacob

Joseph

Nathan

Mattatha

Menan

Melea

Eliaikim

Jonan

Joseph

Juda

Simeon

Levi

Matthath

Jorim

Elizer

Jose

Er

Elmodam

Cosam

Addi

Melchi

Nori

Salathiel

Zorobabel

Rhesa

Joanna

Juda

Joseph

Semei

Matthathias

Maath

Nagge

Esli

Naun

Amos

Matthathias

Joseph

Janna

Melchi

Levi

Matthath

Heli

Joseph (Husband of Mary)

JESUS

THE FOURTEEN REGAL GENERATIONS

Both Jehoiakim and his son are omitted from the Regal 14 Generations because of sin in Jerm. 36.
MATTHEW’S GENEALOGY
of
JESUS CHRIST
The King of the Jews

Matthew’s Genealogy starts with Abraham and omits some names because of sin in that line. We follow the line beginning with Abraham through David, Solomon, and Rehoboam. Under Rehoboam the nation was divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. Farther down the line we come to Jehoiakim, and Jehoiakin (his son) (Jer. 22:24-30 and 36:30), and all their descendants or sons could not sit on the throne, though they had the Legal Right to the throne.

Joseph was a son of David. That is what the angel called him (Matt. 1:20). He had the Legal Right to the throne of David, because he was a descendant of Jeconiah. All of Jeconiah’s sons had the Right to the Throne, but none of them could ever sit on that throne as King because of God’s promise. Therefore, Joseph’s actual son could not occupy the throne, but Jesus was not the actual Son of Joseph, though He was a Legal Son of Joseph. When Joseph consummated the marriage with Mary, he became the legal father of that which was born of Mary. Jesus was born in the household of Joseph and thereby became the Legal Son of Joseph, inheriting all of his privileges without the curse of Jeconiah’s sin.

LUKE’S GENEALOGY
of
JESUS CHRIST
The Son of Man

Luke’s genealogy begins with Jesus and goes all the way back to Adam which was the Son of God. Luke’s genealogy corresponds with Matthew’s genealog from Abraham to David. From David through Nathan (Elder brother and rightful heir to David’s throne, 1 Chron. 3:5; 2 Sam. 5:14. Also, Nathan and Solomon had the same mother, Bathsheba. Nathan was outside the Reigning Kings of Judah.) The line is traced down through Heli to Joseph (Son-in-Law to Heli, Mary’s Father). Joseph had the Legal Title to the throne, but he could not use it. Through Mary’s line Jesus had an unbroken lineage from Adam, ‘which was the Son of God.’ Therefore, Jesus was both the Legal Son of David through Solomon and the Literal Son of David through Nathan. Jesus had a Father in Heaven Who ‘begat’ Him and a Legal Father on Earth. He had all the rights of the FIRST-BORN. No other son of Joseph could have met these requirements and rule, but Jesus had the rights legally through Joseph and through Mary. He had the right and could occupy that position because he was not the seed of Jeconiah. He was the only person in the whole universe of God to Whom the throne could rightfully come and He proved it by His resurrection from the dead (Rom. 1:4). The working out of these two genealogies is one of the most wonderful truths in the Bible.
Key Verse: (Luke 2:52) ‘But Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.’

INTRO: A great amount of preaching and teaching is done about the Birth of Jesus and various aspects of His life, but little is said of the time between His birth and the beginning of His ministry (His baptism). Our lesson covers this particular time period and the incidents of these 30 years.

We know that Jesus was raised in a good, godly, devout home and was trained in all the wisdom of Godly people. He was brought up in a typical Hebrew home and did the things that those folks normally did. He read the Scripture in the synagogue on the sabbath day ‘as his custom was.’ (Luke 4:16-20). He knew the procedure, He was no stranger to the customs of His day.

• Identify with God’s Covenant People - - - God’s Promise - - - Obedience to the Law.
• His naming ‘Jesus’ = ‘Joshua’ O.T. - - - Hebrew.

A. Mother’s Purification
B. Baby’s Presentation to the Lord (Lev. 12:6-8) ‘every male child.’
C. Two Offerings to be Given:
   1. Burnt Offering – ‘a lamb, firstling . . . if able.’
      a. Unable to afford a lamb, or
      b. Unable to provide a lamb,
      c. Could substitute a ‘turtledove or a pigeon.’
   2. Sin Offering – ‘either a turtledove or a pigeon.’
D. Two Witnesses: Simeon & Anna
   1. SIMEON: Some things about Simeon. His name ‘Simeon’ means ‘Hearing,’ and he was in Jerusalem, in the Temple, He was a just man, devout, waiting (anticipating, expecting) for the consolation of Israel,’ ‘Spirit filled (led),’ had a special revelation from God, he blessed God, he was ready to depart in peace, he lived and was willing to die according to the Word of the Lord, he preached Christ the Messiah, the Salvation of all people, Gentile and Jew, and predicted the ‘sword that would pierce through her own soul’ at Christ’s death on the Cross.
   2. ANNA: (36-38) Name at least 12 things about Anna. Apparently, she had been married 7 years when her husband died, and had now been widowed 84 years. She had to be at least 100+ years old at this time.
      • (v. 36) Her Age. (Possibly - - - 84+7+20=111 yrs.
      • (v. 37) Her Attitude.
      • (v. 38) Her Account.

NOTE: Anna, a Pure, Good, Godly Great ol’lady would never have said such things to Mary and Joseph if she had even considered any possibility of Immorality.
Youth of Jesus
Birth to Baptism
Page Two

Key Verse: (Luke 2:52) ‘But Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.’

III. (Matt. 2:13-18) FLIGHT Into Egypt - - - King Herod’s decree
All male infants slain.

IV. (Matt. 2:19-23) Joseph, Mary & Infant Jesus Return from Egypt to Nazareth.
During their absence from Judea, King Herod the Great had died, and now his son Archelaus reigned. Just as Joseph had been warned of God in a dream to go into Egypt, he is now instructed of God to leave Egypt and go pass Jerusalem on to Nazareth.

V. (Luke 2:39-51) Annual VISIT to Jerusalem - - - Passover Feast.
Jesus was 12 years of age - - - Temple.
1. He grew and waxed strong. (Luke 2:40)
2. He was filled with wisdom. (v. 40)
3. The Grace of God was upon Him. (v. 40)
4. He astonished the Doctor’s of the Law. (v. 46)
5. He understood His earthly existence and purpose. (v. 49)
6. He was obedient to His parents. (v. 51)
7. He advanced in wisdom and stature. (v. 52)

A Jewish boy would study only the Scriptures (Bible) and the ‘Mishnah’ (the oral or traditional Law) until he was 12 years of age. From 15 on they also studied Theology (Doctrines).

“SHEMA”
The ‘Shema’ along with the Decalogue (the 10 Commandments) served as the ‘The Jewish confession of Faith’ and was the very heart of Jewish Worship at the Temple and the Synagogue. It affirmed the Unity of God in the face of Poly-Theism. The Benedictions, preceding and following it’s public recitation in Jewish worship was ‘Praise God as Creator, as Giver of the Law, and as Redeemer of Israel.’ The Shema is comprised of three portions of Scripture: Deut. 6:4-9; Deut. 11:13-21; and Num. 15:37-41. The word Shema (meaning ‘Hear’) comes from the opening word of Deut. 6:4, and is applied to all three of these passages. Deut. 6:4 was the first memory verse any Jewish child would learn; much like, we would use John 3:16.

VI. (Luke 2:52) Eighteen Years of Silence.
‘And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.’

Growth — A Well Balanced Diet
1. Mental - Wisdom
2. Physical - Stature
3. Spiritual - Favour with God
4. Social - Favour with Man
Baptism of Jesus

INTRO: God called John ‘John the Baptist’ and sent him to proclaim the first coming of Christ. John called for ‘Repentance toward God, and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.’ Jesus was not baptized because ‘He repented’ of any sin in Him, but for our sin that would be upon Him. ‘He knew no sin, but was made sin for us, that we should live unto righteousness’ (1 Pet. 2:24):

- He had no sin to repent of, but was baptized - - -
  1. To identify with sinners, as a sinner; yet, without sin.
  2. Show forth His own Death, Burial and Resurrection.

Our Baptism - - -
  1. Identifies us with Christ, and with His Death, Burial and Resurrection.
  2. Shows forth our Death to sin, Burial and Resurrection to walk in newness of life (His Life).

WHAT: BAPTISM – Picture of Death, Burial and Resurrection.

WHO: Must be by the Proper Authority and must be a Proper Candidate.
  1. The Proper Authority was John the Baptist because he was:
     • ‘A Man sent from God.’ (John 1:6)
     • ‘The Baptism of John . . . was it of God or men?’ (Matt. 21:25)
  2. The Proper Subject:
     • Jesus Christ was not only sent of God, but He was God!
     • God’s Approval, ‘This is my beloved Son . . .’ (Matt. 3:17)
     • Others (You - Me):
       Only those who believe on Christ as Saviour.
       Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:37-38) ‘And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’

WHY: To identify with Christ’s Death on the Cross for our Sin, Burial and Resurrection.
  1. Because of Repentance, based on True Faith in Redemptive work of Christ.
  2. The Answer of a good Conscience toward God. (1 Pet. 3:21)

WHEN: Jesus Christ – At the beginning of His ministry, not the end.
US – When we trust Jesus Christ as Saviour. (Acts 2:41; 8:12-13; & 18:8)

HOW: By Immersion, complete burial in water.
  ‘Much water’ (John 3:23)
  ‘Went up straightway out of the water’ (Matt. 3:16)

WHERE: Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. (Mark 1:9)
  About 20 miles east of Jerusalem, near Bethabara.
Matthew 3:13-17

13 ¶ Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Mark 1:9-11

9 ¶ And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.
10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:
11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

John 1:32-34

32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.
33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.
34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

Romans 6:3-5

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection . . .

I Peter 3:21

21 ¶ The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
# The Heavens Opened

Heaven is Opened only 8 Times in the Bible

<table>
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<th>The EVENT</th>
<th>APPLICATION</th>
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<td>Heaven opened in Judgment of Flood</td>
<td>Heaven is open in wrath against every unbeliever because they are already condemned. (John 3:18,36)</td>
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<td>Psa. 78:2</td>
<td>Heaven opened and rained manna to a disgruntled people.</td>
<td>Heaven is open to send Christ, the Bread of Life, to a hungry, starved, and hell-bound world.</td>
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<td>Mal. 3:10</td>
<td>Heaven opened when God’s people pay or give tithes.</td>
<td>Heaven is open when we have returned unto Him that which is rightfully His. When we tithe and give.</td>
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<td>Luke 3:21</td>
<td>Heaven opened when Jesus was Baptized.</td>
<td>Heaven is open when we in good conscience gladly obey Him and identify with His Death, Burial, and Resurrection.</td>
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<td>Acts 7:54-60</td>
<td>Heaven opened at the stoning of Stephen - First Martyr.</td>
<td>Heaven is open when we too present our bodies a living sacrifice unto the Lord, our reasonable service.</td>
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<td>Acts 10:11</td>
<td>Heaven opened to convince Peter that the Gospel was also for the Gentiles.</td>
<td>Heaven is open when we carry the Gospel from our Jerusalem unto the Uttermost parts of the Earth.</td>
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<td>Rev. 4:1</td>
<td>Heaven opened as a Preview of the Rapture.</td>
<td>Heaven is open to receive us at catching away of the Saints – the Rapture.</td>
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<td>Rev. 19:11</td>
<td>Heaven opened when Christ returns with His Saints.</td>
<td>Heaven is open when we come back to earth with the Lord, riding white horses, to rule &amp; reign 1000 yrs.</td>
</tr>
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The Wilderness Temptations of Jesus

(Matt. 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13)

INTRO:
WHEN? Immediately following His baptism (27 A.D.)
WHERE? In the Judean wilderness near Jericho (Tradition has renamed it Mt. Quarantania).
HOW LONG? The Period of Temptation was 40 Days and 40 Nights (Mark 1:12-13)

Some Other 40’s in the Bible
1. Moses’ Life (40 - 40 - 40) 7. King Saul’s Reign - 40 years
2. 40 Days in the Mount (twice) 8. David’s Reign - 40 years
3. 40 Years Wilderness Wandering 9. Solomon’s Reign - 40 years
4. Job’s 40 days, his friends 10. Jonah - Ninevah - 40 days
5. Noah’s 40 days of rain 11. 40 Days from Resurrection to Ascension
6. 40 days spying the Land 12. 40 Days of Wilderness Temptation

WHO?
1. Led by the Spirit into the wilderness (Luke 4:1)
2. Tempted of the Devil (Luke 4:2)

WHY? That Christ might be identified as 1 Our Faithful and Merciful High Priest, 2 Prove His Sinless Humanity, 3 His Perfect Submission to the Will of the Father. Tempted in all points, yet without sin.

1. (Rom. 5:12-31) 12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. 15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. 16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. 17 For as by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. 20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: 21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. (1 Cor. 15:45-49) 45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. 46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As is the earthly, such are they also that are earthly: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

3. (Heb. 2:16-18) 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

4. (Heb. 4:13-16) 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
The Three Wilderness Temptations of Christ
(Matt. 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13)

FIRST TEMPTATION — YOU DO IT. (Matt. 4:3-4)

3 ‘And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.’

1. PROVE IT - - - It was an appeal to the physical appetite, through a misguided use of His super-natural power in order to prove His Sonship. Self Preservation.
2. Jesus Answered by Quoting Scripture (Matt. 4:4) ‘It is written . . .’ (Deut. 8:3)

SECOND TEMPTATION — TRUST GOD TO DO IT. (Matt. 4:5-7)

Appeal to Presume on the Mercy of God to Prove His Sonship

5 ‘Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.’

1. PRESUME - - - The Devil mis-quotes Scripture (Psa. 91:11-12)
2. Jesus Answered by Quoting Scripture (Deut.6:16) ‘It is written . . . ’

THIRD TEMPTATION — LET ME DO IT (Matt. 4:8-9). The temptation is to by-pass the Cross to gain the kingdoms of this world by yielding to Satan rather to inherit them through the sufferings of the Cross.

8 ‘Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.’

1. Satan is an Usurper. Though he is the god of this world (system), the world is not his.
2. Jesus Answered by Quoting (Deut. 6:13; 10:20) ‘It is written . . . ’

SPECIAL NOTE
QUOTING SCRIPTURES DID 3 THINGS
1. Jesus Approved the Writings of Moses as Scriptures.
2. He Declared the Effectiveness of using God’s Word in meeting trials & temptations.
3. He Defeated every scheme of Satan.
Jesus Rejection At Nazareth

Luke 4:16-30

(Luke 4:58) ‘And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.’

INTRO: Jesus returns to His hometown of Nazareth to announce His ministry as the promised Messiah. ‘He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.’ (John 1:11). The people reacted just as their fathers had to the Prophets of old. Familiarity has a tendency to breed contempt and rejection.

I. (v. 16) NOTICE:
A. He came to Nazareth (about 30 miles SW of Capernaum (His hometown).
B. Where He had been brought up (raised, worked, school, Synagogue, etc).
C. As His custom was (a regular pattern in His life; especially worship).
D. The Synagogue on the Sabbath day.
E. He stood up to read the Scriptures. (Check other places where stood) (All of these were common and ordinary practices for Jesus among His hometown folks).

II. (v. 17-19) JESUS OPENS THE SCRIPTURES (Bible).
A. He opened (unrolled the scroll manuscript) the Book Himself.
B. He chose the Scriptures that He would read (Usually this was assigned).
C. He read Isaiah 61:1-2a:

‘The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, . . . . . . ’

He quit here, not finishing the rest of that prophecy which relates to the 2nd Coming of Christ.

III. (v. 20-21) JESUS CLOSES THE SCRIPTURES (Bible) and SAT DOWN.
A. Jesus closed the Book of Isaiah.
B. He gave the Book (Scroll) back to the minister.
C. And then, He SAT DOWN. What’s so unusual about sitting down? In every Synagogue there is a Chair that always remains empty. It is reserved for the coming Messiah ONLY! So, when Jesus sat down in that chair, and every eye was fastened on Him, it was because He sat in the seat of the Messiah and said:
D. ‘This day (today) is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears.’ (v. 21). He was announcing the fulfillment of this Old Testament prophecy. He applied the Scripture (prophecy) to Himself as the Messiah. He sat down in the Prophets Seat or Messiah’s Seat which was reserved only for the promised Messiah, saying in effect, ‘I am the Promised Messiah.’

IV. (v. 22) THEIR REACTION.
A. They agree that He preached the Bible and His sermon was good, but:
B. They saw only His humanity (Joseph’s son and not His Deity).

V. (v. 23-27) PHYSICIAN and PROPHET. (Neither accepted by their own):
A. (25-26) The widow’s daily supply from the cruse that failed not and the barrel that wasted not. (v. 25 cf 1 Kings 17)
B. (v. 27) Naaman the leper healed in the ministry of Elisha. (2 Kings 5)

VI. (28-30) THE PEOPLE’S REACTION OF JESUS’ CLAIM:
A. RESENTMENT - - - ‘Filled with wrath’
B. REBELLION - - - ‘Rose up’
C. REJECTION - - - ‘Thrust out’
D. DESTRUCTION - - - ‘Might cast Him down headlong.’
E. RESCUE - - - ‘Passed through the midst of them and went His way.’

Never to return again.
Followers of Him
Fishers of Men
Matthew 4:18-20; Mark 1:16-20 & Luke 5:9-11

INTRO:

Being a good fisherman is work, a lot of work, but being a Soul-winner is even better. Our Lord not only wants to save us, but He also wants to use us. He wants us to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). Notice that the men Jesus called were busy, active in their daily tasks. Not shirkers, but workers.

I. The COMMAND — ‘Follow Me’ — Here is something we must do!

A. ‘Follow Me’ - - - Not because of what you are or were.
   Not because of what you might make of yourself.
   but, because of what I will make of YOU!

   It didn’t seem likely that ordinary Fishermen could ever become the Great Apostles, or that a mere shepherd boy like David could become such a great King.

B. ‘Follow Me’ - - - Not just simply to be saved, but that they might experience a Double Miracle - - - Fish becoming a Fisherman!

C. ‘Follow Me’ - - - Not follow (1) World, (2) Men, (3) Business, (4) Pleasure, or (5) Fame. Fish don’t automatically become Fishers; Sinners will not convert Sinners; the ungodly do not win the ungodly; nor, will the worldly win the world.

D. ‘Follow Me’ - - - Because He asks (Commands) us to -- Obedience.

E. ‘Follow Me’ - - - Constantly, Daily, Faithfully, Immediately!

THOT: So much emphasis is placed on developing Leadership, being a leader, but our Lord emphasized ‘Follow-ship’. The secret of true
II. The PROMISE — ‘I will make you Fishers of Men’ — something He will do. It is not Self-made Men, but God Made-Men that He blesses & uses. cf. The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:12, 19)

- I’m not ABLE, but He will make us Able.
- I’m not WORTHY, but He will make us Worthy.
- I’m not Bold Enough, but He will give us Boldness.
- I can not do it, but He can and will help you do it.
- I don’t know how, but He will teach you, lead & empower you.

If you could do it, you might not feel your need of Him and He would not be doing it through you. God help us to fully believe that Jesus can do great things,

In Us — For Us — By Us — With Us — Through Us.

III. The RESULTS — ‘Fishers of Men’ — Fishermen will have to be:

A. **MEN OF FAITH** — They can’t see the Fish, but cast their net (hook) by Faith. Works on even though caught nothing. No one is as dependent upon God as the Preacher, S.S. Teacher, or a Soul-winner.

B. **MEN OF PATIENCE** — Up at dawn, late evening, all night.

C. **MEN OF WISDOM** — ‘Winneth souls is wise’- uses Gospel net.

D. **MEN of LABOR & STRENGTH** — not easy calling. Cannot sit in an easy chair. If we witness and work when it is easy or convenient it would never get done.

E. **MEN OF COURAGE** — Brave, a little salt water in his face doesn’t hurt him. A door slammed, cursed, rejected. No place for a sissy.

F. **MEN OF SUCCESS** — We are not commanded to be successfull, but He has promised that He will be Successful. We can count on that! If a Fisherman never catches any fish - - - what kind of fisherman is He? If a Farmer never grows a crop? If a Christian never witnesses?

IV. The RESPONSE — Straightway - - - Immediately!
The Sooner, the better.

**NOTE:**

- **What?** What does He ask of you and me?
- **WHO?** Who is He talking to?
- **WHY?** Why does He want to do this?
- **WHEN?** Now! Now is the accepted time, today is the day of salvation!

**P.S.:** The difference between a *Fisher of Fish* and a *Fisher of Men* is:

A *Fisher of Fish catches live ones, and they die, but*

A *Fisher of Men catches dead ones, and they LIVE!*
The Call of God
Luke 6:12-19

Key Verse:

INTRO: The Lord, our God, Whom we serve is God of All Power: He can do anything:
• He Spoke the World into existence
• He Formed the Mountains, Seas, & the Dry Land
• He Flung the Sun, Moon, & Stars into Space
• He Governs the Seasons - - - Turns Night into Day
• He Sends the Rain, Wind & the Snow
• He Made the Fishes in the Sea, Fowls of the Air, & Creeping Things in Earth
• He Made His Masterpiece - - - Man, in His own Image.

Here in our text, The Lord in the midst of His earthly ministry, Sermon on the Mount, Taught Multitudes, Spent a Night in Prayer, now calls twelve (12) Men to be His Apostles. God has from the the beginning made a practice of Calling Men, both in the Old & New Testaments.

