

Luke 12:22-59

²² And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. ²³ The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? ²⁵ And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? ²⁶ If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? ²⁹ And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. ³⁰ For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

³¹ But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. ³² Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. ³⁵ Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; ³⁶ And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. ³⁷ Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. ³⁸ And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. ³⁹ And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. ⁴⁰ Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

⁴¹ Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? ⁴² And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? ⁴³ Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. ⁴⁴ Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

⁴⁵ But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; ⁴⁶ The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. ⁴⁷ And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. ⁴⁸ But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

⁴⁹ I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? ⁵⁰ But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! ⁵¹ Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: ⁵² For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. ⁵³ The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. ⁵⁴ And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. ⁵⁵ And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. ⁵⁶ Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? ⁵⁷ Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right? ⁵⁸ When thou goest with thine adversary to the magistrate, as thou art in the way, give diligence that thou mayest be delivered from him; lest he hale thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and the officer cast thee into prison. ⁵⁹ I tell thee, thou shalt not depart thence, till thou hast paid the very last mite.

Take No Thought

Last week we read where Jesus told his disciples to **“¹² take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: ¹² For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say”**. Again, in verse 22, Jesus urges them, **“take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. ²³ The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.** It’s easy to see that these are things are hard not to think about and seem to be on everyone’s’ mind . So what is Jesus telling us? He is reminding us of our purpose and wisely guides us to do that very thing. Our purpose is to glorify God and tell others the good news.



The Kingdom of God



Judging by verse 26 we obviously don’t have as much control over these matters (what we eat and what we wear) than what we think. Think about all the circumstances that impact what you have and what you can get, it then shows that it’s all really in God’s hands. Focus on the kingdom with Jesus set in His rightful place as The King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus asks us to consider the lilies and the sparrows. These two things might seem worthless to some but not to God. They have their purpose too and despite their frailty the lilies still grow and produce seeds and the sparrows still fly about and hatch their young. Isn’t it amazing that God notices and cares so much; and to God we are worth more than these. It was man alone that God made in His image and we should bear that image reflecting the love of God. Do people recognize you as the child of the king?

A Servant

Being saved we are a child of the King but we must remember we're also a servant to do as our Lord commands. Willingness and faithfulness are two key attributes to being a good servant. Having been told to "seek the kingdom of God" Jesus also compels us to do the following as we seek it:

- Sell and give alms – Don't let worldly possessions become your God, help the needy even if it means you won't have as much which echoes what Jesus said in Luke 12:15. Jesus also told the parable of the rich man building bigger barns instead of giving to the poor. It was God that gave the increase and the man greedily tried to keep it all.
- Gird up your loins – Conveys the thought of being emboldened and laying aside anything that may hinder us
- Keep your light burning – It's God's light but you have to be a willing vessel. As mentioned in verse 8-9 we must confess the Lord Jesus and don't deny him.
- Be ready and watching – be an ever faithful servant, and hear our Lord say "well done..."
- Verse 35 -36 – Adam was meant to bear the image of God and as Christians we should reflect the image of Christ)lights burning. Also as Adam was cast out from the garden, the redeemed will be reunited with God in the wedding; the groom as Christ and the bride as the Church.

The term 'servant' isn't something sought after in most cases but when thinking of who you are serving it actually becomes desirable. It isn't easy and Jesus has already warned of opposition. Jesus speak of sending fire and of His baptism speaking I believe of the animosity that is stirred up from the religious leaders and of His coming betrayal and crucifixion. Many families will be divided on the issue of Jesus and His true identity. This was happening in Jesus' day and has carried on throughout the centuries. Jesus chastises them over the fact that they can tell the weather by the signs but that can't see all the evidence pointing to Him being their promised Messiah. Chapter 12 ends with Jesus also chastising them for lack of proper judgment, not only toward Him but of others, and that their own judgment is coming.



Luke 12:59 I tell thee, thou shalt not depart thence, till thou hast paid the very last mite.

If truly saved we are servants to our Lord but also children of our heavenly Father. What a blessed thought.



As always I hope you enjoyed the lesson, may God bless you and your families. Please feel free to share this study with others.