

Luke's Gospel - A Savior of the Least Lesson Fifteen

[Luke 12:35-48].....Be Ready!

vs.34 *Jesus concludes teaching on possessions by stating that our treasures (possessions) motivate and drive us. If our treasures are in God's kingdom, God would be our motivator*

vs.35-40 Jesus begins saying, "But instead of being so concerned about possessions, you should be ready for your master's return." Jesus is referring to his second coming

Vs. 37 shows that those who are ready will receive a special reward
Caution against trying to guess when Jesus will return. Jesus compares his return to that of a thief breaking into a home(vs.39-40)

vs.41 Peter's question leads us into understanding the structure that will be set up for the church

vs.42-46 There will be those who will be placed in charge(manager-servants) and those who will follow instructions(worker-servants)
A good manager-servant will do things the way the master has instructed everyday/all the time. The reward is overseeing great possessions of the master

A bad manager-servant will take advantage of the authority given and neglect the time of the master's return. The punishment is banishment

vs.47-48 The servant who knows right (what the master wills) and chooses to do wrong will be severely punished

The servant who does not know right (what the master wills) and does wrong will be punished lightly

NOTE: God punishes wrongdoing (sin) whether we know it or not

According to what God gives (instructions, gifts, work, blessings, etc.), the equivalent will be required. "With great power comes great responsibility!"

[Luke 12:49-53].....Jesus, the Great Divider?

NOTE: Jesus has come to the world to shift the world into *crisis*. This does not mean an "emergency," but an "occasion of truth and decision."

vs.49-50 Fire - judgment and purification
Baptism - death of Christ by which the Holy Spirit will be released into the world to judge and purify

vs.51 Division - shake up the common understanding of peace

vs.52-53 The crisis that Jesus brings will shake up even family bonds.
A person's faithful response to Christ would create a crisis w/in the family.

[Luke 12:54-59].....Hypocrites Always Miss It!

vs.54-56 The Jews could pay particular attention to certain details in weather that would aid them in how to live from day to day.

Jesus calls them hypocrites because they obviously do not apply this skill to their righteousness.

They could see signs in the weather, but they were blind to the sign of God - Jesus the Christ

vs.57-59

Those who have disputes try to handle them before going to court. In court, you don't know who will win or lose - it's up to the judge.

Do not wait until the end to give attention to your life. At that time, it will not be up to you to make a difference. Do it now while you have time.

NEXT WEEK: Luke 14:1-24 and Luke 15