I. (Gen. 6: ) NOAH

II. (Gen. 12: ) ABRAHAM

III. JONAH

IV. MOSES

V. SAMUEL

VI. GIDEON

VII. (Acts 9: ) PAUL (Salvation, Surrender, Service)

GOD’S CALL TO US IS FOUR-FOLD:

I. God Calls Us to Salvation (His Word, Preaching, Providence)

II. God Calls Us to Obedience (John 14:15) ‘If ye love me, keep my commandments.’

III. God Calls Us to Service (Correct order: Salvation, Obedience, Service).

IV. God Calls Us to Faithfulness
There are four complete lists of the names of the twelve Apostles (Three in the Gospels and one in the Book of Acts). The names vary in each of the lists, but they are always given in three groups of four each, with the first name in each group always the same. The other three names in each group may vary as to order within the group, but they are always in the same group. Simon Peter is always listed first (though he was not the first one saved). Philip is always listed as the fifth apostle and James the son of Alphaeus is always listed as the ninth apostle. Judas Iscariot is always listed as the last apostle, even in the Book of Acts, where Matthias is listed in his place. Bartholomew is the same as Nathanael (John is the only one who calls him, Nathanael (John 1:45-50) and all the others call him Bartholomew. James the son of Alphaeus is also known as James the Less. Lebbaeus is surnamed Thadaeus and is the same as Judas, the brother of James (Acts 1:13). Simon the Canaanite is the same as Simon the Zealot. Judas Iscarot (from Kerioth, a town in Judea) was the only Apostle not a Galilean.
INTRO: The giving of one-tenth or 10% to God is ‘Tithing’. Tithing is meant to be a blessing to the giver and not a burden. Many argue that Tithing isn’t expected of the Christian (mainly because they wish to excuse themselves from doing so) since he is living under Grace and not the Law. Tithing was practiced long before the giving of the Law and our Lord definitely Expected, Commanded and Instructed His Disciples to Give and Tithe.

Before the Flood Abel gave his tithe (Firstlings) unto the Lord (Heb. 11:4); After the Flood and before the giving of the Law, both Abraham (Gen. 14:20) and Jacob (Gen. 28:22) gave Tithes (Tenth); From the Law to the Cross, God’s people were Commanded to Pay Tithes (Lev. 27:30 & Heb. 7:9) and failure to do so was considered ‘Robbing God’ (Mal. 3:8) and brought His Chastening. Jesus told His Disciples to ‘Give . . .’ and again to others, ‘These (pay tithes) ye ought to have done.’ (Matt. 23:23). Let us Learn:

I. TO WHOM SHOULD THE CHRISTIAN GIVE HIS TITHE?
A. The Tithe is the Lord’s and Belongs to Him Alone. (Lev. 27:30) ‘All the tithe . . . is the Lord’s.’ Abram gave his tithe to Melchizedek (Who was either Christ or the most perfect type of Christ. Gen. 14:29).

B. The Tithe Should Be Brought To The House of God. (Deut. 12:11) The place where the Lord shall cause His Name to dwell, the Tabernacle, the Temple, and now the Church. (1 Cor. 16:2 & Mal. 3:8-10).

II. WHEN IS THE CHRISTIAN SUPPOSED TO BRING (not send) HIS TITHE?
Giving is one of the First Means of Worship. The Day of Worship was also the Day of Offering. The First Day of the Week (Lord’s Day)(1 Cor. 16:2). The Tithe should also be the First Tenth, not the last tenth.

III. WHO IS EXPECTED TO TITHE? (1 Cor. 16:2) ‘Everyone of you . . .’ The Youngest through the Oldest. Anyone old enough to trust Christ is old enough to Tithe. No Exemptions (The Widow with only 2 mites).

IV. HOW MUCH SHOULD A CHRISTIAN GIVE? (2 Cor. 8:14) The absolute minimum under the Law was Ten Percent (10%) and nothing could be called an Offering until it exceeded that. Can A Christian Afford To Do Less? Surely, Paul meant that we should have some standard of giving in 2 Cor. 8:14.

V. WHY SHOULD A CHRISTIAN GIVE HIS TITHE? There are several reasons
A. The Lord Commands Us To Give (Luke 6:38 and John 14:15, 23)
1. It honors the Lord (Prov. 3:9-10) 2. It brings Glory to God (2 Cor. 9:10-13) and Thanksgiving.
B. Because of the Blessings God has promised to the Liberal (gracious) Giver.
C. Because It Is The Highest Test Of Your Love To God. GOD or GOLD.
1. (Matt. 6:19-21) ‘For where your treasure is . . . your heart also . . .’ 2. (2 Cor. 8:9) ‘Though He was rich, yet . . . He became poor . . .’ 3. (John 3:16) ‘For God so loved . . . that He gave . . .’
VI. HOW SHOULD WE GIVE TO THE LORD?
A. (1 Cor. 16:2 & 2 Cor. 8:3) Generously and Liberally.
B. (2 Cor. 8:4) Prayerfully - - - 'Praying . . . we would receive the gift.'
C. (2 Cor. 8:11) Readily - - - 'There was a Readiness to will . . .'
D. (2 Cor. 8:12) Willingly - - - '. . . a Willing Mind . . .'
E. (2 Cor. 8:12) Proportionately - - - ' . . . according to that a man hath . . .'
F. (2 Cor. 8:14) Equality - - - 'But by an Equality.'
G. (2 Cor. 9:6) Boundifully - - - 'Soweth boundifully . . . reap . . .'
H. (2 Cor. 9:7) Cheerfully - - - 'For God loveth a Cheerful Giver . . .'
I. (1 Cor. 16:2) Regularly - - - 'Upon the first day of the week . . .'
J. (2 Cor. 9:7) Whole-Heartedly - - - ' . . . as he purposeth in his heart . . .'
K. (2 Cor. 9:7) Deliberately - - - ' . . . as he Purposeth in his heart . . .'

VII. WHAT SHOULD WE GIVE TO THE LORD?
A. The Tithe For It Is The Lord’s (Lev. 27:30)
B. Our Selves - - - Our Bodies (Rom. 12:1-2 and 2 Cor. 8:3)
C. The Sacrifice of Praise to God (Heb. 13:15) Continually
D. Spiritual Sacrifices (1 Pet. 2:5) Acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
E. The Sacrifice of Thanksgiving (Psa. 116:17) 'I will offer Thee Sacrifice of Thanksgiving.'
F. The Sacrifice of Doing Good & Sharing with Others (Heb. 13:16)

VIII. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS IF A BELIEVER REFUSES TO TITHE TO THE LORD?
B. (Mal. 3:9) The People are Cursed with a Curse & God is Robbed.
C. (Prov. 3:9-10 & 11:24) It Leads to Poverty.
D. (1 Cor. 4:2 & Luke 16:2) A Poor Steward and A Bad Witness.

"A Stingy person is a mighty poor example of God's Grace."

"I have never known a man who was not faithful to God with his finances, who was Faithful in another area of his Christian Life."

FIVE EXAMPLES OF PROGRESSIVE GIVING
1. Those whom the Lord has prospered.
2. Those who in spite of their Poverty.
3. Zacchaeus, the Half of his goods to the Poor.
4. Widow, who gave her all (two mites).
5. Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who was Rich and became Poor.

CONCLUSION: By Nature we are selfish, self-centered and self-seeking, and the Great Struggle in the Human Heart is between God and Gold. Jesus said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Do you know this kind of BLESSING in your life? Do you want God to do something exciting in your Life? Then Prove Him (Mal.3:8-10) and see what He will do. LOVE ALWAYS GIVES.

'You may give without Loving, but you will never Love without Giving.'
INTRO: Only two times Jesus Christ marveled:
1. (Mark 6:6) Unbelief - Chosen People - Great Unbelief
2. (Luke 7:9) Faith - Gentile - Great Faith

This is the only instant in the Bible where one came to Jesus in behalf of his Servant. Others came for their Sons, Daughters, Themselves, a Brother (Martha & Mary), but this man came for his servant.

This Great Faith

I. Was Found In An UNEXPECTED PLACE
   - In the heart of a Roman Soldier (a Gentile).
   - in behalf of another.

ILLUST: A large, beautiful diamond is not appreciated until it is dug from the ground and fully exposed so its value is seen and realized.

II. IT BROUGHT HIM TO JESUS CHRIST - - - Unreservedly to the Lord.

It wasn’t his Worthiness that brought him to Jesus Christ, but his Love for his Servant and his Faith in Jesus. The People pointed out their opinion of this Centurion and his worth:
   - Roman - Gentile
   - Soldier - Officer - Leader
   - Good Citizen
   - Wealthy in eyes of People
   - Servant was dear unto him

III. VICTORY - - - Successful - - - As a Soldier and Officer, he knew Personal Victories. Apparently, from his youth until now. Each step (stage) in life was from Victory to Victory.
   - Childhood
   - Teenager
   - Soldier ( Came up through the ranks. Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain)
   - Foreign duty - - - Brave, Loyal, Dependable
   - Battle field - - - Conquered, overcame his opponents
   - but - - - never such a victory as this. A victory of Faith.

IV. He RECOGNIZED the LORDSHIP of JESUS CHRIST - - - The Authority of Almighty God.

All the Power (Authority) of Rome was behind a Roman Officer; even so, He recognized that all the Power of God Almighty was behind the Son of God. His ‘Word’ was sufficient (v. 7). His ‘Word’ alone was enough.

   The World would never have heard of him because:
   - He loved his servant
   - He was a Roman Soldier Officer
   - He led an army
   - He was highly respected by the Jews
   - He even built a Synagogue
   - He was considered worthy by those who knew him

   but:
   - Because He was a Believer in Jesus Christ - - - His Faith in the Lord!
   - The one thing that gives him a place in this Holy Bible, these Sacred Pages.

‘Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.’ (Heb. 4:16)

He came BOLDLY, but HUMBLY to Jesus
Scorner – Sinner – Saviour
Luke 7:36–50

INTRO: (v. 38) Says it all. Eight things:
1. Behind Him - Unworthy;
2. Weeping - Sorrow, Repentance;
3. Washing - Humility, Serving;
4. Tears - Brokeness;
5. Kissed - Love, Devotion, Thankful;
6. Anointed - Sacrifice, Honoring;
7. Loved Much (v. 47);
8. Went away in Peace (v. 48) - Sins forgiven.

I. SCORNER (PHARISEE)
“DESIRED” (Unholy Motives)
1. Personal Recognition (Show–off)
   Knew nothing of humbling himself,
   but he was an expert at Exalting himself.
2. Hypo-critical --- Demanded of others what
   they never did themselves.

“CRITICAL” - - - 2 Criticisms (v. 39)
1. Criticized the SINNER for Seeking the Saviour
2. Criticized the SAVIOUR for Seeking the Sinner

II. SINNER (A Woman – Sin Magnified)
A. Holy Spirit had been dealing with this woman
   God had broken her will --- under conviction
1. She wept --- Sorrow for Sin
2. Washed His feet --- She wanted her sins washed away.
3. Wiped with her hair --- She felt so Unworthy
   (Woman’s Hair is her Glory)
4. Anointed & Kissed feet --- She loved much
   and sought to exalt Him as Lord of life
B. She believed that He could & would forgive her sin.

III. SAVIOUR
A. He knew Motive of each one --- The Sinner & the Scoffer.
   If He knew what was in one heart, why not
   what was in the other heart.
B. He Forgave her
   Forgiveness is **Full --- Free --- Forever.**

1. Before Simon — He points out Her Works — Outward - World sees.
2. To the Woman — He points out Her Faith — Inward - God sees.
The Parable of the Sower


Key Verse: (Psa. 126:5) ‘They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.’

INTRO: This is the Parable of all Parables. Jesus said, ‘. . .Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?’ (Mark 4:13). Jesus told this parable of the SOWER so that His disciples would understand that the Gospel will not be received in the same way by everyone. Jesus Himself named this ‘The Parable of the Sower’ (v. 18); even though, it’s message has more to do with the different kinds of SOIL in which the Seed fell and what happened to it.

Why did Jesus speak in Parables? Answer: TRUTH IS FOR DISCIPLES.

I. THE SOWER --- We know that:
   A. CHRIST HIMSELF is the SOWER – ‘He that soweth the good seed is the Son of Man.’ (v. 37).
   B. APOSTLE PAUL (I Cor. 3:6-7) – ‘I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.’
   C. EARLY CHURCH (Acts 8:4) – “Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word.’
   D. EVERY CHRISTIAN (Psa. 126:6 – ‘He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing PRECIOUS SEED . . .’) (Acts. 1:8).

   NOTE: Even a little child can drop a seed into the ground. As Christians & Ministers (Teachers & Preachers), we are responsible for SOWING; for sowing the GOOD SEED, but we cannot make it GROW.

II. THE SEED --- (Luke 8:11) ‘The SEED is the WORD of GOD.’

   The Seed is:

   1   INCORRUPTIBLE – 2   LIVING – 3   PRECIOUS (I Peter 1:23 & Psa. 126:6).

   The SEED we sow is not only from Christ, but It is CHRIST, for He is the Word of God. The Seed sown is the same in all four instances. The Life was in the Seed, not in the Soil! The Soil was only the place where the Seed could germinate, come alive and be productive.

   NOTE: Jesus Christ was not only the greatest Sower, but He is also the greatest Seed. Nothing wrong in this Parable with the Sower or the Seed, but the whole Responsibility falls upon the HEARER.
III. THE SOIL --- or --- THE FOUR KINDS OF HEARERS.

A. (vs. 4, 19) THE WAYSIDE HEARER -- The Seed is ON but not IN.
   The Wayside is the hardened path along side of the plowed field and represents
   the Hardened Heart that ‘Heareth - understandeth not’.
   Ignorant and Unresponsive. Satan snatches away. The HARD HEARTED.

B. (vs. 5,6,20,21) THE STONY GROUND HEARER -- Seed is ON & IN, but not
   DOWN. This is a mixture of Topsoil and Rock and represents the EMOTIONAL
   HEARER without Depth (Root). When Trouble, Tribulation, Persecution, Affliction,
   Temptation comes because of the Word of God, he is Offended and Falls away.
   The Hearing only was Joyful, no real experience and faith in Christ.
   The SHALLOW HEARER OR SHALLOW HEARTED.

C. (vs. 7, 22) THE THORNY GROUND HEARER -- The Seed is ON, IN, DOWN, but
   not UP. Here the ground was PRE-OCCUPIED with other SEED (Bad). Thorns
   (weeds) don’t need to be planted or cared for, they just grow and flourish. Here
   the Seed (Word of God) was Choked (Crowded) out by the CARES of this World,
   the DECEITFULNESS of Riches, and the PLEASURES of this Life.
   The HALF-HEARTED HEARER.


D. (vs. 8, 23) THE GOOD GROUND HEARER -- Saved & Fruitful
   Here the Seed was ON, IN, DOWN and UP. The Seed bears fruit in
   Proportion as it possesses our Heart and our Life. The WHOLE HEARTED.

NOTE: The Seed was:
   1st Snatched Away
   2nd Withered Away
   3rd Crowded Out
   Because of:
   Hardness
   Shallowness
   Uncleaness.

   4th FRUITFUL
   • 30 Fold
   • 60 Fold
   • 100 Fold
   Because of:
   Abiding in Him
   (John 15:2)

   Work of Satan
   How Satan does it.

   Work of Christ
   How Christ does it.
### The Parable of the Sower

**Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HARD</th>
<th>STONY</th>
<th>THORNY</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO FRUIT</td>
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- **Fowls of Air (v. 4)**
- **Heat/Sun (v. 6)**
- **Thorns/Choked (v. 7)**
  1. Cares of this life (v. 22) DISTRACTION
  2. Deceitfulness of Riches ABSTRACTION
  3. Pleasures of this Life ATTRACTION

**Closed Mind/Heart**
- On / Not In
- Heareth (v. 19) understandeth it not
- Snatched Away
- Hardness
- Forgetfulness
- Hard Hearted

**Emotional Mind**
- On/In/not Down
- Heareth (v. 20) with joy received it
- Withered Away
- Shallowness
- Faithlessness
- Shallow Hearted

**Closed Mind/Heart**
- On/In/Down/not Up
- Heareth (v. 22) world choked out
- Crowded Away
- Uncleanness
- Fruitlessness
- Half Hearted

**Closed Mind/Heart**
- On/In/Down/UP
- Heareth (v. 23) Understandeth & Heareth Fruit
- SAVED
- Fruitful
- Whole Hearted

---

**Main Emphasis:** Reception of the Seed into the Soil or Reaction of Hearers to the Word of God.

1. (Matt. 13:23) HEAR/UNDERSTAND
2. (Mark 4:20) HEAR/RECEIVE
3. (Luke 8:15) HEAR/KEEP (Do)
INTRO: Mark Chap. 5 proves the Lordship of Jesus Christ over: 1 (vs. 1-20) DEMONS; 2 (vs. 25-34) DISEASE; 3 (vs. 35-43) DEATH. Turn the jewel around and catch another facet of its beauty: 1 Jesus is the Man’s Christ; 2 The Woman’s Christ; and 3 The Child’s Christ. In each instance, the situation was absolutely hopeless.

I. (1-9) HIS CONDITION — Illustration of an unsaved person.

A. (Luke 8:27) NAKED – Clothes speak of Righteousness. The Unsaved have:
   1. No Righteousness before God (Rom. 3:1-14; Isa. 64:4).
   2. No Life from God (Eph. 2:1).
   3. No Hope in God (Eph. 2:12).
B. (Mark 5:2) UNCLEAN – (Body & Soul) Talk about POLLUTION! (Psa. 14:2-3) ‘All together become filthy.’
C. (Mark 5:3-4) UNCONTROLLABLE – Laws, Jails, etc. not enough.
D. (Mark 5:2-5) HOMELESS – Stayed in place of Death & Corruption (Picture of this world, one huge cemetery).
E. (Mark 5:5) MISERABLE & WOUNDED – ‘Crying...cutting himself’ Sin is Spiritual Suicide. Man wounds himself every time he sins.
G. (Mark 5:5) CONTINUALLY – ‘Always...night and day’ No relief.

II. (10-16) HIS DELIVERANCE – Illustration of Salvation.

A. (4:35-41) Christ Made the First Move,
   He crossed the Sea of Galilee to find him. He conquered the Storm before he could reach and save him. Surely this is a picture of Calvary and the storm of God’s wrath on the Cross.
B. (5:8) Demons are Cast Out – No Cure while they Control.
   Name some Demons that have to go before Salvation.
C. (5:7) Recognized Jesus as the Son of God – (James 2:19).
D. (5:4-5) He Came as he Was – Chains, Naked, Unclean and etc.
F. (5:15) The Effect –
   1 Peace (Sitting at the feet of Jesus)(Rom. 5:1).
   2 Clothed - (The less people know about Jesus, less clothes);
   3 Right Mind - Up to now he was not in Right Mind (Phil. 2:5); &
   4 Under Control of Jesus (Rom. 12:1-2).

III. (17-20) THREE PRAYERS WERE PRAYED: (Two with a YES, One with a No!)

1st Prayer – Demons (v. 12) ‘Send us into the swine...’
   (Demons need a body to function, man or beast. Objective: Destruct, Kill)
2nd Prayer – People (v. 17) ‘Depart from their coasts.’
   (Then, as today, people would rather have demonic activity, than deliverance)
3rd Prayer – Man (v. 18) ‘That he might go with Jesus.’
   (Jesus answered two of them with a ‘Yes’, and one with a ‘No’.)
INTRO: The Theme of the Gospel of Luke is ‘Seek and Save the lost.’ The focus of Luke is the ministry of Jesus Christ Seeking and Saving men out of their Deadness, Bondage, Sins, and giving Life, Health, Hope. The miracles, parables, teachings, works, words, acts of Jesus Christ exemplify His Redemptive Power and Purpose. This is the whole ministry of Christ. Man’s true need is Life - - - a New Life.

I. HIS MINISTRY INVOLVED SERVING (vs. 41-42) ‘As He went.’
   A. The PERSONS (41-42a)
      1. Father - - - Had a great Faith - - - not as the Centurion.
      2. Daughter - - -
         • Young (12 yrs.) yet died
         • Loved yet died
         • Only Daughter yet died
         • Perhaps Beautiful yet died
   B. The PEOPLE (42b) ‘. . .as He went the people thronged Him.’
      1. The People - - - All around us, they all have Needs. Sometimes, it was Personal, Private, Physical, Medical, Mental, but all Spiritual.
      2. The Crowds - - - Ever Present.
   C. The PURPOSE - - - ‘Seeking and Saving.’

II. HIS MINISTRY INVOLVED SACRIFICE (vs. 43-48) ‘I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.’
   A. GOING to Others
   B. LIVING for Others - - - Jesus saw that ‘Interruption’ in life as an ‘Opportunity’.
   C. GIVING to Others - - - Christ’s Love demonstrated in Giving Life on Cross - - - Serving Others.
   D. LOVING Others

III. HIS MINISTRY INVOLVED SALVATION (vs 49-56) ‘Arise. . .she arose straightway.’
   A. (v. 49) The CALAMITY - - - ‘Thy daughter is DEAD.’
      Hopeles - - - Helpless - - - Only God can give LIFE.
   B. (v. 50) The CHARGE - - - ‘Fear not: believe only.’
      Jesus Christ - - - the Resurrection and the Life.
   C. (v. 51) The COMPANY - - - ‘Peter, James, and John. . .’
   D. (v. 52) The COMFORT - - - ‘She is not dead, but Sleepeth.’
   E. (v. 53) The CHALLENGE - - - ‘And they laughed Him to scorn.’
      Their ridicule didn’t discourage Christ - - - and it shouldn’t discourage us.
   F. (54-55) The CHANGE - - - ‘Arise. . .she arose straightway.’
   G. (v. 56) The Final CHARGE - - - ‘Tell no man.’
The Mount of Transfiguration

Key Verse: (2 Pet. 1:16) ‘For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.’

INTRO: Here at the Mount of Transfiguration we see how God put His treasure in an earthen vessel (2 Cor. 4:7). In Matthew 16, Jesus had just spoken of the CHURCH, the CROSS, and now He speaks of the CROWN (Glory).

The Transfiguration speaks of the yet future Coming of the Son of Man in Glory to receive His kingdom at His second Coming. The Transfiguration had a Past, Present and Future aspect.

All Three of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark & Luke) Record the Following:

1. That Jesus went up into the Mountain.
2. That He took with Him His three closest disciples (Peter, James & John).
3. That He was transfigured before them.
4. That it was Moses & Elijah who talked with Him.
5. That it was Peter who wanted to build three Tabernacles.
6. That the Cloud overshadowed them.
7. That a Voice spoke to them out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.’
8. That they were afraid.
9. And that when they looked, ‘They saw no man, save Jesus only.’

ONLY LUKE TELLS US:

1. Why they went up into the mountain, ‘To Pray.’
2. That while Jesus was praying He was transfigured.

MATTHEW ADDS:

1. His face did shine as the Sun.
2. And that it was a Bright Cloud.
3. The added words of the Father’s voice ‘. . . in whom I am well pleased . . .’
4. That Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Arise, be not afraid . . .’

MARK ADDS:

1. His garments, ‘. . . became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.’ (Mark 9:3)
The Mount of Transfiguration
(Continued)

Page 2


Key Verse: (2 Pet. 1:16) ‘For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.’

I. APART WITH JESUS - - - Peter, James, & John.

A. THE INNER CIRCLE - - - They were with Jesus - - -
1. At Jairus’ Daughter Bedside (Mark 5:37)
2. In the Garden of Gethsemane (Matt. 26:37)
3. Here, at the Mount of Transfiguration.

B. FULFILLMENT of Matthew 16:28 ‘Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.’

C. The APART PLACE - - - ‘He had not where to lay His head,’ but He found some where to Pray. In this case it was probably Mount Hermon near Caesarea Philippi.

II. THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS.

A. HIS GLORY - - - Our LORD’S GLORY was His Own, not borrowed (not reflected like Moses’. Exo. 34:29).

B. HIS GUESTS - - - MOSES & ELIJAH - - - Why These Two?
Who knew better about an ‘EXODUS’ than Moses? Elijah?

THEY WERE REPRESENTATIVE:
1. Moses of the Law - - - Those who died in the Lord before His return.
2. Elijah - - - Those who are alive and remain at His Coming. Both of these men’s departures from this life were veiled in MYSTERY!

C. HIS GOING - - - ‘DECEASE’ (Death, Exodus) - - - The Great Subject of Time and Eternity, of Heaven and Earth (Luke 9:31).

D. HIS GLORY - - - ‘CLOUD’ - - - The Shekinah Glory Cloud (cf the Tabernacle and the Wilderness Wanderings).

E. HIM ONLY - - - ‘This is My beloved Son,’ As though to say, ‘Moses and Elijah are not My Sons, they are not on the same equal with Jesus.’ Peter and John never forgot this great experience and later spoke of it (John 1:14 & 2 Pet. 1:16-18).

LESSONS:
(1) What great truth did they learn? The SONSHIP of JESUS.
(2) Will we know each other in Heaven? They knew Moses & Elijah.
   Moses died about 1500 years before this and
   Elijah was caught up about 900 years before.
(3) We have something ‘more sure’ than the greatest possible experience of our life. ‘The more sure word of prophecy (Bible).’
The Transfiguration


Key Verse: (2 Pet. 1:16) ‘For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.’

Matthew 17:1-9
1 ¶ And after six days Jesus took Peter, and James, and John his brother, and brought them up into an high mountain apart,
2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.
3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.
4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and a voice out of the cloud,
6 Said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.
7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
8 And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only.
9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

Mark 9:1-10
1 ¶ And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God come with power.
2 And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.
3 And his raiment became white and glistering.
4 And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.
5 Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
6 For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.
7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
8 And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only.
9 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead.
10 And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean.

27 But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.
28 ¶ And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.
29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering.
30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:
31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.
32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.
33 And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
34 While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.
35 And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
36 And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.

John 1:14
14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

2 Peter 1:16-21
16 ¶ For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.
19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereby ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.
FOUR DIFFERENT KINDS OF SINNERS

Luke 10:30-37

INTRO: This ‘certain man’ was travelling just a few miles (less than 20 miles), and probably didn’t think of it as a ‘Life changing adventure.’ Before it was over it became a night-mare with the lose of his wealth, health, and almost his life. What started out as a tragedy, ended in the greatest blessing possible, a new friend that provided for his every need, both Past, Present and Future. O! For such a FRIEND!

#1 – The VICTIM – Road of Life – Downward.
Wasn’t looking for trouble. Just on the wrong road at the right time.’ But --- on a Downward Journey, heading the wrong way.
Nothing is said about his character - - -
but much is said aout his NEED.
Robbed - - - Beaten - - - Dying - - - Forsaken - - - Poor - - -
Bankrupt - - - Helpless - - - Hurting - - - Naked - - - Destitute.
Couldn’t get much worse than that.

#2 – The THIEVES (Plural, outnumbered him to say the least).
Open - - - Shameless - - - Wicked - - - Ungodly - - - Violent - - -
Ruthless - - - Sinners of the worst sort. No compassion, just greed.

#3 – The PRIEST - - - Religious.
Represents the highest form of Society.
Religious - - - Prayer - - - Care - - - Concern - - -
Compassion - - - God likeness (?) - - - Humility.

#4 – The LEVITE – Speaks of the best of humanity – Legal and Moral.
The Levite did nothing to hurt him - - - Positive.
Also, He did nothing to Help him - - - Negative.

Three Kinds of Saviours

1st – The GOOD SAMARITAN (Type of Christ Who is the Actual Saviour).
- Came to where He was, on that downward road.
- Personally rescued him.
- Attended to his immediate needs – Oil, Wine, Wounds, Transportation
- Brought him to the Inn and the Inn Keeper.
- Provided for his present needs,
- Provided for his future needs.

2nd – The INN (Type of the Church)
- Shelter - - - Refuge - - - Haven of Rest - - - Shadow of a great Rock in a weary land - - - It had the Samaritan’s Blessing and His Commission.
- It served His purpose ‘Til He came again.’ ‘I will Repay thee.’

3rd – The INN KEEPER (Type of the Pastor)(And Staff to nourish and care for him until the Samaritan returned.
The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:30-37

INTRO: The motivation for all that the ‘Good Samaritan’ did for the victim was ‘Compassion’. The thieves were moved by Greed, the Priest and Levite were moved by Self; whereas, the Samaritan was moved by ‘Compassion’, and the Inn-keeper (Host) was moved by Command (commission). What are you moved by ‘When Compassion and Commission work together, great things can and do take place.’

I. (v. 30) A SINNER.
   • On a Journey - - - Jerusalem to Jericho.
   • Downward, not Upward.
   • Deliberate.
   • Doom - - - Death – The Road of Death, not of Life.

II. (v. 30) The SINNERS - - - the Thieves.
   • Seven Thieves (Psa. 51)

IV. (v. 31) The SINNERS - - - Priest & Levite.
   • Religious & Legal
   • Same road - - - Other side was the - - -
     - Easiest side
     - More pleasant side
     - Least dangerous side
     - Less demanding side
     - Least expensive side

V. (v. 32) The SAVIOUR - - - The Lord Jesus Christ.
   • Provided a Full, Free, Forever Salvation.
   • He rescued him from the Pressure of sin, Power of sin, Presence of sin, and the Penalty of sin.
   • He Came to Him (This is where we were when Jesus found us)
   • He Cured Him
   • He Comforted Him
   • He Cared for Him
   • He Carried Him
   • He Commissioned others
   • He Coming back for Him (Second Coming).
   • The same power (beast) by which the Samaritan came to him, was the same power by which He carried him to safety. Amen!

   • Stuck up
   • Stood up  • Cleaned up
   • Spoke up  • Picked up
   • Lifted up  • Follow up
   • Beat up    • Paid up
   • Passed up  • Going up
   • Showed up  • Told Stuck up
   • Tore up    • to Check up
   • Bound up   • Confessed up  • Give up ‘Go, do’

46
The Good Samaritan

Key Verse: (v. 27) ’Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.’

INTRO:  This is a lesson in Practical Christianity. Any person who thinks that he really loves God and his neighbor perfectly does not understand his own sinfulness. Most people are so clannish that they think their neighbors are their friends who love them and that all the rest of the world is distant and none of their responsibility. Strangers are just friends we haven’t met yet. People that are different (Color, Race, Language, Dress, Customs or any other way) often are ignored or forgotten, and because we don’t know them, we don’t feel obligated. Am I my brother’s keeper?

Jesus told this story to show us that a neighbor is not just someone we love or who loves us, but anyone who needs our help.

Life is like a long journey, some longer than others. Many think that Life is an UPWARD struggle, but in reality, it is DOWNWARD. It is not only Dangerous but also very Uncertain.

I. (25-29) THE REASON FOR THIS PARABLE.

II. (30-35) THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN.

A. THE PERSONS OF THE PARABLE:
1. The Thieves: Satan and his cohorts (He is a Liar, Thief, Robber, and a Murderer from the beginning, John 8:44.)
2. The Certain Man: He is a picture of every man on the dangerous journey of life. This world is so full of danger, enemies lurking at every turn of the road, waiting to rob, steal, wound and kill. It was a downward journey going from Jerusalem (City of God) to Jericho (City Cursed). It was on this Downward journey that he fell among thieves (Fallen, Striped naked, Bankrupt, Wounded, Forsaken, and Dying). In fact, he was more dead than alive, and unable to help himself. Left alone, he would have perished.

NOTE: This World is so full of suffering. Probably just a short journey, but he almost lost his life. It wasn’t his fault and we can’t blame him. Much trouble in life is caused by the wickedness and evil of others (Man is man’s own worst enemy. Wild beasts are tame by comparison). Also, certain Paths in life are more subject to troubles and dangers than others (Prov. 4:19).

a. Where He Went --- Down --- Got in trouble going the wrong way.
   (1) From Jerusalem --- Place of God and His blessing.
   (2) To Jericho --- Place of Curse (Joshua 6:26).

b. What Happened to Him - - -

3. THE PASSERS-BY:

a. PRIEST --- Represents Religion without Heart. Cannot help a sinner. Religion without Christ is helpless, it can do for him (you) exactly what this priest did for this poor man - - - NOTHING.

b. LEVITE --- LAW --- The Law demands what we cannot give. The Law only shows us our desperate need (condition, lostness).

4. THE GOOD SAMARITAN (33-35) --- Picture of Jesus Christ.

NOTE: Find eleven (11) things that the Good Samaritan did for him.

   1. Came to where he was
   2. Saw him
   3. Had compassion on him
   4. Went to him
   5. Bound up wounds
   6. Poured in oil & wine
   7. Set him on his own beast
   8. Brought him to an Inn
   9. Took personal care of him
   10. Provided for his needs
   11. Promised to return

B. THE MESSAGE OF THE PARABLE:

1. Where Will Our Help Come From? Not by keeping the Law (the Levite) nor from much Religion (Priest) but from Christ Himself.

2. Compassion --- The only motive for real service (v. 33).

3. The Other Side of the Road is:
   • The easiest side (Priest & Levite saved a lot of time and bother).
   • More Pleasant side (It’s not pleasant to get involved with suffering and needy).
   • Least Expensive (Costs something to get involved, and what would they do with him afterward).
   • Least Dangerous (The Thieves might still be in the area).
   • Selfish side (Takes time and self to help others).

III. (36-37) THE APPLICATION OF THE PARABLE: Go and Do Likewise!

NOTE: The Philosophy of:
1. The Robbers - - - What’s your’s is mine, and I’ll take it.
2. The Priest & Levite - - - What’s mine is mine, and I’ll keep it.
3. The Samaritan - - - What’s mine is ours, and we will share it.
Key Verse: (Luke 10:42) ‘But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.’

INTRO: The most needful thing in the world for any person is Salvation ‘for what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul.’ Of the two decisions made by Martha and Mary, ‘Mary hath chosen that good part (the best).’ Which is better, Serving or Worshipping? Both are vital in the Christian Life, but sitting at the feet of Jesus is best. Best for a number of reasons.

I. SUBMISSION (Humility)
• In this age of Rebellion (Nations, Races, Youth, Nature, Whole World, Spirit of this age).
• To find one sitting at feet of Jesus means they have laid down their weapons of Rebellion, and have surrendered themselves to Jesus Christ as King.
• The Maniac of Gadara (Sitting at the feet of Jesus in his right mind) (Luke 8:26-36).

II. Implies FAITH as well as Submission.
Mary believed what Jesus said and wanted to hear more. She was hanging on to every word He spoke. Oh! How necessary this ‘one thing’ is. Absolute Faith (trust) in Him.

III. FELLOWSHIP - - - Serving Him is not as important as sweet Fellowship with Him. Often times we get so busy in serving (get bitter and complain, especially when we see others apparently doing nothing.), and we can easily get in a wrong spirit to worship Him.

IV. DISCIPLESHIP - - - LEARNER - - - The one who in this position is better able to know His Will, and better qualified to do it. Listening – Hearing – Learning. ‘Faith cometh by hearing, Hearing by the Word of God.’

V. SERVICE - - - Though not doing what Martha was doing, she was serving in a far greater sense. The greatest compliment to any Preacher is a good listener who becomes a good Doer. Mary was in the best position to serve. If He had asked her to do something, she would have done it. Run errand, wash feet, anything. Sometimes we get so busy that we mistake working for worshipping.

VI. LOVE - - - She would not have been content to sit there, happy in her heart, perfectly at ease, if she had not loved Him. Every word of His was Honey to her ears, Music to her soul. She was eager to hear, learn of Him. Not like so many who listen, but only out of a sense of duty more than of love. Such listening is tedious and boring, but not when love is our motive.

VII. HAPPY - - - Happiness is a Right Relationship with our Lord. If things would make us happy, then we Americans should be the Happiest People in the whole world.

ILLUST: The Maniac of Gadara is a good example (Luke 8:26-36). When Jesus delivered him from Demon possession, the townfolks found this wild man calmly clothed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, in his right mind. Such a radial change in his life, that they asked Jesus to leave. It seems they would rather have a Maniac loose in their society rather than the Lord Jesus Christ. People who do not experience this life changing power in their own lives, would rather continue on in their pitiful plight of a raging wild man threatening them. So true, folks in our town would rather have sin unbound, rather than a transformed life of a New Born Soul.
‘One Thing’

Luke 10:42

‘But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.’

INTRO: In this modern age in which we live it would be hard to say One Thing. One Hundred years ago life didn’t seem as complicated as it is now. Our Grandfathers claimed about 10 to 20 things necessary for living, while today it is multiplied several times over (Hundreds, if not Thousands). Electricity, Ice Boxes, Automobiles, Doctors, Hospitals, Schools, Floors in our Homes, Insurance, etc. Most all of these and many more are considered necessities.

I. (Luke 10:42) ‘One Thing Needful’

‘But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.’

II. (John 9:25) ‘One Thing I Know’

‘He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.’

III. (Phil. 3:13) ‘This One Thing I do...’

‘Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.’

IV. (Luke 18:22) ‘Lackest Thou One Thing’

‘Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.’

V. (Psa. 27:4) ‘One Thing Have I Desired...’

‘One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.’

VI. (Josh. 23:14) ‘Not One Thing Hath Failed’ Of All God’s Promises to His Own.

‘And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

VII. (2 Pet. 3:8) ‘One Thing’ Not To Be Ignorant Of:

‘But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.’
Importunate Praying

Luke 11:5-13

‘The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.’ (James 5:16)

INTRO: ‘Importunate Praying’ means ‘Urgent, persistent, effectual, fervent praying, pleading, until the burden is lifted or objective realized.’ To be a Prayer Warrior is someone who uses the Spiritual Weapon of Prayer to accomplish Spiritual Victories. Warrior suggests someone who fights the good fight of faith. One who often battles in Prayer for Victory in the Life of Another, in behalf of Another’s needs. We desperately need such Warriors today.

Jesus gave us the ‘Friend at Mid-night Parable’ to teach us the value of ‘Importunate Praying’. Spiritual muscles are developed (not by rest) but by Exercise. The person who has strong muscles is the one who uses them.

I. THE HOUR OF THE DAY DOES NOT HINDER THE PRAYER WARRIOR.

This man here in the parable came at Mid-Night. A very un-favorable time! Certainly not the best or most convenient time. Yet, He came, knowing that he would be heard.

Our God neither slumbereth nor sleepeth!

II. AN EMPTY CUPBOARD DID NOT DISCOURAGE THE IMPORTUNATE PRAYER.

The Seeker in this parable confessed ‘I have nothing to set before him (his guest).’ There were no personal resources on which he could draw. His cupboard was bare, he was bankrupt.

• He was thrown upon the resources of his friend.
• When we know our help ‘cometh from the Lord.’
  • And we are bankrupt supplicants, we are ready to
    • Pray as we should, for we are thrown upon the bounty,
    • The Resources of an Omnipotent, All-Mighty God.

III. A CLOSED DOOR DOES NOT TURN BACK IMPORTUNITY.

To the Man of Prayer - - - A closed door is just a place where he can knock. Our Lord has told us to keep on knocking, and Promised it shall be opened unto us (Matt. 7:7).

A Closed Door means a Challenge - - - not a Defeat.

IV. THIS MAN MET MORE THAN A CLOSED DOOR.

His Intrusion seemed to be Interpreted as Trouble (v. 7).

When he knocked - - - He heard a voice on the other side: ‘Trouble me not.’
Was he a Troubler? an Invader? a Problem? Instead of a Needy Friend!
‘Trouble me not’ was enough to discourage, weaken many a stout heart.

Discourage the Strongest - - - but
A Prayer Warrior must be Prepared for such Opposition.
His strength comes from on High, and
His Armour is the Whole Armour of God.

V. WHAT SEEMS TO BE A REJECTION WAS SOON FOLLOWED BY A REFUSAL.

The Man of the House began to tell why he could not meet his friends request:

1. ‘The door is now shut’ - - - He reminded his caller that the Door is shut. It is the time of night for locked doors, not for visitors.
2. ‘My children’ - - - The whole Household was involved. It was not simply a matter of a Friend helping a Friend. Answering his request - - - supplying his friend’s need would Disturb - - - Involve - - - Concern others as well. Brings others into the picture - - - Affects the whole family!
3. ‘In bed’ - - - Retired - - - Shut down - - - Undressed - - - at Ease.
VI. THEN A DEFINITE FINAL REFUSAL - - - ‘I cannot rise and give thee.’
This seemed so Final - - - So, what can he do now?
Just keep on Knocking!

**Importune Praying can**
- Open Closed Doors.
- Turn the Hearts of People.
- Supply the Need.
- Feed the Hungry.
- Move Mountains.
- Answer Impossible Prayers.
- Save Souls.

**QUESTION:** Why was it necessary to keep on Asking & Knocking if God is such a Loving Father? Would an Earthly Father make his child beg like this?

The Answer is not **BEGGING**, but **LEARNING**.

**IMPORTUNATE PRAYING TEACHES US:**

1. **How to overcome Opposition —**
   - Whether it be the Opposition of the **Mid-night Hour.**

God loves us too much to allow us an Easy Life (Undeveloped Faith). Struggle is what makes us strong and mature. Battles fought results in Victories Won. No Victory without Conflict! The Greater the Battle - - - the Greater the Victory.

**ILLUST:** The struggle of a butterfly to get out of its cocoon strengthens its wings for flight. To make it easy is to destroy his wings. If we as Christians would live in Heavenly Places and Soar new heights - - - We must know the strength that comes from Spiritual Exercise. Spiritual Struggles and Spiritual Victories.

2. **Have True Values —** There is something more than the 3 Loaves requested. If given immediately, without any difficulty - - - we would leave with a simple ‘Thank You,’ and go our way, never really fully appreciating them as we ought. The thing gotten too easily - - - often is taken for granted.

**BUT** - - - Through the Discipline of Importunity - - -
We learn the value of Prevailing Prayer, its Sufficient Answer with Thanksgiving, Gratitude. A far greater appreciation!

3. **Yet another Great Lesson:**
   Without this discipline of delay we would not become acquainted with the ONE to Whom we are Paying - - - Pleading to,
   - This man not only obtained his request (the 3 Loaves), but
   - He went away with something far better - - -
   - He had a New Appreciation of his friend,
   - This Relationship was stronger than ever before.

Our burdened hearts and Prayer requests do far greater service for us who Pray, than simply receiving the things we prayed for.

**A NEW FELLOWSHIP - - - PARTNERSHIP - - - RELATIONSHIP**
with **HIM**.
Six Reasons Why
God Called The Rich Man A Fool
How to Live and Die Like a Fool - - - or - - - How Not To!

Luke 12:16-22

INTRO: He that knows not and knows that he knows not Teach Him.
He that knows not and he knows that he knows not is Wise, Follow Him.
He that knows not and knows not that he knows not is a Fool, Avoid Him.

There is no Fool like a Fool who doesn’t know ‘Man of the Year’:

1. He was very rich
2. He owned much lands
3. He had many barns, silos
4. Apparently in Good Health
5. He expected to live long time
6. He was a good farmer
7. A Successful Business Man
8. A Fine Neighbour
9. A Respected Citizen
10. Had a good credit rating

I. HE THOUGHT LIKE A FOOL - - - ‘He thought within himself . . .’

II. HE TALKED LIKE A FOOL - - - ‘He thought within himself saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits.’

(Psa. 14:1) ‘The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.’

This Man had ‘I’ trouble: (11 times ↓ Me • My • Mine)

1. (v. 17) What shall I do . . .
2. (v. 17) Because I have no room . . .
3. (v. 18) This will I do . . .
4. (v. 18) I will pull down . . .
5. (v. 18) My barns . . .
6. (v. 18) I will build greater . . .
7. (v. 18) And I will bestow . . .
8. (v. 18) All my fruits and . . .
10. (v. 19) And I will say . . .
11. (v. 19) To My soul . . .

III. HE WALKED LIKE A FOOL - - - In Spiritual Darkness.

(Ecc. 2:14) ‘The wise man’s eyes are in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness.’

(Psa. 49:10-11) ‘For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others. Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue forever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.’

IV. HE LIVED LIKE A FOOL - - - (v. 19) ‘ . . . ease, eat, drink and be merry . . .’

V. HE DIED LIKE A FOOL - - - (Eccl. 2:16) ‘How dieth the wise man? as the fool?’

He couldn’t take it with him. How much did he leave? All of it!

VI. HE WAS JUDGED AS A FOOL - - - ‘God said, Thou fool . . .’

MISTAKES: 1. Thought only of Himself and not God (His accountability to God).
2. Thought only of Time and not Eternity (Too busy).
3. Thought only of This World and not Heaven.
4. Thought only of His Body and not His Soul.
5. He Ran out of Time, not money.
6. He Laid up Treasures for Himself, and was not rich toward God.
7. When He was best prepared to Live - - - He Died!

NATE SAINT: ‘He is no fool who gives what he can not keep, to gain what he can not lose.’

Oh! To cling to the uncertain riches of this world, when God has brought within our reach the Unsearchable Riches of Jesus Christ.

‘Lord, What is your Opinion of Me?’
The Poor Rich Fool

Luke 12:13-21

Key Verse: (Luke 12:34) ‘For where your treasure is . . . your heart also.’

INTRO: A man’s life does not consist in things at all, but in God. The Lord saw through this man’s greed in asking Jesus to persuade his brother to divide with him. Selfishness – Greed says: ‘Give me, Give me’, but Grace says: ‘Receive’. Men lay up for themselves treasures by Gathering, and for God by Giving.

I. (15-17) HIS SUCCESS IN THE WORLD.

By every standard in this world, he was considered successful. He was probably Honest, Hard worker, Moral, a Good Farmer, Highly Successful, Religious, and Coveteous. Of the three (3) Rich men in the New Testament, not a one of them is named. They present a powerful picture of what covetousness leads to.

1. The CHOICE of a Rich Fool (Mark 10:17-22)

II. (17-19) HIS SELF–ISH–NESS (S I N).

(Self-Ish-Ness = 3 syllables, each syllable beginning with the letter S I N. What's in the middle?)

NOTE: The Personal Pronouns used in these verses.

A. HIS RESOLUTION or What He Said to Himself
1. (v. 17) IT’S SOURCE - - - HIMSELF
   A man all wrapped up in himself is a pretty small package. He was Self-centered and saw nothing but his own ease, comfort and pleasure.
2. (18-19) IT’S OBJECT - - - HIMSELF
   As a Self-made man he was a horrible example of unskilled labor!

B. HIS DELUSION or Three (3) Fatal Mistakes:
1. Mistook His Body for His Soul (Mark 8:36)
3. Mistook Time for Eternity- - - ‘Many years’ cf ‘Tonight’.

III. (20-21) HIS SUMMONS.

A. The SUMMONER - - - God!
B. The SUMMONED - - -
   1. WHO - - - A Fool
   2. MESSAGE - - - ‘Thy soul shall be required of thee’
   3. TIME - - - ‘Tonight’. ‘It’s later than you think!’
   NOTE: He didn’t run out of money, but out of Time.
4. QUESTION - - - ‘Whence?’

NOTE: He was called by God a ‘FOOL’ - - - He was a:
   1. A Godless Fool (Psa. 14:1)
   2. A Rich Fool
   3. A Self-Centered Fool
   4. An Ambitious Fool
   5. A Doomed Fool

INSTEAD of BARNs — He was facing a BURIAL.

NOTE: Two Things:
   1. He had Eye - Trouble, and
   2. He didn’t run out money, but he ran out of time.

Friend – It is later than you think!
Unwanted — Unheeded — Unprepared


‘O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

35 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.’

INTRO: Two of the most amazing truths are: 1 A People not wanting God, 2 God wanting People (the Love of God). Most people don't want His Intrusion, Interruption, and/or Interference in their lives. Those who reject the Message, are those who reject the Messenger. This is a tender picture of Jesus looking over Jerusalem as a mother hen would over her chicks (brood). Impending danger (Hawk, Fire, etc) and she wants to shelter them under her wings. Like little chicks they do not realize the danger until it is too late.

1st – UNWANTED - - - Though times have changed, people’s real nature has not changed. Like Father, like Son.

- Persecuted God's Messengers - - - ‘. . .stonest them . . . sent . . .’
- Killed Them - - - ‘. . . killest the prophets . . .’

A. The Religious Crowd - - -

- Sadducees (The Modernists, Liberals, Rationalists).
- Pharisees (The Ritualists, Traditionalists, Law-keepers?)
  - They Tithed --- Prayed --- Fasted --- Kept the Sabbath --- Holy days ---
  - Self-righteous --- Proud --- Arrogant,
  - But --- Neglected the weightier matters of the Law.
  (Matt. 23:23) ‘Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.’

2nd – UNHEEDED - - - ‘And ye would not!’

- Denied any danger existed.
- Satisfied with False Peace --- False Security.
- Preferred --- Settled Down --- Carnal Pleasures --- Present Ease, to Spiritual and Eternal Values.
- ‘I would . . . . . Ye would not!’

3rd – UNPREPARED - - - ‘Behold, your house is left unto you desolate . . .’ (v. 38)

- ‘Behold’--- Suddenly, without further warning.
- ‘Desolate’ --- Abandoned, Forsakened, Doomed.

ILLUST: Imagine the demons in hell saying one to another, ‘Why is that man here, why did he come here? He is not a drunkard, not a murderer, not a whoremonger, he lived a moral life, and he paid his debts, helped others, even went to church and was voted Citizen of the Year. Why is he here?’ No! - - - He is in Hell because He would not go to Heaven by GRACE. He never believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. He trusted in his own good works, his own righteousness (self-righteousness which is un-righteousness).
EXCUSES – EXCUSES – EXCUSES

Key Verse: (Luke 14:22b) ‘... and yet there is room’

INTRO: What an honor to be invited as a special guest to a Great Supper! Some would pay premium prices for a ticket to the President’s Ball or special event. The reason for this parable: Many who think that they are going to Heaven and eat bread in the Kingdom of God (v. 15) won’t even be there - - - because they reject the Gospel Invitation for one or more of these reasons (cf. Matt. 13:22 & Luke 8:14) - - - ‘the cares of this world... the deceitfulness of riches, ...and the pleasures of this life’.

What a privilege to be an Invited Guest, but what an Insult to reject so great an Invitation! There’s no greater Invitation than the Gospel Invitation to accept Jesus. Jesus said, ‘Except a man be born again, he cannot see (much less Enter) the kingdom of God’ (John 3:3,5). This was indeed a Great Supper: 1 Because of the One who gave it (God); 2 Because of many who attended and yet there was room; and 3 Because of Lessons Jesus taught by using it.

I. THOSE WHO WERE REJECTED and WHY!

A. They Were Invited - - - but were Rejected: ‘All with one consent (excuse). . .’
1. The Custom was to invite guests many days before the event or special occasion so they could arrange their business and schedules. Then, prior to the special occasion, at the last minute, a second invitation was extended to ‘now come.’ To be too busy at this second invitation shows an indifference, and was a gross insult and reflected their attitude toward the Host. Truth is: They didn’t want to come. They didn’t Love Him, want to Honor Him. By refusing His Invitation - - - They were refusing Him.
2. They were Indifferent, Unconcerned, too Busy, Pre-occupied. How dangerous! There was nothing wrong with the things they used as an excuse, but simply excuses.

B. Their Excuses (Excuses are not Reasons, but polite lies to cover the truth.)
1. ‘I pray thee’- - - The worst of all prayers, and was answered (v. 24).
2. Each excuse gets bolder and less polite.

1st EXCUSE: ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it.’
1 It is hard conceive that anyone would buy anything without seeing it, 2 If he had bought it, how could he see it in the dark? The invitation was to Supper (at night).
3 If he had already bought it - - - He could wait ‘til the next day --- ground cannot run away, it isn’t going anywhere. Truth is, he probably saw the land before he bought it and was more concerned about his investment and used it as an excuse.

2nd EXCUSE: ‘I have bought five yoke (pair) of oxen, and I go to prove them.’
Foolish to buy, and then Try (prove) them. Oxen first - - - God second.

3rd EXCUSE: ‘I have married a wife and therefore I cannot come.’ He wasn’t going to a wedding, he was already married.

NOTE: These same excuses people give today: 1 I've got Someplace to go, 2 I've got Something else to do: 3 I've got Someone else to Please.

II. THOSE WHO WERE ACCEPTED and WHY! What a picture of Grace!

A. Those That Need to be Helped - - - Poor (Mt. 11:5), Maimed, Halt, & Blind - - - (I Cor. 1:26-29) Who had a greater need (v. 13)? UNABLE & UNWANTED.

B. Those That Need to be Urged - - - Hi-ways and Hedges (Homeless, Strangers)

III. AND, YET THERE IS ROOM (v. 22) Praise God, that there is yet ROOM:
1 At the Cross, 2 God’s Love, 3 Grace, 4 Salvation, 5 Heaven, 6 Church, 7 Service. Though millions have already accepted Gospel Invitation, yet, there is Room. AMEM!

Though there was no Room for Him at His Birth, there is room for every Sinner.
EXCUSES
Luke 14:16-24
‘And they all with one consent began to make excuse.’ (Luke 14:18)

INTRO: Amazing, atonishing what excuses people make or give for not coming to Christ, of not accepting the Gospel invitation. The greatest Invitation ever offered.

- Some people are too Busy to bother –
- Some are too Clever to come –
- Some are too Religious to Repent –
- Some are too Worldly to want to –
- Some are too Proud to humble themselves –
- Some may be too Deceived –
- Too Blind
- Too Hardened
- Too Indifferent (don’t realize the lateness of time)

The Lord Jesus once focused on this problem. He told the story in which three (3) kinds of men gave their empty reasons for not accepting the King’s invitation. Jesus, with a sure hand drew the picture of the Consequences.

They rejected His Invitation - - - Very well, They were Rejected!

I. The Business Man’s Excuse: ‘My Wealth’ (v. 18)

II. The Working Man’s Excuse: ‘My Work’ (v. 19)

III. The Family Man’s Excuse: ‘My Wife’ (v. 20)

ILLUST: When Queen Elizabeth II was to be crowned, (June 2, 1953) she sent an invitation to all those of her subjects chosen to be present for that occasion. The invitation was sent to peers of the realm, to members of her government, to representatives of the common people. But every invitation bore the same closing statement: ‘All Excuses Ceasing.’

For when royalty issues an invitation it is no ordinary matter. It is a command. Thus the Lord’s Gospel invitation is much more than just an invitation, it is a command; making any excuse nothing short of rebellion.
Sit Down and Count the Cost
Luke 14:25-33

Key Verse: (Luke 14:33) ‘Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.’

INTRO: The most precious thing in the world is your Soul. The most expensive thing in the world is true Discipleship. His disciples were asked to ‘forsake all and follow Him.’

I. IT COSTS US NOTHING TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN.

Salvation is free - - - Free as the air we breathe.
God saves sinners for NOTHING - - - ‘It is the Gift of God.’
Forgiveness, Justification, Cleansing, Pardon, Indwelling Holy Spirit, Eternal Life, Holiness, Inheritance, Sonship, a New Name written down in Glory and a New Man (Nature).

THOT: Just because it cost you and me nothing, doesn’t mean it is cheap. It cost God His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

ILLUST: Little fella trying to explain to a buddy how that the Church paid their Preacher to be good, but the Deacons were good for nothing.

Our salvation is absolutely FREE - - - without Money, without Price.

‘Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Accept the Gift of God and Thank Him for it.

II. Now - - - IT COSTS EVERYTHING (the World) TO BE HIS DISCIPLE.

After Salvation - - - You are left in a World that HATES Jesus Christ.

Absolutely no use for Christ, nor for the Christian who lives for Christ.

Our Lord uses Two (2) Illustrations:

A. CHRISTIAN AS A TOWER:
   1. A Tower stands out above all others — He is Peculiar (Distinct).
   2. A Tower is for DEFENSE (Observes & warns of the Enemy).
   3. A Tower is for REFUGE (Attacks of Satan, World, etc.)

B. CHRISTIAN AS A SOLDIER:
   The TOWER shows that the Christian will be attacked by the World.
   The SOLDIER shows us that we are to defend, attack & overcome.

III. IT COSTS MORE NOT TO BE A CHRISTIAN:

It costs Much to be a Christian — but it costs a great deal More not to be.

The next two (2) chapters show us that:

   ‘The Prodigal went to the Dogs;
   He lost his best Togs, and
   Finally wound up with the Hogs.’

   • He never went astray like the Prodigal.
   • His money never ran out.
   • The depression didn’t hit him.
   • He was clothed in purple & fine linen everyday.

   - - - Only Thing - - -

   HE LEFT GOD OUT OF HIS LIFE!
He Receiveth Sinners & Eateth With Them

Luke 15:2

And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying,
This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

INTRO: Every city has junk and wrecking yards, usually right outside the city limits, but a visible place that reflects the wrecks of life. Jesus received the wrecks of life, ‘Receiving Sinners eating (fellowshipping with them). This horrified the religious crowd, the Pharisees and the Scribes, who looked down on these derelicts of life.

All three (3) of these Parables (Earthly stories with Heavenly meanings) show the Joy in the presence of God over every sinner that repenteth. The religious crowd did not realize that they too were sinners that needed to repent toward the Lord. All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God (Jesus Christ).

I. CHRIST RECEIVES PEOPLE WHOSE HAPPINESS HAS BEEN WRECKED.
A. When Jesus Saw Sadness, He Was Always Moved To Do Something About It.

ILLUST: Widow of Nain ‘He had compassion on her.’ (Luke 7:13)
Home of Jairus ‘Fear not: believe only.’ (Luke 8:50)

B. May Be That Joy is Gone Because of Sin

ILLUST: Sin always separates from God (Isa. 59:2) ‘But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.’

ILLUST: A Christian held back his tithe just in case of an emergency.
    David said: (Psa. 51:12) ‘Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.’

II. CHRIST RECEIVES PEOPLE WHOSE HOPES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

ILLUST: Impotent Man at the Pool of Bethesda --- 38 years. His hopes blasted time and again.

ILLUST: Dr. G. Campbell Morgan tells of a man who lost everything in the great Chicago fire, next morning he put this sign up at his former business:
    ‘Everything Lost except Wife, Children & Hope. Business as Usual’

III. CHRIST RECEIVES PEOPLE WHOSE FAITH HAS BEEN SHATTERED.

ILLUST: Jesus told disciples to tell John the Baptist - - - ‘Go and shew John those things which ye do hear and see; the blind receive their sight and the lame walk. The lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached unto them, and blessed is he whosoever shall not be offended in me.’ (Matt.11:4-5)

Middle Verse in the Bible: (Psa. 118:8) ‘It is better to trust in the Lord, than to put confidence in man.’

IV. CHRIST RECEIVES THOSE WHOSE CHARACTERS ARE STAINED WITH SIN.

ILLUST: (Luke 7:47) ‘Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.’

WHO WILL BE IN HEAVEN?
Sinners Saved by Grace.
Name some:
    Lepers, Beggars, Thief (Cross), Lame, Prodigals, Zaccheus, Philippian Jailor, Nicodemus, Joseph, etc.
Introducing... THE LOST SHEEP

Key Verse: (v. 6b) ‘For I have found my sheep which was lost.’

INTRO: This is a great lesson on the Security of the Believer. Our Security does not depend on our strength, but rather on His Strength (2 Cor. 12:9). The Pharisees and Scribes accused Jesus of being too friendly with the Publicans & Sinners. Thank God!

I. SOME THINGS ABOUT SHEEP (Bible cf. Believers with Sheep).
A. Sheep Are Weak and Defendless – Most animals have some sort of defense system (some sort of weapon or ability) to protect themselves (Dogs, cats, skunks, birds, etc.)
B. Sheep Have Very Poor Vision – (20 to 25 feet) Very Easy to get lost.
C. Sheep Are One of Few Animals Who Can’t Find Their Way Home. No Homing instinct. They stray so easily (Isa. 53:6). If not soon found, they perish.
D. Sheep Are One of the Most Timid Animals. Easily scared, very shy, meek.

II. HOW LONG DID THE SHEPHERD SEARCH FOR THE LOST SHEEP? (v. 4) ‘Until He find it.’ No time limit, didn’t stop short of completion.

III. WHERE DID THE SHEPHERD FIND THIS LOST SHEEP?
It doesn’t say, because Jesus (our Shepherd) finds each of us in different kinds of places, circumstances and situations. No two situations are necessarily alike:
A. He may have found the Sheep in the Darkness of night (Fear, Superstition, Ignorance or Unbelief). Afraid of every sound, sensing danger and not knowing what to do about it.
B. May have found the Sheep right on the very edge of a rocky cliff, where just one more step in the wrong direction, it might fall to its destruction on the jagged rocks below.
C. Or maybe caught in a Briar thicket (All that wool just gets the sheep entangled more and more until we can’t possibly free ourselves). Sometimes we get so entangled in the things of this life; so that, we can’t rescue ourselves.
D. Maybe fallen into a Deep Pit (Psa. 40:1) where there is quick sand and the more we struggle, the deeper we sink.
E. Maybe surrounded by a Vicious Pack of Wolves – growling and snarling, slowly closing in on it, ready to pounce upon it and devour it.

IV. HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE THE SHEEP MUST HAVE FELT WHEN HE HEARD THE SHEPHERD’S VOICE CALLING OUT FOR HIM?
Hope where there had been no hope. What Joy, Comfort, Peace when rescued from the Hounds of Hell, when lifted from that cliff or set free from those briars. This is what Jesus has done for each of us.

V. NOTICE WHAT THE SHEPHERD DOES AFTER RESCUING IT.
He picks it up and places the scared sheep upon His own powerful shoulders. Oh! How wonderful! Never felt so safe and secure in all my life. Just a few moments ago, I was at the point of perishing, but now, I’m safe, perfectly secure. My Shepherd is taking care of me. Notice, that it isn’t the Sheep caring for the Shepherd, but the Great Shepherd taking care of me!

VI. WHAT DO YOU THINK THE RESCUED SHEEP TOLD THE OTHER SHEEP BACK IN THE FOLD?
Do you suppose that he would brag and say something like this: ‘Look at me, I found the Shepherd. I got back here all by myself. I wasn’t afraid, I didn’t really need any help!’ Oh, No!
He would probably say: ‘What a wonderful Shepherd, He’s my Shepherd! He loved me so much, that He was willing to come where I was and find me. He rescued me and lifted me up on His powerful shoulders, and brought me back to the fold. He did it All, all to Him I owe. I just simply let Him rescue me.’ Amen!
Our Wonderful Shepherd

Luke 15:1-7

INTRO: When a Shepherd searches & finds His Poor - Lost - Wandering - Wounded - Bleeding - Hurting Sheep - - - He does not immediately start Scolding - Lambasting - whipping - beating the Poor Lamb for causing so much trouble - worry - work - problems

NO! but, If he really cares for the Lamb - - - He will

1. Rescue it, drive away all that threatens it.
2. See how frightened & weary it is --- Trembling - - - Comfort.
3. Check & tend to its wounds, needs & bind them up.
4. Carry it back to the Fold - Haven of Rest In his own arms.

In this not so with us today?

A MAN IS MUCH MORE PRECIOUS THAN A SHEEP & JESUS IS MORE TENDER - LOVING THAN A SHEPHERD

FIRST - - - AS CHRISTIANS - - -

• When we have drifted away from the Flock & the Shepherd
• When we have miserably failed in our Walk, Way, Life.
• Cold - - - Indifferent - - - Careless - - - Grieved Him.
• Storm clouds have gathered
• So Scared - - - Helpless
• Problems in our Home, Family, Job, Children, Health... OVER-WHELM US

• Our wounds are bleeding
• Our weakness - - - Helplessness so great.

He is already looking upon your wounds and He Loves you, & Passionately Reaches out to you. He is ready to come in Compassion (LOVE) to meet your needs and to rescue you.

SECOND - - - IF YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN or Not SURE

but - - - Your heart is so Burdened
Your Sin is so heavy
Your Need is so Great
There is no PEACE, no JOY

You are so afraid, fearful to come to Him - - - because of what He may DO or SAY!

• He will Scold me - - - Punish me
• He will Reject me
• He will not Accept me

Oh! Precious - - - Hurting - - - Soul

IF YOU ONLY KNEW HIM as HE REALLY IS
You would not hesitate - not delay.

TRUST THE LORD JESUS CHRIST & LIVE.

He has never treated One Pentient, Returning Prodigal with harshness or rejection.

He cannot change
He will receive you in all your misery & need
"Just as you are"

Will you come to Him Right NOW?

I will - - - I Do!

He Loves You - - - Come.
INTRO: Much Love, Care, Cost, Time, Risk is invested in each member of the flock. Our Lord tells us that it is personal, He knows His ‘Sheep’ and ‘is known of them’. So if, even one of a flock, is down, sick, wounded, hurting or dies, then certainly the One involved suffers, but so does the Shepherd, and the rest of the Flock. Much like a body, when one member hurts the whole body suffers.

I. The SHEPHERD SUFFERS - - - If He is a Good Shepherd
A. (John 10:11) ‘I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.’
B. (John 10:14) ‘I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.’
NOTE: The New Testament mentions Jesus Christ as the Shepherd Three (3) Times:
1 The Good Shepherd – As the Good Shepherd He gives His Life for the Sheep.
   (John 10:14) ‘I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.’
2 The Great Shepherd – As the Great Shepherd He cares for the Sheep as Intercessor. (Heb. 13:20) 20 ‘Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
   21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.’
3 The Chief Shepherd – As the Chief Shepherd He will come for the Sheep at His Second Coming and Reward them. (1 Pet. 5:4) ‘And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.’

II. The SHEEP HIMSELF SUFFERS:
A. Danger - - -

III. The WHOLE FLOCK SUFFERS:
ILLUST: When one finds a hole in the hedge and enters through it away from the flock it is easily followed by others. A dozen or so will follow. No end to danger. And once separated from the flock, it is almost impossible for a lamb to find their way back. One of the few animals that have no homing instincts. It is easier for a lamb to get lost, than to find his way back.
THE PRODIGAL SON
Luke 15:11-24

Key Verse: (15:20a) ‘And he arose, and came to his father.’

INTRO: The story of the Prodigal Son is a full life-size picture of every sinner. It is the story of ‘Rags to Riches’ (the story of Salvation). This certain man had two sons and there must have been great disappointment in his heart for both of them, one at the first and the other at the last. There are four parables in this great chapter:

1 (vs 1-7) Lost Sheep (1 out of 100, or 1%) was Innocently Lost and shows the work of the Son of God in seeking and saving the lost. 2 (vs 8-10) Lost Coin (1 out of 10, or 10%) was Carelessly Lost, and shows the work of the Holy Spirit. 3 (vs 11-24) Prodigal Son (1 out of 2, or 50%) was Willfully Lost and shows the work of the Father in receiving and restoring the penitent son. 4 (vs 25-32) Elder Son was Religiously Lost and ‘would not come in.’ In each of the first three cases there was great happiness and rejoicing over the lost being found and restored, but in the last case of the Elder Son, where there is no work of the Trinity, there is no restoration and there is no rejoicing because there is no Salvation. The hardest person to win to the Lord is the Religiously Lost.

NOTE: Why was it so important to restore the First Three?
1. The Sheep --- that He might Save It.
2. The Coin --- that He might Use It.
3. The Son --- that He might Enjoy Him -- Fellowship.

I. THE SINNER’S CHOICE & The Downward Road.

A. (v. 12) SELF-WILL ‘Give me.’
Lawless desire, yearning for Forbidden Fruit, Disobedience, Rebellion, Worse of all, a desire to break fellowship with the Father. Oh, if I could just get away from Home, Mom, Dad, Church, etc. I can live my own life and be happy; do what I want to do. Go where, when I want to, be my own boss. Freedom.

B. (v. 13) SADDEST JOURNEY THAT A MAN CAN TAKE. ‘Into a far country.’ The Far Country is not necessarily a matter of miles, but of Motive. . . .It is not Distance, but Desire. The Far Country is often no further away than your own Heart.

C. (13-14) ‘Wasted’ ‘Spent All’ . . . Totally Bankrupt. Wasted away not only his money, but Himself. His Manhood, his Talents, his Life, his Strength, his Dignity, his all. The Devil is a cruel master. There is an old saying, ‘He that will not be a son of God, will be a slave of the Devil.’ How true it is!

D. (v. 14) ‘He began to be in want.’ Became conscious of unsatisfied hunger, food, clothing, shelter; but also, Friends, Love, Self-respect, Peace of Mind, Security, and etc.
THE PRODIGAL SON
Luke 15:11-24
(Continued)

E. (15-16) The SINNER’S SHAMEFUL SLAVERY.
‘Joined himself to a citizen of that country.’ Remember, He left his father’s house to find Liberty, Freedom, Pleasure, but all he found was a Bad Bargain. The Wages of Sin are Misery, Shame, Slavery, Hunger, Poverty, Suffering and Death! The Devil seems at first to be a Friend; second, an Employer, and then a Slave Master.

II. THE ROAD BACK — The Turning Point — Repentance & Reaction.

A. (v. 17) ‘He came to himself’ — Until now he had not been himself, he was as one walking in a swoon or a daze, he had followed the desires of the Natural Man, this old Sinful Nature. Doing what comes naturally. He was unconscious of his true condition.

He was shut up to two thoughts:
1. The Abundance at his Father’s House, and
2. The need in his own life, he himself was perishing with hunger.

B. (v. 17) REMEMBRANCE ‘Bread enough and to spare’ - - -
Remembered the Abundance that even the ‘hired servants’ enjoyed in his father’s house.

C. (v. 18) RESOLUTION ‘I will arise and go. . .’
Resolutions are worthless unless acted upon.

D. REPENTANCE — ‘Father, I have sinned.’ He called sin by its right name, SIN.
He was ready to confess his sin, he didn’t try try blame someone else.

E. (v. 19) HUMBLE SUBMISSION — ‘. . .no more worthy to be called thy son: ‘Make Me.’ This is a far cry from his attitude in v.12 ‘Give me.’

III. THE FATHER’S MARVELOUS GRACE IN FORGIVING & RESTORING.

A. (v. 20) ‘Father saw him’ — This was no accident that the Father saw him.
The Father was looking, longing, praying, hoping, believing that his son would one day return home and he was watching, waiting for him.

B. (v. 20) ‘Compassion’ — God is Love, after me.

C. (v. 20) ‘Ran’ — Anxious, ready, willing, eager to forgive and receive.

D. (v. 20) Royal Welcome --- Five things the Father gave him. He didn’t deserve any of them, but he needed all of them and the Father freely and lovingly provided. This is GRACE. Not one word of rebuke or reproach was given, but GRACE (is Love in action) was shown in abundance. ‘But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.’ (Rom. 5:20).

REMEMBER: The Prodigal Son didn’t arrive in the ‘Hog Pen’ the first day he left home, but it all started with just the first step in the wrong direction and that direction didn’t change until he ‘came to himself.’ When

‘He came to himself, he came to the father.’
INTRO: When he Prodigal came to himself, he remembered the abundance of the Father’s house, ‘How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!’ As though to say, ‘What a fool I am! Here I am with nothing and they . . .’ Oh! If we would wake up and realize the abundance of God’s supply! What kind of supply did the Father have for the son when he returned?

I. THERE WAS THE WELCOME OF GRACE.
When he returned from far country the Father saw him – had compassion – ran – welcome of grace. This is the Welcome that awaits every sinner – as Father – so God.

This is what God’s Grace Is:
- ‘Saw’ – Eyes of Mercy
- ‘Compassion’ – Heart of Mercy
- ‘Ran’ – Feet of Mercy
- ‘Fell on his neck’ – Arms of Mercy
- ‘Fell on his neck’ – Lips of Mercy - Let’s notice this one:

II. THE KISS OF RECONCILIATION.
Smothered him with kisses. Tokens of Love, Acceptance, Forgiveness, Peace (Reconciliation). What sweet supplies these are! Forgiven and reconciled! What else?

III. THE ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (v. 22) ‘Best robe’.
As much as the Father loved him – could not receive him as he was – Rags and Filth – Same is true with us (Isa.64:6). After we arise, make our way to father’s house, welcomed, the First thing after receiving us, is to cover our shame and nakedness with His robe of Righteousness. Not something we put on before coming to God, but what He puts on us!

IV. THE RING OF SONSHIP (v. 22) ‘Put a ring on his hand’ He was willing, ready, prepared to become a servant, but was received as a son. How wonderful! We who were enemies, sinners, aliens now Sons. Paul, a bond slave, taught us the truth of Sonship (Rom. 8:14-17). This ring established:
- Possession (Pardon)
- Position
- Power

Is there more? ‘As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the Sons of God.’

V. THE SHOES OF SERVICE (v. 22) ‘Shoes on his feet.’
The Prodigal had been walking in the path of sin, in the way of rebellion, in the Devil’s Service. What a cruel task master the Devil is. In the Devil’s service he lost everything, even his shoes. Now as a Son, his feet are ‘shod’ so he can walk well-pleasing to the Father.

but His Greatest Need was:

VI. NOURISHMENT – ‘The fatted calf’
The Father had prepared a table before me. Come and dine.
“I Have Sinned”

1. Pharaoh  Exo. 9:27
2. Balaam  Num. 22:34
3. Achan  Josh. 7:20
4. Saul  1 Sam. 26:21
5. David  2 Sam. 12:13
       2 Sam. 24:10
6. Job  Job 7:20
7. Judas  Matt. 27:4

The WORK of the TRINITY

Luke 15

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORK OF</th>
<th>WORK OF</th>
<th>WHY?</th>
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<td>1. Missing Sheep</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Misplaced Silver</td>
<td>Spirit</td>
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<td>3. Miserable Son</td>
<td>Father</td>
<td>Love</td>
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NOTE: Where there is no work of the Blessed Trinity, there is no Rejoicing and Celebrating. (Elder Brother)
**Salvation**

Luke 15

I. The FATHER Thought It.

II. The SON Bought It.

III. The HOLY SPIRIT Wrought.

IV. The PREACHER Brought It.

V. The BIBLE Taught It.

VI. The SINNER Sought It.

VII. The DEVIL Fought It.

VIII. and I’ve Got It.
The Elder Brother

Luke 15:25-32
‘And he was angry, and would not go in.’ (v. 28)

INTRO: At a time of great rejoicing and celebration for the prodigal son’s safe return from a ‘far country’ and supposed death, there comes a dark cloud on the horizon. The Father is so happy for this way-faring son’s return home, but now he faces an angry, pouting son full of envy, resentment, and bitterness. What a dilemma! Jesus was illustrating the rejoicing of that which was lost being found and how that effected the self-righteous crowd into self-pity. He was thinking of the Pharisees and the Scribes (vs 1-2) and their resentment of Jesus receiving ‘Sinners, and eateth with them.’ This was a time for joy, dancing, feasting, celebrating, but the elder brother rebelled and ‘would not go in.’

ILLUST: Revival meeting - - - Deacon was all crossed up and would not go in. Missed the blessing and hindered the victory and rejoicing.

I. THE CURSE OF SELF-PITY - - - ‘He was angry . . .’ (Didn’t have his own way)

A. Destroys Our Happiness. Have you ever seen anyone who was happy & angry at the same time. The Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace . . ., but Bitterness is malignant (Bitter, Jealous, Vicious, Contagious)

B. Destroys Our Usefulness. ‘Father came out, and intreated him.’ He wouldn’t go in, so the Father came out. As a Pastor, I know something about this. Folks that won’t come to church, because of someone else that does.

C. Destroys (Separates) Our Fellowship (Our Oneness).

II. THE CAUSE OF HIS SELF-PITY (vs 29-30) Listen to his words, they reveal his heart:

A. His Wounded Pride (v. 29).

Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I any time thy commandment.
‘Been a member of this Church for 20 years, never bragged on me.’

B. Poor Vision (Restricted Vision) ‘Thou never gavest me a kid . . .’

I’ Me’ ‘My’ These personal pronouns reveal his attitude. Couldn’t see anything or anybody beyond Himself. Absolutely filled with Himself. Couldn’t see his Father, his Brother, the Happiness in the Home, nothing but Himself. The tragedy of Self-pity, broken fellowship, is tunnel vision.

ILLUST: Dr. A. J. Gordon ‘You can shut out the Light of the Sun with a Dime, if you hold it close enough.’

C. Distorted (Twisted) Values. ‘Thou never gavest me a kid . . .’ (A Baby Goat) That is what the fuss is all about. The Father said, ‘All that I have is thine,’ but what is that compared to ‘a Baby Goat?’ His Values show his Immaturity --- His Baby-hood.

III. THE CURE FOR HIS SELF-PITY - - - Listen to the Father, instead of the Son.

‘Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.’

• Recognize What You Have, and not what you don’t have.

• If you Love the Father as you ought, you would rejoice in what He joys in. The Father’s heart should be your heart.

A. His Abiding Presence - - - ‘Son, thou art ever with me.’

B. His Abundant Provision - - - ‘All that I have is thine.’

C. His Answered Prayers - - - ‘. . . for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.’ That Father had apparently prayed all this time for his son’s return, and now, a dream has come true, his prayers are answered.

God’s great redemptive purpose is fulfilled.

Son, please come in ‘It is meet that we should make merry, and be glad . . .’ It is Right to Rejoice!

What is your response?

‘Father, forgive me, I want to come in and enter into the Joy of my Lord.’

NOTE: These parables and the Elder Son episode were directed toward those religious bigots in verses 1 & 2 of this Chapter. The Pharisees & Scribes murmured against Jesus for receiving the Publicans & Sinners and fellowshipping with them. Such hypocrisy!

NOTE: The Prodigal Son came to the Father (v 17), the elder son came to the House (vs 25, 28).
A Study in Contrasts

The Rich Man & Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

Key Verse: (2 Pet. 3:9) ‘The Lord is ... longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.’

INTRO:  This is the most serious warning our Lord gave – the danger of HELL. This is not a Parable, but is given in Parabolic form (Story form) and many call it a Parable which seems to justify them saying that Hell is not necessarily real. But if this incident teaches us anything, it teaches the Reality of Hell, and the Reality of Going There. Jesus had just spoken the parable of the Unjust Steward, telling them that they cannot serve two masters (v. 13), that the Jews as Stewards of God’s blessings had mis-used them and were going to be called to account. The Pharisees, who were covetous (selfish) ‘....derided Him’ (v. 14). Jesus said, ‘God knoweth your hearts....’ (v. 15). Now, Jesus tells them of two people they were probably acquainted with and knew well - - -

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

NOTICE THE CONTRASTS

I. THE CONTRAST IN LIFE – Here are the Two Extremes in Life & Living.

A. RICH MAN – The New Testament mentions 3 rich men
   • The Rich Young Ruler
   • The Rich Farmer
   • This Rich Man
     1. His Name (Unknown) Often called ‘Dives’= Latin for Rich Man.’
     3. His Food – ‘Fared sumptuously every day’ (Lived it up, T-Bone, Christmas every day, he had all that this life could give him in material things, etc.)
     4. His House – ‘Gate’ (v. 20) suggests a mansion.
     5. His Friends – No doubt his wealth bought him a great host of friends.

B. POOR MAN – LAZARUS.
   1. His Name – ‘Lazarus’= ‘God is my helper’ (His faith was in God).
   2. His Clothes – No doubt he wore rags, because he was a poor beggar.
   3. His Food – ‘Crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table.’
   4. His Health – ‘Laid (Someone else had to bring him, he couldn’t bring himself); also, ‘Full of sores.’ He was not only helpless, but also in torment.
   5. His Companions – ‘Dogs.’
II. THE CONTRAST IN DEATH – Life does not stop at Death --- It goes on.  
As there is Life before death; even so, there is Life after death.

A. RICH MAN – ‘Died and was buried’ - - - Apparently, there was a big impressive funeral service with all the schools, businesses and factories shut down to attend. The Priest probably spent much time eulogizing the Rich Man, telling of all the good he had done for the community, all the clubs and organizations he belonged to and all the benefits he had contributed to. My, what a big, fancy, expensive, super funeral he must have had!

B. POOR MAN - Lazarus – ‘Died and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom’ (v. 22). No doubt, he had a pauper’s funeral. Usually, such a pauper and diseased one was taken to the city dump and thrown on an un-ending fire. Surely, there were not many, if any, in attendance and not much expense. Who were his pall-bearers? (v. 22).

III. THE CONTRAST IN DESTINY (Eternity).
Jesus draws back the curtain of Eternity and shows us what is beyond Death.

A. RICH MAN – ‘and in Hell’ (v. 23) - - - Notice that Hell is a Place of:
1. VISION
2. REMEMBRANCE (v. 25)
3. SEPARATION (v. 26)
4. PRAYER
5. SUFFERING & TORMENTS (vs 23-24)
6. NO RETURN or ESCAPE (v. 26)
7. UNQUENCHABLE FIRE (v. 24)
8. NO HOPE
9. DESPAIR
10. DAMNATION
11. CONCERN for others that are lost.

B. POOR MAN - Lazarus – ‘Abraham’s bosom’ (v. 22) - - - This is the good part of the departed Dead, the Paradise that Jesus spoke of in Luke 23:43. It’s location has since been changed to Heaven when Jesus was raised from the dead (Eph. 4:8).

NOTE: The Rich Man did not go to Hell because he was rich, but because he worshipped and served his riches and failed to trust Christ as His Saviour. The Poor Man, Lazarus, didn’t go to heaven because he was poor and suffered much, but because he lived up to his name and trusted God to be his help.

Also, remember that later a man by the name of Lazarus (John 11) died and rose from the dead, and these people tried to kill him, they would not listen to his testimony; No, they would not repent even ‘though one rose from the dead.’
Five Marks of a Bond–Servant

Luke 17:7-10

‘We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.” (v. 10b)

INTRO: There were basically two (2) types of servants in Old Testament:
1. Hired - - - was paid wages and had certain Rights and Privileges.
2. Bond Servant (Slave) - - - No Rights, No Pay (up-keep), No Appeal (Only Gentiles could be Bond-Servants, the sole property of their owner. Apostle Paul, voluntary referred to himself as one totally dedicated to his Lord as a Bond-servant.

I. Must be willing to have one thing after another put on you without any consideration given you.

II. Must be willing to serve without thanks or appreciation.

III. Must be willing to do all this without criticizing or accusing his Master of selfishness.

IV. Must realize and confess himself as an unprofitable servant.

V. Must admit that everything done was simply his duty – nothing more. Anything less was neglect, failure, rebellion.
GRATITUDE IS AN ATTITUDE

Luke 17:11-19

Key Verse: (Luke 17:16) ‘And fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.’

INTRO: We have often heard Leprosy described as the most loathsome disease known to man. A living death, incurable. What a sight, 10 Lepers, not just one, but 10. What a Triumph of Grace. Any Doctor in the world would be famous if he could cure just one leper, but Jesus healed all 10. Also, note, the only thing that these 10 had in common was their NEED, they were all Lepers. Being a Samritan didn’t make the difference, but being a Praiser, the giving of Thanks separated him from all the others. Only one returned --- ‘Giving Him thanks.’

THANKFULNESS OUGHT TO BE:

• As Common as the Dew, but alas
• The World is exceeding dry of Thankfulness.
• Gratitude is as scarce today as then.
• Only ONE out of Ten stopped, returned to Praise Him.

GRATITUDE IS AN ATTITUDE

I. SOME UNUSUAL THINGS ABOUT THANKFULNESS (GRATITUDE).

A. There Are More Who Receive Benefits than Give Praise For Them. All 10 were healed of Leprosy, only 1 returned.

B. The Number of those Who Prayed are more than those Who Praised. All Prayed, only one praised.

C. More obey the Ritual than ever Praise Jesus Christ.

II. REAL THANKFULNESS WILL:

A. Single Us Out - - - As a Leper, he was just one of the group, but as a Praiser, he stood alone. You can sin in a group, go to hell in a crowd, but when you trust Jesus Christ, and praise Him, you stand alone, you sing a solo.

B. Be Instantenous (Immediately, not reluctantly). When you are saved, the quicker the better, the sooner the sweeter. When your heart is full of love for Him.

C. Be Spiritual - - - ‘Glorified God’. He recognized the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Recognized Jesus as his High Priest (The others went to their priests).

D. Have a Boldness Which Is Not By Nature - - - ‘With a loud voice’ Can’t you praise God in a quieter way? But, I’ve just been made Whole, Cleansed, Saved, Forgiven, I’m Living, not dying, Changed, a New Man. Hallelujah - - - Amen - - - Praise the Lord.’

E. Be Humble - - - True Thankfulness will always be on its face at the feet of Jesus. Oh! I’d rather be a No-Body at the feet of Jesus, than Some-Body in this un-godly society.

F. Be True Worship - - - ‘Giving thanks’ Glorifies God which is the truest form of worship.

G. Not Be Critical of Others - - - His heart was so full of praise for Jesus Christ that he didn’t notice the others; in fact, it was Jesus Who called attention to the absence of the nine.

III. SOME OF THE BLESSINGS OF TRUE THANKFULLNESS.

A. The Answer of a Good Conscience Toward God.

B. Bears a Good Testimony - - - ‘I love my Church, Brethren, Pastor, Bible Preaching, the lost, unsaved, etc., but above all else, I Love Jesus Christ most of all.’

C. Praise (Worship) Is Accepted of Him - - - Praise Pleases Him. We are not to worship Men or Angels, but God only (Rev. 19:10).

D. The Larger Blessing - - - ‘Thy faith hath made thee whole.’ Assurance.

OH! with a loud voice - - - ‘Glorify God’ - - - Hallelujah . . .
Privilege of Prayer
Our Greatest Privilege as a Christian

Key Verse: (Luke 18:1) ‘That men ought always to pray, and not to faint.’

INTRO: If asked ‘What is our greatest privilege as a Christian?’ We may respond with to: 1 Have and read our own Bible, the Word of God; 2 Give of our means back to God; 3 Witness, tell others about Him; 4 Fellowship; 5 Worship; 6 Serve; 7 Pray, No greater privilege, nothing more important than Prayer.

Prayer - - - Means Contact with God - - - Communion with God - - - Fellowship with God. Prayer is not simply asking God for things (though it also includes that), but so much more.

This Entire Chapter Emphasizes the Importance of Prayer
Six (6) Examples of Prayer
1. Praying Widow (v. 3) 4. Praying Parents (v. 15)
2. Praying Pharisee (v. 11) 5. Praying Ruler (v. 18)
3. Praying Publican (v. 13) 6. Praying Beggar (v. 38)

WHO? WHY? WHEN? WHAT? HOW?

I. WHO? ‘MEN’ = A Comprehensive Word - - - It is a Manly Thing to Pray.
Every Good, Godly Man that God used Prayed, was a Man of Prayer:

Enoch Aaron Solomon John
Noah Joshua Daniel Nathaniel
Abraham Caleb Jeremiah James
Isaac Samson Ezekiel Paul
Jacob Jonah Samuel Barnabas
Joseph Isaiah Gideon Silas
Moses David Peter Luke

Especially - - - Jesus Christ

A. We Owe It To Ourselves To PRAY:
- Our Life-Line to the Throne of God
- Only as we Pray – can our lives be
  - What God wants us to be.
  - Victorious over Sin and Power over our Enemies (Flesh, Devil & World).
  - Sensitive to the Leadership of Lord Jesus Christ.
B. We Owe It To Others To PRAY:
(1 Sam.12:23) ‘God forbid, I should cease to pray for thee.’
To Loved Ones - Brothers (Missionaries, Pastor, Leaders, Sick, etc.) - Lost Ones.
C. We Owe It To Our Lord To PRAY:
cf Blank Check --- Phil 4:19 ‘But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.’

III. WHEN OUGHT WE TO PRAY? All Times - All Circumstances - All Faith.
A. (Dan. 6) Regular, Set Times (Habit of Prayer - Appointments).
C. When Troubles - Cares - Problems (Actually, Trials are but Calls to Prayer).
D. With Others and For Others - - - Privately - Publicly - Powerfully - Persistantly.

IV. HOW OUGHT WE TO PRAY? We have Four (4) Illustrations in this Chapter:
A. Like the Publican, and not the Pharisee.
B. Without Fainting, Importunity.
C. With Child-Like Simplicity and Trust (v. 16-17).
D. Fervently (Red Hot - Elijah - James 5:16) ‘The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.’

P.S.: Some Who have blessed my Soul in Prayer:
Mordecai Ham – Jock Troup – Peter Connally – Harold Council – Milton Martin – My Wife
A Good Man Lost & A Bad Man Saved

Luke 18: 9-14

‘for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.’

Key Verse:

INTRO: Why Good People go to Hell, and Bad People go to Heaven. SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS:

Self-righteousness is a Double Sin:

1. Trusting in One’s Self and their Own Righteousness (Self-righteousness):
   • No room for Christ - - - nor repentance
   • Most wicked of all sins - - - because it covers sin, it excuses sin.
   • Leaves no room for Penitence - - - Which God so greatly desires.
   • Feels no need for Mercy - - - Which God is so willing to give.
   • Most Dangerous Sin:
     • Least likely to be Confessed.
     • Least likely to be Forsakened.
     • Least likely to be brought to God.

2. Despising Others:
   • Pharisees always despise Publicans.
   • Lodge members, Church members, Society often afraid to meet with us; not because we don’t preach Christ, or aren’t Christians, but often because we don’t meet their standards.

I. A GOOD MAN LOST:

A. He Really Was A Good Man In the Eyes of World, A Good Citizen.
   1. He wasn’t a Criminal - - - ‘Not an extortioner’
   2. He wasn’t Wicked - - - His weights were honest, he was politically correct.
   3. He wasn’t IMMORAL - - - Faithful to wife, family, and friends.
   4. He wasn’t a TRAITOR - - - ‘Like that publican’

B. He Really Was A Good Temple Member:
   1. He went to Temple
   2. He went there to Pray
   3. He Fasted (Displined his life)
   4. He Tithed of all he owned.

BUT - - - He was Lost and When He Died - - - In Hell.

1. His Righteousness was all Out-ward - - - not In-ward.
2. He had not been Born Again - - - Nicodemus (John 3).
   • Every Business Man - - - Regardless how honest.
   • Every Mother, Daughter - - - Regardless how virtuous.
   • Every Church Member - - - Regardless of how active or faithful.

If you are not SAVED - - - You are LOST!

II. A BAD MAN SAVED:

A. He Really Was A Bad Man - - - ‘A sinner’ = The Sinner’
   1. He Stole - - - ‘Extorter’
   2. He was Unjust - - - Wicked, cheated.
   3. He was Immoral - - - Unfaithful in his vows, home, family, business.
   4. He was that Publican - - -

B. He Wasn’t Religious - - -
   1. He wasn’t regular in the Temple
   2. He wasn’t a man of Prayer
   3. He wasn’t a Tither
   4. He didn’t Fast (In fact, he was guilty of every thing the Pharisee claimed to be and do).

BUT - - - HE was SAVED! Because he:

C. He Honestly Confessed His Sin and Sinfulness:
   ILLUST: Is like a Door marked: ‘For Sinners Only.’

D. He Honestly Repented of His Sin: ‘He stood afar off . . . didn’t lift his eyes upward . . . smote himself on the breast.’ (Sign of Humility).

E. He Asked for Mercy - - - ‘God be merciful to me, a (the) sinner.’

F. He Was Saved Instantly - - - ‘Went to his house justified.’ Declared so by Jesus.
INTRO: The name ‘Bar-Timaeus’ means the ‘Son of Timaeus (Timothy)’. This man lived at Jericho which had a terrible history of resisting God’s will for His people Israel as they came into the promised land. Jericho was a strong border town, well fortified, that stood in opposition to God’s people (Josh 6). God instructed his people to march around the city once a day for six days, and on the seventh day circle the city seven times, blow their trumpets and the walls fell down flat. A total victory without firing a single shot. Then Joshua placed a curse upon the city and its rebuilder and his oldest and youngest sons (Josh. 6:26). Five hundred years later when a man by the name of Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho this prophecy was fulfilled ‘according to the word of the LORD’ (I Kings 16:34). God means what He says, and says what He means. Amen!

I. (Mk.10:45) HIS STATE  (Condition)
   A. BLIND - Blind to the beauties of Nature, Sunrise, Flowers, People. The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not to the Beauties of Jesus Christ, the Gospel, Word of God, Cross, convicting power of Holy Spirit, Salvation, Heaven, Judgment. Cannot see.
   B. POOR - ‘Begging’ Bankrupt. The sinner’s poverty, totally dependent upon God’s goodness for food, clothing, health, strength, forgiveness, cleansing, salvation, life, eternal life. (Rom. 5:6-8; Eph. 2:11-12; Matt. 5:45; Acts 14:17; James 1:17).

II. (Mk. 10:47) HIS OPPORTUNITY
   Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem and the Cross, this was His last visit to Jericho, the last time He would be passing through here, and this was Bartimaeus’ last opportunity to be saved. Every person hears the gospel for the last time. This may be God’s farewell address to you!

III. (Mk. 10:47-48) HIS CRY
   A. His Earnestness --- Born out of Desperation --- ‘cried the more a great deal.’
      Many charged him to hold his peace, be quiet, but he knew his need better than anyone. You know the burden of your heart and soul. Cry out to Him.
   B. His Prayer --- was for ‘Mercy’. He did not demand healing, but cast himself upon the Merciful One.

IV. (Mk. 10:49-51) HIS PRIVILEGES
   A. His Calling  (v. 49) ‘Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called.’
      All the people about Jesus, the hustle & bustle didn’t stop Him, but the humble cry of a needy man stopped the Lord of Heaven & Earth, and got His attention. Even so, ‘Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord.’ He hears and He answers.
   B. His ‘Cast away’ of His old rags, garments. Some of our old garments that need to be cast away are Pride, Prejudices, Habits, Self-righteousness, Religion, etc. Good riddance! All of our righteousnesses are as filthy rags (Isa. 64:6).
   C. His Coming to Jesus (v. 50). The only One who could meet his need.
   D. His Choice ‘Lord, that I might receive my sight.’ He asked for his greatest need - Sight. What is your greatest need?

V. (Mk.10:52) HIS CHANGE (Cure, Results, Blessings)
   A. Received his sight (immediately). Who was the first one he saw when his eyes were opened? The Son of God – It was a Love affair at first sight.
   B. Followed Jesus in the Way.
   D. Caused Others to Praise God  (Luke 18:43)

THOT: These two incidents, Blind Bartimaeus and Zacchaeus, both were at Jericho. Bartimaeus was Down & Out, Zacchaeus was Up & Out, both were Out and needed the Lord to work in their lives. Regardless of where we are, we also need the Lord to work in our life. Seek Him, Call out to Him, Respond to Him. While He is passing by.
Jesus Passeth By
Luke 18:37

INTRO: Heros, Soldiers, Politicians, Famous People, are greeted with a glorious welcome when they come home, but not so with Jesus. They listened to Him, watched Him perform wonders, and yet they wanted to kill Him, but ‘He came unto His own, but His own received Him not, but to as many as received Him. . . .’ It was no accident that Jesus passed bye each of the following, and it is no accident that in your crisis, Jesus is there to meet your greatest need. Often we think our greatest need is some physical need in our life, but our greater need is spiritual.

I. WOMAN AT THE WELL (John 4)
Jesus must needs go through Samaria.

II. GOOD SAMARITAN (Luke 10)
As He journeyed --- the others by chance, but the good Samaritan deliberately journeyed that way.

III. WIDOW of NAIN (Luke 7:11-16)
Those two groups, the funeral procession and disciples with Jesus converging was no accident. Life and Death met that day, and Life claimed the victory.

IV. BLIND BARTIMAES (Luke 18)
As Jesus passed through Jericho that day, little did Bartimaes and Zacchaeus realize that this was the last time Jesus was to pass this way, He was heading to the cross to die. This was literally their last opportunity.

V. ZACCHAEUS (Luke 19:1-10)
Bartimaes was Down & Out
Zacchaeus was Up & Out
Both were Out and needed Christ in their lives.
Why Christ Became Man

Luke 19:10

‘For the Son of Man (Jesus) is come to seek and to save that which was lost.’

INTRO: Every year at Christmas time we celebrate the coming of Christ to the earth as a babe in Bethlehem; yet, few seem to realize the true meaning of His Coming. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was equal with God in Glory, Honour, Power and Wisdom (Phil. 2:6-9). We cannot begin to imagine the great sacrifice that Jesus made when He left Heaven’s Glory to come and live in this world of sin. He laid aside the Glory of His Deity and took upon Himself the form of a servant and became human, just like us, but without sin. For God to do this, there must have been some very important reasons behind His action:

I. (John 14:9) TO SHOW US WHAT GOD IS LIKE.
Jesus was (is) unique, for He alone was and is the God/Man. He was as Human as His Mother and as Divine as His Father. He was God in Human Flesh. Jesus said in John 14:9 ‘He that hath seen me hath seen the Father...’ All of the Attributes of God were equally true of Jesus.

A. Eternal - - - Christ claimed pre-existence (John 8:58) ‘Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.’ and the people understood this as a claim to Deity. He demonstrated Eternal Existence by rising from the grave (Rom. 1:4) ‘And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.’

B. Holy - - - The Life of Christ was absolutely perfect. No Sin was found in Him (Heb. 4:15) ‘... was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.’

C. Love - - - His Birth, Life & Death are the greatest displays of God’s love for world of sinners.

D. Power - - - Jesus demonstrated the Power of God over Demons, Disease, Death and Nature. He conquered Death and Sin by His Death and Resurrection.

E. Wisdom - - - He spake as no man had ever spoken. He knew men’s hearts even before they spoke to Him.

F. Justice - - - Every sinner deserves Hell, but God has made a Way of Escape through a personal faith in Jesus as Saviour.

II. (Matt. 3:15) TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS.
In every phase of His life Jesus was obedient to the Will of His Father. As Christians, we are to also be obedient to the Will of God.

III. (Matt. 9:13) TO CALL SINNERS TO REPENTENCE.
Jesus never sought people because of their position or prestige. His eyes were constantly looking for people who would acknowledge their need of a Saviour. He wasted little time with Self-Righteous people (people who thought more highly of themselves than they ought.’.

IV. (Matt. 20:28) TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY.
His death on the Cross in the Sinner’s place is the basis by which the Sinner can be forgiven of all his sin.

V. (1 Cor. 15:20, 55-56) TO CONQUER SIN, DEATH, HELL & THE GRAVE.
Christ arose from the dead as the First-fruit of all those who believe on Him. Because He arose, we also shall be raised at His return.

VI. (Matt. 16:18) TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR HIS CHURCH.
Jesus said before His death that He would build His Church and while on earth He selected and trained men to carry on His work in and through the Church.

VII. (1 Tim. 2:5) TO BECOME OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST.
A High Priest is one who represents men before God (Heb. 7:24-28) and one Who understands our sufferings and needs in the midst of temptation.

VIII. (Acts 15:14) TO CALL OUT A PEOPLE FOR HIS NAME’S SAKE.
’Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.’
I. CHRIST BROUGHT SOMETHING TO MAN:

1. Knowledge of God
2. A Saviour
3. A Sin Offering
4. A Burnt Offering
5. Grace
6. A Ransom
7. A Substitute
8. A Sacrifice
9. A Peace Offering
10. Love

ILLUST: This is right --- Good --- Proper
Wise Men gave Gifts
Lad gave his lunch (5 loaves, 2 fishes)
Mary gave her onintment
but --- Prodigal Son --- What did he give?
His O’ld dirty rags, husks-slop, slavery, far country.
He didn’t deserve anything, but he got everything
by GRACE through Love.

II. CHRIST DID SOMETHING FOR MAN - - - Salvation:

1. Saved Us
2. Forgave Us
3. Cleansed Us
4. Quickened Us
5. Reconciles Us
6. Impowers Us
7. Enables Us
8. In-dwells Us
9. Blesses Us
10. Uses Us
11. Rewards Us
12. Promotes Us
13. Calls Us
14. Changes Us
15. Comes for Us
16. Transforms Us
17. Presents Us

III. CHRIST TOOK SOMETHING FROM MAN:

1. Our Deadness
2. Our Blindness
3. Our Lostness
4. Our Separation
5. Our Sins
6. Our Hell
7. Our Burdens
8. Our Judgment

ILLUST: Missionary in South Pacific Islands --- Took dreaded disease ---
came back to USA --- found a cure --- went back to the Islands.

IV. CHRIST DID SOMETHING WITH MAN:

1. Child of God
2. Son of God
3. Witness (Testimony)
4. Ambassador
5. Soldier
6. Steward
7. Heirs of God
8. Joint Heirs with Jesus Christ
9. Temple of Holy Spirit
10. Priests
11. Kings
12. Rule & Reign
Jesus’ Last Visit To Jerusalem

Key Verse: (Luke 19:38a) ‘...Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord...’

INTRO: The Sunday before Easter is called Palm Sunday and refers to the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem the Sunday before His Resurrection. Many things transpired during this last week of His earthly life before the Cross. Let’s notice the things that happened on this Sunday before the Cross.

I. (28-40) CHRIST’S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.
A. (28-35) THE PREPARATION FOR HIS ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.
1. (29-31) The Two Disciples Sent to Get the Colt for Jesus.
2. (32-35) They Bring the Colt to Jesus. Notice:
   a. WHERE IT WAS:
      (1) Tied (v. 30) --- A true description of all.
      (2) Outside (Mk. 11:4).
      (3) Cross-Roads (Mk. 11:4) ‘Where two ways met’ One road leads to Christ, the other away from Him.
   b. WHAT WAS DONE WITH IT:
      (1) LOOSED (Made Free) (v. 31).
      (2) BROUGHT to Jesus (v. 35) ‘
      (3) USED by Jesus (Mk. 11:4) ‘The Lord hath need of him.’ Not that He can’t do without us, but thank God, He will use even us, if we are usable!
B. (35-40) HIS LAST PUBLIC ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.
2. (Matt. 21:8-9) The Multitude - - - Compare the changed attitude of the Multitude just a few days later (Matt. 27:20-24).

II. (41-44) JESUS WEEPES OVER JERUSALEM & Foretells Its Inpending Troubles.
(As our Lord looked over Jerusalem from the hillside, He could Hear the Bells toling, see the people going to and fro, busy, see the Steeples, feel the excitement in the air, the Passover was at hand. People were so involved with the Present and failed to realize their future.)
A. (v. 41) The Weeping Saviour (Matt. 23:37 & Isa. 53:3)
   They are the ones that should be weeping.
B. (42-44) The Doomed City - - - Fulfilled in 70 A.D. by Titus.
C. (v. 44) The Reason for The Prophecy - - - ‘They knew not’ - - - How Sad!
   Their Ignorance and Ours!

III. (45-48) JESUS CLEANSES THE TEMPLE (This is the Second Time).
Notice that when Jesus comes in - - - Sin must go out. (Col. 3:8-17).
Also NOTE: 1. The Attitude of the Chief Priests (v. 47).
   2. The Attitude of the People (v. 48).
   3. What is your Attitude? Are we willing to allow Him to turn our ‘Den of thieves’ into a Temple of Praise? (Jerm. 17:9; Mark 7:21; 1 Cor. 6:19-20).

III. (20:1-8) JESUS’ AUTHORITY QUESTIONED.
A. (20:1) Jesus Teaches and Preaches Daily In The Temple (Sunday School & Worship)
B. (20:2-8) Jesus Answers Their Question With a Question.

Zechariah 9:9
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: Behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.
THE LORD’S SUPPER

1 Cor. 11:23-26; Matt. 26:23-30; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:17-20; Exo. 12:26

KEY VERSE: (1 Cor. 11:24b) ‘This do in remembrance of Me.’

INTRO: Jesus established two ordinances in His Church – Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. We refer to them as ordinances and not as sacraments because there is no saving benefit derived from either of them, but they are acts of obedience. To have a proper understanding and appreciation of the Lord’s Supper we must know something of its origin. The Lord’s Supper was instituted by Jesus on the night before His crucifixion. It was the time of the Passover Supper (Exo. 12). As Jesus was gathered with His disciples in the upper room He instituted the Lord’s Supper, thus turning the shadow (type) of the Old Testament into the substance of the New, the Paschal Lamb becomes the Lamb of God. The Passover was a type of the Cross. The Passover Lamb was killed the same time of the same day as Jesus was crucified.

THE LORD’S SUPPER CAUSES US TO TAKE THREE LOOKS:

I. A BACKWARD LOOK — RETROSPECT.

‘As often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew (preach) the LORD’S Death till He come.’ (1 Cor. 11:26).

A. PASSOVER - What the Lamb was to the Israelites, Christ is much more to us! They were commanded to keep this service (ordinance) forever (Exo. 12:14; 13:3).

B. CHRIST’S DEATH ON THE CROSS – - - We must never forget this. His body (the Bread) which was broken for us and His blood (the Fruit of the Vine, not wine as we know it today. Fermented wine is corrupted and cannot represent the sinless person of our Lord). Remember His blood was ‘Shed’ (Matt.26:28) and not ‘SPILT’ which suggests an accident, it was a wilful and deliberate act.

C. SALVATION - - - Our Death with Christ (Col. 3:3).

‘For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.’

‘Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Knowing this, that our old man (Nature) is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.’ (Rom. 6:3, 6).

II. AN INWARD LOOK — INTROSPECT. Examine Ourselves (1 Cor. 11:27-31).

A. A LITTLE LEAVEN LEAVENETH THE WHOLE LUMP (1 Cor. 5:6).

1. The Passover Lamb was selected, separated and examined from the 10th day to the 14th day, but during the same time they examined themselves and searched out all the leaven (Leaven a type of sin, evil).

2. Camp of Israel was purged (Joshua 7) Achan and his sin.

3. Jesus purged His disciples by expelling Judas (John 13).

4. Jesus again purged His disciples of strife by washing their feet (John 13).

B. The Consequences of Eating and Drinking Unworthily (1 Cor. 11:30-32).

1. Many are weak (feeble)(v. 30).

2. Many are sickly, 


III. A FORWARD LOOK — PROSPECT (Onward until we go Upward) ‘Till He come.’

Jesus is coming again - - - this is our Blessed Hope, but we must be faithful and occupy until He comes.

NOTE: What are the Scriptural Requirements for partaking of the Lord’s Supper?

1. Must be a Born Again Believer.

2. Must be Scripturally Baptized (Acts 2:42-42)

Believed, Baptized, Added & Break bread (Lord’s Supper).

3. Must be a Member in Good Standing with Local Church.

4. Must Examine Self and Judge (Deal with) sin in your own life (1 Cor. 11:29).

We should examine (a) Our personal Salvation, (b) Our Baptism, (c) Our Church relationship, (d) Our Relationship, one with another, (e) Our own lives as Christians, and (f) Our Relationship with Jesus Christ.
INTRO: Here at the same time is Infinite Love and a Solemn Warning. Tender, yet Terrifying! Just as true with you and me as it was the Apostle Peter. If we are the Lord’s Disciples, Satan’s desire to sift us (put us through a sifter, a strainer), but rest assured that the Lord is Praying for Us that our Faith fail not. And when we have won the victory, then we are to ‘strengthen our brethren.’ Be a blessing, an encouragement to others).

I. These Verses TELL US A LOT ABOUT THE LORD. (My Lord).
   God knows me like a book.
   A. The Lord Knows Our Future Path Perfectly.
      He knew Peter would deny Him, be filled with Remorse, and Repent.
      He also knows our trials and temptations and what we will do.
   B. The Lord is Personally Concerned for Each of us:
      ILLUST: Shepherd with 100 sheep, one missing, leave 99 and restore it.
   C. Our Lord’s Intercession Guarantees our Security - - - His Prayers, Presence, Power.

II. These Verses TELL US MUCH ABOUT THE DEVIL. (My Enemy).
   Jesus believed in Satan - - - His great enemy and ours also.
   A. Satan’s Great Objective (Desire) Is To Destroy the Believer and His Testimony.
      He tried to destroy Jesus Christ, but Failed. He wants to destroy You!
      • (v. 31) ‘Peter, Satan wants to sift you, to get you in his hands, to put you through the mill, the wringer, but I won’t let you go, I have prayed for thee.’
   B. The Spearhead of Satan’s Attack ‘Thy FAITH’. WHY?
      1. Because Faith Honors God, and God honors Faith.
      3. If our Faith is destroyed - - - Everything else is destroyed also:
         Our Joy, Our Peace, Our Love, Our Hope, Our Power, Our Usefulness. . .
      4. It is the Trial of our Faith that separates the Wheat from the Chaff.
      5. Satan meant it for evil, but God for good, that many souls might be saved.
      6. ‘This is the victory that overcometh the world (Satan).’ (I John 5:4).

III. These Verses TELL US MUCH ABOUT OURSELVES. (My Self)
   A. We Need the Mighty Work of God in our Life. Peter needed to be Changed (Converted). No doubt that Peter was already saved, he just needed to get his Priorities right. Let the Lord be Lord in his life!
      What a failure Peter was at this point in his life, so much chaff, but what about us? So much chaff in us: The Chaff of Pride, Stubborness, Greed, Lust, etc.
   B. We Need to See INCONSISTENCIES in our own life. See ourselves as we really are. We are so blind to our own weaknesses and faults; so, the Sifting Process.
   C. When Transformed by His Mighty Power - - - then we can be a blessing to others.
      How wonderfully he was converted and what boldness on Day of Pentecost.

LESSON: How God can take a Failure and Use Him. It is yet to be seen what God can do with a man totally yielded to Him. Our Extremity is God’s Opportunity!

SATAN’S DESIRE — SIFTING
CHRIST’S PRAYER — SECURITY
OUR COMMISSION — STRENGTHEN
Satan’s Desire - Christ’s Prayer - Peter’s Mission

INTRO: The Sifting experiences in Life are awesome. ‘Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.’ (be sifted) (2Ti 3:12). (1Pe 1:7) ‘That the trial (sifting) of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried (sifted) with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:’ (Heb 4:15) ‘For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted (sifted) like as we are, yet without sin.’

- A. To be like God (Isa. 14:12-17) Lucifer’s 5 ‘I will’s’ (vs 13, 13, 13, 14, 14).
  - ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God:  I will sit also upon the mount . . .;  14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;  I will be like the most High.  15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.’
- B. To Destroy Adam & Eve (Gen. 3:1) Satan tempted Adam & Eve in the Garden. The first question in the Bible was asked by Satan, questioning the authenticity of God’s Word. ‘Yea, hath God said, . . .’
- C. As a Roaring Lion Seeking to Devour (1Pe 5:8) ‘Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.’
- D. Murderer from the Beginning (John 8:44) ‘Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning.’
- E. Angel of Light to Deceive Many (2 Cor. 11:14) ‘And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.’
- F. Job - Accuser (Job 1 & 2) (Rev. 12:10) ‘. . . for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.’
- G. Disciples - Especially Peter (Luke 22:31) ‘And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.’

These Siftings are for purging (purifying), to burn out the dross and bring forth that which is more precious than fine gold, the measure of our faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. They are not to be Stumbling Blocks, but Stepping Stones.

From Victory to Victory, from Faith to Faith (Rom. 1:17).

II. CHRIST’S PRAYER – For Us (Luke 23:32) ‘But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not.’

Three very important truths are evident here:

1. The Lord is Praying – If ever a Prayer would be answered, it would be His.
2. For Thee – Not only Peter, but us also.
3. For Unfailing Faith – It is our FAITH that Satan attacks.
   - If he can destroy our Faith in Jesus Christ, he has won the battle in our life. Satan can’t destroy the One Whom we have faith in, but He will try to destroy us (at least destroy our usefulness and fruitfulness) by questioning our Faith in Christ. If our Faith turns to Doubt - - - Satan has robbed us of our Joy, Peace, Love, Hope, Power, Victory, and every virtue of Christ-likeness.

III. OUR MISSION – Others - - - Especially, ‘Brethren.’

‘Thy Brethren’ - - - They are also facing the same enemy and battle that you are fighting, and their source of strength and victory is the same as yours. Notice, our first challenge to minister is at home, with our Brethren, and then to Judea, Samaria, and unto the Uttermost.
INTRO: Matthew, Mark, and Luke, All go into highly descriptive and great detail about the Garden sufferings of our Lord. John doesn’t. He simply mentions that He went there to be betrayed.

Matthew – Tells us, ‘Exceeding sorrowful, and very heavy…’
Mark – Adds, Jesus was ‘sore amazed.’
Luke – Also adds: ‘Being in an agony, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground.’ Of course, we would expect Dr. Luke to tell us about the Bloody Sweat and to use the word ‘Agony’.

‘Agony’ used only once in the entire Bible and that in connection with the Sufferings of Christ. ‘Agonia’ ‘Agnon’ which mean suffering from a conflict or battle. Only used with the Sufferings of Christ. It is never used to describe the sufferings of a mere man.

Very important: The Holy Spirit uses a New Word --- never used before or since to indicate the Sufferings, Grief, Conflict, the Spiritual Battle that raged within the Heart of our Lord.

I. WHAT WAS THIS BATTLE?

• It was not against the Father! ‘Not my will, but Thine…’
• It was not against the Devil! Jesus overcame Satan before and again.
  But — Here was the sinless Son of God, with the Power and Right to avoid the Cross if He so desired. He did not have to suffer this death or any death, For He had done no Sin.
  But — If He refused to go to Calvary, it meant that You and I would be lost forever. It was either HIM or US who would have to suffer the eternal agonies of HELL.

II. THE PROGRESSION OF HIS AGONY.

All Three (Matthew, Mark, Luke) mention ‘The Cup.’

Jesus had not yet received the Cup:

1. Matthew 26:39 Quotes Jesus: ‘Let this cup pass from me.’

Here, Jesus had received the Cup:

2. Mark 14:36 ‘Take this cup from me, nevertheless…’

Still stronger, Jesus says

3. Luke 22:42 ‘Remove this cup from me.’

Jesus bowed down, agonizing, His body writhes in agony, His face pales and then turns crimson, His agony so much, so intense, the pressure so great and suddenly oozing from His unbroken skin the Bloody Sweat --- Great red drops of blood falling to the ground, saying:

‘Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.’

III. WHAT WAS IN THAT CUP?

1. Not PAIN! Because He hung on the Cross for 6 hours, and never once complained.
2. Not DESERTION (forsakened) of His Disciples! That was predicted and expected.
3. Not PERSECUTION, Rejection, nor being Despised!
4. Not SHAME of the Cross!
5. Not even DEATH!

The Only Thing Jesus Was Afraid Of Was

S I N
Your Sin & My Sin.

As Jesus looked into that horrible CUP, there was the SIN of the whole world.
Concentrated – Condensed – Squeezed into one Cup.
The Vile, Filthy, Sin of nnnAll Mankind.

If you are to save Poor Lost Sinners –
You must take all their sins and drink this Cup.

His Love conquers, “Give me that cup, let me have it, I will drink it,
That poor lost soul may live.”

He drinks it to the last bitter dregs and cries from the Cross

‘IT IS FINISHED’

Other Cups mentioned in Bible:
Psa. 23:5; 116:13; Isa. 51:17; Zech. 12:2; Matt. 10:42; 20:22; 23:25; 1 Cor. 10:16; 10:21; Rev. 16:9
In The Garden

‘And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.’ (Luke 22:39)

INTRO: The Garden of Gethsemane was on the side of the Mount of Olives east of the city of Jerusalem. The name Gethsemane means ‘Olive Press.’ It was in the midst of an Olive orchard and the press was to extract the Olive Oil from the olives. It used extreme pressure to extract the oil, and was a fitting place for Jesus to express the agony of what He was enduring and was about to endure on the Cross.

I. THOSE CHOSEN TO GO A LITTLE FARTHER. (Matt. 26:37; Mark 14:33)
   A. Peter, James & John were also present at:
      1. Raising of Jairus’ Daughter. (Matt. 9:23-26)
      2. Mount of Transfiguration. (Matt. 17:1)
      3. Garden of Gethsemane. (Matt. 17:1)
   B. What an Honor, Privilege to be asked, chosen of our Lord to go a ‘Little Farther’ than the others. For those willing to go that extra distance, make that extra sacrifice, there’s special blessings and privileges. Whatsoever He saith unto you. Do it.

II. THE HEAVY BURDEN OF SIN. (Jesus is our Sin Bearer)
   A. He Felt The Intense Heavy Burden of Sin. (Matt. 26:38)
      1. Sin is a Burden for the Individual. (It Ruins, Blasts, Blights, Corrupts, Destroys)
      2. Sin is a Burden for Loved Ones of the Unsaved.
   B. The Heavy Burden of Indifference and Unconcerness.
      The Disciples Failure to ‘Watch and Pray.’
      ‘Spirit is willing - - - Flesh is weak.’ (Matt. 26:41)

III. (Luke 22:43-44) AN ANGEL STRENGTHENS HIM & THE BLOODY SWEAT.
   A. An Angel Strengthens Him - - -
      1. For the Traitor’s Kiss.
      2. For the Weakness, Denial & Desertion of His Disciples.
      3. For the Agony - Suffering, Humiliation & Ridicule.
      4. For the Crown of Thorns.
      5. For the Nails and Spear.
      6. For the Burden of Sin.
   B. He Sweat As It Were Great Drops of Blood.
      Doctors tell us that only through great pressure, a ruptured (crushed, broken) heart could a person sweat bloody sweat through the pores of his skin.

IV. HUMBLE SUBMISSION TO THE FATHER’S WILL.
   As Jesus looked to Calvary He could see beyond the Cross to - - -
   A. Souls being saved.
   B. Building of Churches.
   C. Preaching & Witnessing of Missionaries, Pastors, Evangelists.
   D. 1,000’s & Millions brought into the Family of God.
   E. His Soon Return to claim the redeemed.
   F. Golden Age, the Millennium, 1000 years.
   G. New Heavens, New Earth, Eternity.

   But - - - He could also see the REJECTION of Millions – Lost Forever!

83’
Peter’s Five Easy Steps to Backsliding


Key Verse: (Luke 22:54) ‘And Peter followed Him afar off.’

INTRO: Backsliding always begins with Side-Slippings. Though Peter's failure was tragic, it was not fatal. Can God ever trust such a one again? Is there any hope? Thank God, Yes, there is. Where sin abounds, grace doth much more abound (super-abounds). Abraham, Jacob, David and countless others demonstrate this. When they claimed First John 1:9 ‘ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.’ Let’s see some of the steps in Peter’s Life:

I. (v. 33) SELF–CONFIDENCE (Over Confidence)

II. (v. 45) SLEEPING when he should have been PRAYING
   A. Sign of UNCONCERN - - - Samson
   B. Sign of REBELLION - - - Jonah
   C. Sign of NEGLECT - - - Noah
   D. Sign of UN-EXPECTING - - - 10 Virgins

III. (v. 50) SMITING - - - Trying to accomplish in the Flesh what should be done in the Spirit.
   ILLUST: The Tower of Babel

IV. (v. 54) FOLLOWING AFAR OFF - - -
   ILLUST: Many join every Club, Lodge, Civic Group, Social, School Activity - - - Get involved to the extent, they have little or no time to serve God. Oftentimes, these are activities substituted and justified in the place of Obedience to God’s will. They settle for the Good, instead of the Best. There is no substitute for your walk with Christ.

V. (v. 55) SETTING DOWN AMONG THEM - - - Fellowship with the World, wrong crowd.
   ILLUST: How many of us are going, doing, being Worldly, so we will be accepted as one of them.

   But – Praise God!

   THERE IS A WAY BACK

1. (v. 60) AWAKENED CONSCIENCE - - - Crowing at the Cock.
2. (v. 61) PENETRATING LOOK between CHRIST & PETER.
3. (v. 61) CONVICTING MEMORY of the Word of God.
4. (v. 62) GODLY SORROW which worketh REPENTANCE.
The Crowds About The Cross


INTRO: Quite often there are three groups involved in any incident: Spectators, Enemies, Friends.

I. SPECTATORS - - - Cold - Unconcerned - Indifferent -
   A. Crowds of THAT DAY - - -
      1. Soldiers - - - Routine -- Rough -- Casting lots (gambling) for His Clothes.
      2. People Passing By - - - Shaking their heads -- Shooting out their lips.
      While the Son of God is dying on the Cross.
   B. Crowds of TO-DAY - - - The Cross still divides the World. Whether you realize it or not - - -
      YOU ARE ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER!

The World would:

Humanize God
Deify Man
Minimize Sin
Maxify Satan
Mutilate the Bible

III. ENEMIES - - - Hatred -- Bitter
   A. Crowds of THAT DAY - - -
      Scribes --- Priests --- Rulers --- Lawyers --- Pharisees --- Sanhedrin
      • Shaken their foundations • Threatened their Security
      • Stepped on their toes • Called for their Repentance
      • They hated Him • Jesus had exposed their Hypocrisy, Corruption
   B. Crowds of TO-DAY - - - Religious -- Pious - Emphasize LOVE.
      Dis-honest in their Business,
      Deceptive in their Witness,
      Destructive in their Influence,
      Determined in their Maddeness,
      Devilish in their Practice.

   They hate the Cross, Church, Gospel, & Christians!

III. FRIENDS - - - Love -- Sympathy -- Smallest Crowd.
   A. Crowds of THAT DAY - - -
      Mary, the Women, John - - - Only a Handful (Few, Weak, Poor, Stunned, but LOYAL).
   B. Crowds of TO-DAY - - - Faithful, Consecrated, LOYAL.

   The Burdens are Heavy,
   The Way Dreary,
   The Need is Great,
   Though Ridiculed -- Despised -- Hated --
   Mis-understood -- Persecuted --
   They Bear Their Cross Daily,
   They stand near the Cross,

Which Crowd are YOU with?
GOD in Heaven calls you to Choose!
The Seven Words Of The Cross

The Seven Sayings of Christ on the Cross

INTRO: The last words of a loved one become very precious, and especially the last words of Jesus. Truly, other men have died horrible deaths, but none like this. Jesus was God in the flesh, both God and man at one and the same time. He who knew no sin, was here on the cross made sin for us. There was no sin in Him, but all the sin of mankind was upon Him. Here at the Cross we see man at his very worst, and God at His very best. Other religions say ‘Do’, but Christianity says ‘DONE.’ Amen.

‘Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.’

II. (John 19:26) Words of Concern.
‘Woman, behold thy son! . . .Behold thy mother!’

‘To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.’

‘I thirst.’

‘My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?’

‘Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.’

VII. (John 19:30) Words of Completion - Victory.
‘It is finished.’

The EVENTS of the CRUCIFIXION

I. The First 3 Hours of the Cross - - - 9 am to 12 noon.
A. The arrival at Golgotha.
B. The Ordeal of the Crucifixion.
D. The Soldiers part His garments (Psa. 22:18).
E. The Jews mock Jesus.
F. The 2 Thieves rail on Him, one repents.
H. The Third Cry from the Cross (John 19:26-27).

II. The Second 3 Hours of the Cross - - - 12 noon to 3 pm.
• Darkness covers the earth from the 6th to 9th hour.

III. The Third 3 Hours of the Cross - - - 3 pm to 6 pm.
A. The Fourth Cry from the Cross (Matt. 27:46-47).
B. The Fifth Cry from the Cross (John 19:28).
C. The Sixth Cry from the Cross (John 19:30).
E. Taken from the Cross & Buried (John 19:38-40).
THE SEVEN MIRACLES OF CALVARY


INTRO: Calvary itself was a Miracle of Love and Grace, and only eternity can fully reveal the continuing Miracle of Calvary in souls saved, in lives changed and sin conquered. It took a Miracle of Grace to provide Redemption for a world of sinners lost and ruined by the fall. Remember: The Creation of the World only cost God His breath (Spoken Word), but Its Redemption cost Him the Blood of His Only Begotten Son.

I. THE MIRACLE OF PROPHECY FULFILLED (Matt. 27:35 cf Psa. 22).

(Psa. 22:1, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 18) A preview of the Cross 1000 years before. (Also, see John 19:24, 28)


Jesus was crucified between two thieves. One rejected Christ and died in his sin with his sin upon himself. The other accepted Christ and died to his sin with his sin upon Christ. Christ died for sin with all our sin upon Him.

This saved Thief couldn’t do anything for salvation, but simply trust Christ. He couldn’t go to Church, be baptized or any such thing.

Salvation is all of Grace or not of Grace at all.


When Jesus Christ became sin for us, God could not, would not look upon sin, even on His Son, and He didn’t let anyone else look either. God shut out the Sun at it brightest moment ( Noon).

IV. THE MIRACLE OF THE RENT VEIL IN THE TEMPLE (Matt. 27:51).

The Veil divided the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place and was entered only once a year by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement (Exo.34:35 & Lev. 16). This veil was 5 inches thick made of strands of ‘Blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work; with cherubims shall it be made’ (Exo. 26:31). It was 15 feet high and if you will notice it was torn from ‘Top to bottom.’ No man could ever do this. . .this was the Work of God. The Veil, type of our Lord’s human body (Heb. 10:20), opens a ‘New and Living way’ into the presence of God without other offerings, sacrifices or priests except Christ. For 40 years afterward the priests tried patching that veil . . . even as Modernists try too today.


Which was it? A convulsion of the Earth or a Display of Divine Power?

VI. THE MIRACLE OF THE GRAVES OPENED & The SAINTS ARISING.

(Matt. 27:52) The term ‘Saint’ is usually applied to that of disciples and as used by Matthew implied to those believing in Jesus during His ministry that died before His death.

VII. THE MIRACLE OF BLOOD AND WATER (John 19:34).

The result of a ‘Broken heart.’ When a person dies, he stops bleeding immediately. His Life was not taken, it was Given.

‘Truly this was the SON of God.’ (Matt. 27:54)

THE GREATEST OF ALL MIRACLES - - - OUR OWN SALVATION!
## Too Sacred to Delegate

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Went to Pilate (He had access)</td>
<td>2. Honourable Counsellor</td>
<td>2. A Counsellor</td>
<td>2. A Disciple of Jesus</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Name was “Joseph”</td>
<td>3. Waited for Kingdom of God</td>
<td>3. He was a Good Man</td>
<td>3. Secretly - Fear of Jews</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Begged Body of Jesus</td>
<td>5. “Craved” body of Jesus</td>
<td>5. He had not consented to their counsel &amp; deeds</td>
<td>5. Pilate gave leave</td>
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<td>7. Wrapped body in a clean linen cloth</td>
<td>7. Checked with Centurion</td>
<td>7. City of the Jews</td>
<td>7. Also, Nicodemus</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Tomb was in a rock</td>
<td>10. Took Jesus’ body down</td>
<td>10. Begged Body of Jesus</td>
<td>10. Wound in linen w/ spices</td>
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<td>15. Mary Mag. &amp; Mary, Mother of Joses watched</td>
<td>15. Never man laid</td>
<td>15. They laid Jesus there</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16. Women Beheld</td>
<td>16. Sepulchre was nigh</td>
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**Matthew’s Alone Tells us:**

| 1. It was a ‘clean’ line cloth |
| 2. It was Joseph’s own tomb |

**Mark’s Additional Info:**

| 1. Joseph was an Honourable Counsellor |
| 2. Waited for Kingdom of God |
| 3. Went in boldly to Pilate |
| 4. "Craved" the body of Jesus |
| 5. Pilate marvelled already dead |
| 6. Checked with Centurion |

**Luke’s Additional Info:**

| 1. Joseph was a Good Man |
| 2. Just |
| 3. Did not consent to their counsel & deeds |
| 4. Arimathea, City of the Jews |
| 5. Never man laid in tomb |

**John’s Additional Info:**

| 1. Secret Disciple for Fear |
| 2. Nicodemus |
| 3. Nicodemus brought 100 lb. weight of Myrrh & Aloes |
| 4. They took down body |
| 5. A Garden near the Cross |
| 6. Burial - Manner of Jews |
The Burial of Jesus

Matthew 27:57-61
57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple.
58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered.
59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,
60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.
61 And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre.

Mark 15:42-47
42 And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath,
43 Joseph of Arimathea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus.
44 And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead.
45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph.
46 And he boughtfine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre.
47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Josies beheld where he was laid.

Luke 23:50-56
50 And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor, and he was a good man, and a just:
51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God.
52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.
53 And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.
54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.
55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.
56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

John 19:38-42
38 And after this Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus.
39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.
40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.
41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.
42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day: for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

Matthew Only:
1. It was a ‘clean’ linen cloth
2. His own tomb

Mark Only:
1. Joseph was an Honourable Counsellor
2. Waited for Kingdom of God
3. Went in boldy unto Pilate
4. ‘Craved’ the body of Jesus
5. Pilate marvelled – dead
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1. Secret Disciple for fear
2. Nicodemus
3. Nicodemus brought 100 lb. weight of Myrrh & Aloes
4. They took down body
5. A Garden near Calvary
6. Burial - Manner of Jews
Resurrection
Luke 24 and John 20

INTRO: How important is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ? Is it absolutely essential for you to believe that Christ was really raised from the dead?

- God declared Jesus to be the Son of God with power by raising Him from the dead (Rom. 1:4);
- We are Justified by His resurrection (Rom. 4:25);
- It is necessary for Salvation (Rom. 10:9);
- Our preaching is in vain without His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:14);
- Your faith is in vain without His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:14);
- Our Lord promises to bring those that believe with Him at His soon coming (1 Thess. 4:14).

YES, It is very Important! It is absolutely Essential!

John 20

I. (1 - 10) AN EMPTY TOMB - - - A RISEN SAVIOUR.
   A. (1 - 2) MARY DISCOVERS THE OPEN TOMB.
      What day is the First Day of the Week? Why is it called the Lord’s Day?
   B. (2 - 10) PETER & JOHN EXAMINE THE EMPTY TOMB.
      (John, the youngest, outruns Peter who enters the tomb first.
      What they saw was contrary to their expectations.)

SPECIAL NOTE:
THREE DIFFERENT WAYS OF SEEING:
1. Mary (1 - 2) took a CASUAL LOOK and gave a False Report.
2. Peter (6 - 7) took a CRITICAL LOOK and was Confused.
3. John (v. 8) saw with UNDERSTANDING and Believed.

II. (11-18) MARY MAGDALENE LINGERS AT THE TOMB - - -
   CHRIST REVEALS HIMSELF TO MARY.
   A. (11-13) MARY SPEAKS WITH THE TWO ANGELS IN THE TOMB.
   B. (14-17) MARY SPEAKS WITH THE LORD HIMSELF.
      1. She supposes wrong - - - both as to the Person she was speaking to, and as to what was done with Jesus.
      2. She recognizes Him as He speaks her name.
   C. (v. 18) Mary Speaks to the Disciples of these things.

III. (19-29) CHRIST REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS DISCIPLES.
   A. (19-23) CHRIST’S FIRST APPEARANCE (Thomas absent).
      Speaks Peace, shows proof of wounded hands & side, confirms former commission and breaths on them.
   B. (24-25) THE ABSENCE & UNBELIEF OF THOMAS.
   C. (26-29) CHRIST’S SECOND APPEARANCE (Thomas present).
      NOTE: This confession of Faith by Thomas is immediately followed by the Purpose of John’s Gospel to bring its readers to just such a faith in Christ. If one who was so skeptical was convinced, surely we can also believe!

IV. (30-31) THE METHOD and PURPOSE OF JOHN’S GOSPEL.
   John’s intentions were not to write a complete biography of Jesus Christ, but rather to emphasize personal Faith in Jesus Christ.
What Happens When The Holy Spirit Impowers You?

Luke 24:49

'Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.'

1. The First thing is – You are Born Again. As your first birth was Natural, your second birth is Super Natural, Spiritual. Born anew, New Birth. This time by the Word of God, quickened by the Holy Spirit. You come alive to God, with a new evaluation of yourself and the world

ILLUST: Someone asked me awhile back, 'Did anybody else get saved like I did?' What do you mean? How did you get saved? 'Either I changed, or the world changed.' Amen! I saw it through a different pair of eyes – heart – mind. What a difference. Now when that kind of change comes into our life and the Power of the Holy Spirit comes upon us and into us:

2. We Become Witnesses (Acts 1:8) 'But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.'

Here – There – Everywhere - - - Home - Family - Friends - Others

What Happens?
- They accept it and rejoice and encourages their lives to be Saved and/or to Serve.
- They reject it – Resent it – Why? They are afraid of a change.

ILLUST: People are not normally afraid of changes. We make changes all the time, but most of us are afraid of changes that threaten us, or we don't know the outcome.

ILLUST: Bert Craft and I were out visiting. Met couple of teenagers (17 & 18) Boy and a Girl:

‘Hi there. Do you live around here? Yeah, just down the street. I have something for you ('Chic Tract') Oh, boy! thanks. I'll look at this! and off down the street he went on his bicycle. Girl,Thanks. and took off after him.'

Bert said, ‘Preacher, just a few short years ago, I was so backward, shy. I couldn’t talk to anyone and tell them about Jesus!’

Where does that boldness come from?
THE PRESENCE of the HOLY SPIRIT.

3. We Become GUILDED - - - Instructed in all Truth. (John 16:13)

‘When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you in all truth.’

There is a Way of Error and a Way of Truth — RIGHT WAY & WRONG WAY.

Strange, but so few of us seem to realize that we oen our lives up to so many Hurts & Tragedies. You see, there are some things we do tht with-hold the blessings of God upon our Life.

Also, there are some things we do that bring the manifold blessings of God into our Lives.

EXAMPLE: POSITIVE NEGATIVE

Read our Bible - We Grow Drink -

Pray - We Grow Curse -

Witness - We Grow Smoke -

Church - We Grow Pornography

Give (Tithe) - We Grow Drugs -

ILLUST: Mrs. Mary Hoffmeyer memorized whole chapters of the Bible. It not only strengthened her, but was an Inspiration to all of us. Amen! (Deceased Sept. 2003).

4. When We Follow The Working of Holy Spirit in our Lives to Live in the Way of TRUTH.

We also, begin to see the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is just as natural to the Spirit filled Christian as the life giving sap is in the vine that produces: Greeness - Branches - Leaves - Clusters - Grapes.

There is nothing prettier than a vineyard in full fruit. The dew upon the vines, the beautiful clusters of grapes swinging, the bounty of the Fruit, the Sweetness of the Taste.

So! There is nothing more beautiful than a Spirit Filled Christian with the blessing of God.

The beautiful cluster of Fruit, the bounty of the Fruit (Psa. 126:6), The Sweetness of its Taste (1 Thes. 2:19).

5. When the Holy Spirit impowers you - - - Often stand alone! March to a Different Tune.

You are out of step with the World.

ILLUST: Young man told me other day that when he got saved, most of his buddies (same age) went on their same old way, but he started reading his Bible, Studying, Praying, Surrendered his life to the Lord and serving Him.

ILLUST: Army, 100’s marching, in step, like a gentle wind blowing across a wheat field with a smooth motion. But – Somehow right in the middle, some guy would be bobbing up and down, out of tune, out of step.

The Post-Resurrection Appearances

I Cor. 15:1-8

INTRO: The last this ungodly world saw of Jesus was while He was still on the Cross, robed in His own blood and crowned with Thorns. The next time will be when He comes back with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengenance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thes. 1:7-8)

The many Appearances of Christ after His Resurrection are the many ‘Infallible Proofs’ Luke spoke of in Acts 1:3.

I. RESURRECTION DAY

1. Mary Magdalene (John 20:14) at Jerusalem. She did not recognize Him until He spoke her name. ‘Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father.’ (v. 17).
2. The Other Women (Matt. 28:1-10) at Jerusalem. These women were the first heralds of the Resurrection. After they arrived at the empty tomb and were told to go and tell His disciples, it was as they went that He appeared.
3. Peter (Cephas) (I Cor. 15:5) at Jerusalem. Probably before evening. How precious this meeting must have been after Peter’s three denials and his bitter weeping.
4. The Two Disciples (Luke 15:31) on the road to Emmaus. This was toward the evening. It was a Sad trip from Jerusalem to Emmaus, but it became a Glad trip back to Jerusalem. Opened Scriptures (v. 27), Opened Eyes (v. 31), Opened Understanding (v. 32), and Burning Hearts.
5. The Ten Apostles (Luke 24:36) in the Upper Room at Jerusalem, that evening. This time Thomas was absent. Thomas missed a lot by not being in Church that Sunday: Missed seeing the Lord, missed the benediction of the Lord, missed having his understanding opened of the Scripture and spent a whole week of doubt.

II. THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING (One Week Later)

6. The Eleven Apostles (John 20:26-29) at Jerusalem. This time Thomas was present and confessed, ‘My Lord and my God.’

III. THE TIME UNKNOWN

7. The Seven Disciples Fishing (John 21:1-24) at the Sea of Galilee. Where Jesus performed His last earthly miracle and where He prepared breakfast for the weary fishermen. Also, gave Peter the opportunity to declare his love for Jesus.
8. The Eleven Apostles (Matt. 28:16-17) at an appointed mount in Galilee where Christ gave the Great Commission.
9. 500 Brethren (I Cor. 15:6) Place unknown.
10. James (I Cor. 15:7) Details unknown.

IV. ASCENSION DAY (Forty Days after His Resurrection).


V. LATER (Approximately 3 years later).

15. Apostle John (Rev. 1) on the Isle of Patmos.

VI. SOON

16. Second Coming (1 John 3:2) ‘When He shall appear . . .’
The Final Days of Christ’s Ministry

SATURDAY
ANointed by Mary (John 12:1-11)

SUNDAY
Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem (John 12:12-19)
Second Cleansing of the Temple (Matt. 21:12-16)

MONDAY
CURsing of the Fig Tree (Matt. 21:17-22)
Christ’s authority questioned (Matt. 21:23-27)
• Parable of the Two Sons (Matt. 21:28-32)
• Parable of the Vineyard (Matt. 21:33-46)
• Parable of the Marriage Supper (Matt. 22:1-10)
• Tribute to whom tribute is due (Matt. 22:15-22)
• Concerning the Resurrection (Matt. 22:23-33)
• About the Greatest Commandment (Matt. 22:34-46)
• Christ Denounces the Pharisees (Matt. 23)
• Eight (8) Woes

TUESDAY
CETAIN GREEKS desire to see Jesus (John 12:20-22)
Mt. Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24 & 25)

WEDNESDAY
PREPARATION FOR THE PASSOVER (Mark 14:12-16)
The Passover Supper – Preparation for the Lord’s Supper (John 13 & 14)
• Jesus Washes Disciples Feet (John 13:1-17)
• Judas Identified – Goes out (John 13:18-30)
• A New Commandment Given (John 13:31-35)
• The Promise of the Holy Spirit (John 14, 15, 16)
• The Lord’s Supper
• Enroute to the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:26)
• The Great High Priestly Prayer (John 17)
• In the Garden of Gethsemane (Matt. 16:36-56)
• Betrayal, Arrest, Last Public Miracle (Luke 22:50-51)

THURSDAY
SIX UNFAIR – ILLEGAL TRIALS
Three Jewish – Religious Trials:
• Before Annas (John 18:12-14, 19-24)
• Before Caiphas (Matt. 26:57--27:1)
• Before Sanhedrin (Matt. 27:1-2)
Three Roman – Civil Trials:
• Before Pilate (Matt. 27:2, 11-14)
• Before Herod (Luke 23:7-12)

CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS CHRIST
• 9 A. M. - - - Crucified
• 12 Noon - - - Three Hours of darkness
• Seven Sayings of Christ on the Cross
  1. Father, forgive them . . . (Luke 23:34)
  2. Today shalt thou be with me . . . (Luke 23:43)
  4. My God, My God . . . (Matt. 27:46)
  5. I Thirst . . . (John 19:28)
  6. It is finished . . . (John 19:30)
• Side pierced
• Taken from the Cross - - - Buried (John 19:38-40)

FRIDAY
JESUS IN THE TOMB - - - Disciples Hiding

SATURDAY
JESUS IN THE TOMB - - - Disciples Hiding

SUNDAY
RESURRECTION - - - ‘He is not here, for He is risen . . .’
LIFE OF CHRIST

PASSOVER - APRIL 14 (DEUT. 16:1)
EXODUS (2:5)

PENTECOST - "50 DAYS FROM 1ST. SUNDAY AFTER PASSOVER.

HEAVEN

CPR.
JOHN 20:17
W/
MAAT 28:6

SUN: 4 DAYS
SEE
10TH
JAY
BUCCS 1-13

HELL
PARADISE
(EDEN?)
(ABRAHAM'S
BOOM - LU. 16)

GREAT PERILOUS
The Parables of Jesus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Matthew</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Luke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lamp under a Bushel</td>
<td>5:14-15</td>
<td>4:21-22</td>
<td>8:16; 11:33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Houses built on Rock &amp; Sand</td>
<td>7:24-27</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>New Cloth on an Old Garment</td>
<td>9:16</td>
<td>2:21</td>
<td>5:36</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Wine in Old Wineskins</td>
<td>9:17</td>
<td>2:22</td>
<td>5:37-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sower, Seed, Soils</td>
<td>13:3-8</td>
<td>4:3-8</td>
<td>8:5-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tares</td>
<td>13:24-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leaven</td>
<td>13:33</td>
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<td>13:20-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hidden Treasure</td>
<td>13:34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pearl of Great Price</td>
<td>13:45-46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drag Net</td>
<td>13:47-48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost Sheep</td>
<td>18:12-13</td>
<td></td>
<td>15:4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Debtors (the Unforgiving Servant)</td>
<td>18:23-34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workers in the Vineyard</td>
<td>20:1-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Sons</td>
<td>21:28-31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wedding Feast, w/o Wedding Garment</td>
<td>22:2-14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fig Tree as Herald of Summer</td>
<td>24:32-33</td>
<td>13:28-29</td>
<td>21:29-32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ten Virgins</td>
<td>25:1-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheeps and Goats</td>
<td>25:31-36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seedtime to Harvest</td>
<td>4:26-29</td>
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<td>Creditor and the Two Debtors</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:41-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Samaritan</td>
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<td>10:30-37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend in need</td>
<td></td>
<td>11:5-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rich Fool</td>
<td></td>
<td>12:16-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Servants Ready for Lord’s Return</td>
<td></td>
<td>12:35-40</td>
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<td>Faithful Steward</td>
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<td>12:42-48</td>
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<td>Barren Fig Tree</td>
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<td>13:6-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place of Honour at Wedding Feast</td>
<td></td>
<td>14:7-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Banquet and Guest’s Excuses</td>
<td></td>
<td>14:16-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counting the Cost</td>
<td></td>
<td>14:28-33</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost Sheep (1 of 100)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15:4-7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost Coin (1 of 10)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15:8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prodigal Son (1 of 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15:11-32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dishonest Steward</td>
<td></td>
<td>16:1-8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rich Man and Lazarus</td>
<td></td>
<td>16:19-31</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Master and His Servant</td>
<td></td>
<td>17:7-10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Persistent Widow &amp; Indifferent Judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>18:2-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Pharisee and the Publican</td>
<td></td>
<td>18:10-14</td>
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**Parables**

The Bible is the greatest Book in all the world, and Jesus is the greatest Teacher of all. The Bible is full of Word Pictures (Parables) to emphasize, explain and show Divine Truths. We would like to draw attention to the difference between Miracles and Parables. Miracles are parables in Works and Parables are miracles in Words. Miracles display God’s Power and Mercy, while Parables illustrate His Grace and Judgment.

**What is a Parable?**

As one Sunday School Teacher said, ‘A Parable is an Earthly Story with a Heavenly Meaning.’ A Parable is a Comparison, an Illustration of things we do not see (Eternal) by things we do see (Temporal, 2 Cor. 4:18). Jesus was the greatest Teacher of all ‘and without a Parable spake He not unto them.’ (Matt. 13:34).
# MIRACLES of JESUS

## PHYSICAL MIRACLES (Dealing with Healings):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MATTHEW</th>
<th>MARK</th>
<th>LUKE</th>
<th>JOHN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leper</td>
<td>8:2-3</td>
<td>1:40-42</td>
<td>5:12-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centurion’s Servant</td>
<td>8:5-13</td>
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<td>7:1-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter’s Mother-in-law</td>
<td>8:14-15</td>
<td>1:30-31</td>
<td>4:38-39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralysed Man</td>
<td>9:2-7</td>
<td>2:3-13</td>
<td>5:18-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Blind Men</td>
<td>9:27-31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man with a Withered Hand</td>
<td>12:10-13</td>
<td>3:1-5</td>
<td>6:6-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man Blind, Dumb &amp; Possessed</td>
<td>12:22</td>
<td></td>
<td>11:14</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Canaanite Woman’s Daughter</td>
<td>15:21-28</td>
<td>7:24-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boy with the Seizures</td>
<td>17:14-18</td>
<td>9:17-29</td>
<td>9:38-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bartimaeus, and another Blind Man</td>
<td>20:29-34</td>
<td>10:46-52</td>
<td>18:35-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deaf and Dumb Man</td>
<td>7:31-37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blind Man at Bethsaida</td>
<td>8:22-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woman Bent Double</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13:11-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man with the Dropsy</td>
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<td>14:1-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ten Lepers</td>
<td></td>
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<td>17:11-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malchus’ Ear</td>
<td></td>
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<td>22:50-51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nobleman’s Son at Capernaum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:46-54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impotent Man at the Pool of Bethesda</td>
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<td>5:1-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man Born Blind</td>
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<td>9:1-41</td>
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## NATURAL MIRACLES (Dealing with Nature):

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<tr>
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<th>MARK</th>
<th>LUKE</th>
<th>JOHN</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calming of the Storm</td>
<td>8:23-27</td>
<td>4:37-41</td>
<td>8:22-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walking on the Water</td>
<td>14:25</td>
<td>6:48-51</td>
<td>6:19-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,000 People Fed (5 Loaves - 2 Fishes)</td>
<td>14:15-21</td>
<td>6:35-51</td>
<td>9:12-17</td>
<td>6:5-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>4,000 People Fed</td>
<td>15:32-38</td>
<td>8:1-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coin in the Fish’s Mouth</td>
<td>17:24-27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fig Tree Withered</td>
<td>21:18-22</td>
<td>11:12-26</td>
<td>5:1-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catch of Fish</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Turned to Wine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:1-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Miraculous Draught of Great Fishes (153)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>21:1-11</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## SPIRITUAL MIRACLES (Dealing with Demons and Mental Disorders):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>MATTHEW</th>
<th>MARK</th>
<th>LUKE</th>
<th>JOHN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man Dumb and Possessed</td>
<td>9:32-33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man Demon Possessed in the Synagogue</td>
<td>1:23-26</td>
<td>4:33-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Many Demons Cast Out in Capernaum</td>
<td>1:34</td>
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</table>

## SUPER– MIRACLES (Raising the Dead):

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<thead>
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<th>MATTH</th>
<th>MARK</th>
<th>LUKE</th>
<th>JOHN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:23-25</td>
<td>5:38-42</td>
<td>8:49-56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Widow’s Son at Nain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:11-26</td>
<td>11:1-44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lazarus</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## The Roman Emperors of the First Century

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>NAMES</th>
<th>EVENTS</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14–37 A.D.</td>
<td>Tiberius*&lt;br&gt;Stepson of Augustus</td>
<td>Ministry &amp; Death of Jesus Christ&lt;br&gt;Church Persecuted&lt;br&gt;Apostle Paul Converted</td>
<td>Luke 3:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37–41 A.D.</td>
<td>Caligula*&lt;br&gt;First to demand &amp; receive absolute worship as Deity&lt;br&gt;Assassinated&lt;br&gt;Much Rebellion</td>
<td>The Gospel Spreads to the Uttermost</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>41–54 A.D.</td>
<td>Claudius Famine*&lt;br&gt;Famine</td>
<td>Jews Expelled from Rome&lt;br&gt;Much of Paul’s Ministry</td>
<td>Acts 11:28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54–68 A.D.</td>
<td>Nero&lt;br&gt;Last in line of Caesar&lt;br&gt;Cruel-Vain-Vile&lt;br&gt;Committed Suicide</td>
<td>Trial of Paul&lt;br&gt;Persecution at Rome&lt;br&gt;Cruel-Vain-Vile&lt;br&gt;James-Peter-Paul&lt;br&gt;Murdered</td>
<td>Acts 25:10-12&lt;br&gt;2 Tim. 4:16-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 A.D.</td>
<td>Galba&lt;br&gt;Military Ruler&lt;br&gt;Slain by Otho&lt;br&gt;Entered by violence&lt;br&gt;Left by violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>69 A.D.</td>
<td>Otho&lt;br&gt;Military Ruler&lt;br&gt;Nominated by Palace Guards&lt;br&gt;Killed by Vitellius&lt;br&gt;Reigned 3 Months</td>
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<tr>
<td>69 A.D.</td>
<td>Vitellius&lt;br&gt;Military Ruler</td>
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<tr>
<td>69–79 A.D.</td>
<td>Vespasian</td>
<td>Destruction of Jerusalem 70 A.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>79–81 A.D.</td>
<td>Titus&lt;br&gt;Son of Vespasian</td>
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<tr>
<td>81–96 A.D.</td>
<td>Domitian</td>
<td>Persecution of Christians &amp; Jews&lt;br&gt;Exiled John the Apostle&lt;br&gt;Violent Death</td>
<td>Book of Revelation Written</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96–98 A.D.</td>
<td>Nerva&lt;br&gt;Chosen by Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>98–117 A.D.</td>
<td>Trajan&lt;br&gt;Born in Spain&lt;br&gt;Very Popular</td>
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</table>

* – Only 4 Roman Emperors are mentioned in the New Testament.
II. We Need To See How to Bring Others to Jesus.

These first converts give us an example of how it should be done.

#1 Through Preaching Jesus Christ --- John the Baptist.
#2 These men were not experts at this. They were just common, ordinary men who ‘Followed Jesus.’ (The 2 in v. 37) Andrew & John.
#3 Andrew brings his brother Simon Peter to Christ (41-42).
#4 Jesus finding and bringing Philip (v. 43).
#5 Philip finding Nathanael (v. 45-50).

WON BY ONE or ONE ON ONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(vs. 40,41)</th>
<th>(v. 43)</th>
<th>(v. 45)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>Philip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Findeth</td>
<td>Findeth</td>
<td>Findeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon (Peter)</td>
<td>Philip</td>
<td>Nathanael</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This is the greatest business in the world:

Men Finding Men
Fishers of Men —— Soul-winning

III. We Need to Urge Them to Come & See for Themselves.

It is not enough just to hear about Jesus, we must come to Him. ‘Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.’ (John 6:37).

Twice this expression is used here:

‘Come and See’

1. (v. 38) Two disciples following Jesus, Jesus turned and asked them ‘What seek ye?’ They responded:
   • Confession (Acknowledgement) ‘Rabbi’ (Master - Leader, Teacher).
   • ‘Where dwellest Thou’ --- They knew where Pilate, Herod, Priests, and most everybody else dwelt, but their desire was to know His dwelling. I personally think they wanted to know so they could dwell there also. Remember, John the Baptist had pointed them to Jesus, the Lamb of God, and they followed Him. They sought Him as their Master and desired to commit themselves unto Him. His answer: ‘Come and see.’

2. (v. 46) Philip to Nathanael concerning Christ as the Promised Messiah. ‘Come and see.’ Nathanael was without ‘Guile’ (No pretense, hypocrisy; he was sincere, genuine. Can something this “Good” come out of Nazareth? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He, Will He accept me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Love me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Forgive me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Save me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Use me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Hear me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Lead me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Keep me? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Give me Peace, Joy ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Satisfy my deepest longings? ‘Come and see’.
   • Can He Comfort me ‘Come and see’.

YES! Oh, Yes! He can
‘Come and see’.
John 1:35-51

INTRO: A simple outline of this entire chapter:

I. (1 - 4) Christ the Eternal Word.
II. (5 - 18) The Word Became Flesh (Human).
III. (19-36) The Record of John the Baptist.
IV. (37-51) Jesus Recruits His First Disciples.

NOTE: We will divide this lesson into three major themes:

I. We Need to Truly Realize Who Jesus Is:

(John Chap.1 is so full of Christ):
Notice the 18 different Divine Titles

1. Word (4x in vs. 1,1,1,14)
2. God (1x in v.1)
3. Creator (2x in vs. 3,10)
4. Light (6x in vs. 4,5,7,8,8,9)
5. Life (2x in v. 4,4)
6. Only begotten (2x in v. 14,18)
7. Jesus (11x in vs. 29,36,37,38, 42,42,43,45,47,48,50)
8. Jesus Christ (1x in v. 17)
9. The Christ (2x in vs. 20,41)
10. Lord (1x in v. 23)
11. Lamb of God (2x in vs. 29,36)
12. Son of God (2x in vs. 34,49)
13. Rabbi (2x in vs. 38,49)
14. Master (1x in v. 38)
15. Messias (1x in v. 41)
16. Son of Joseph (1x in v. 45)
17. King of Israel (1x in v. 49)
18. Son of Man (1x in v. 51)

Each of these names emphasize Who He is and/or What He does. They describe His character.

Also: Notice these other references to Jesus:

Flesh (1x v14)
Him of Whom Moses & the Prophets did write (1x v45)
Him (20x vs.3,3,4,7,10,10,11,12,15,31,32,33,33,37,38,39,40,47,48,49)
He (17x vs.10,11,12,15,15,15,18,27,30,30,31,33,36,39,39,42,51)
His (5x vs. 11,11,12,14,16)
One among you, whom ye know not (1x v.26)
The same (1x v.2)
That Christ (1x v.25)
That Prophet (1x v.21)
He that cometh after me is preferred before me (3x vs.15,27,30)
Upon Whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending (1x v.33)