

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 04 Mar..... Luke 1:1-80.....A Special Baby – Rejoice
- 2) 11 Mar..... Luke 2:1-52.....A Unique Person – Praise God
- 3) 18 Mar..... Luke 3:1 – 4:30.....An Unexpected Messiah – Honor Him
- 4) 25 Mar..... Luke 4:31 – 6:11..... Christianity 101 – Accept Others
- 5) 01 Apr..... Luke 6:12 – 8:56..... Christianity 102 – Live to Benefit Others
- 6) 08 Apr..... Luke 24:13-35.....Be Confident of the Resurrection
- 7) 15 Apr..... Luke 9:1-50..... Christianity 103 – Meet Needs
- 8) **22 Apr..... Luke 9:51 – 13:21... Christianity 104 – Be Good Neighbors**
- 9) 29 Apr..... Luke 13:22 – 17:10..... Christianity 105 – Manage Money Well
- 10) 06 May..... Luke 17:11 – 19:27..... Christianity 106 – Learn to Pray
- 11) 13 May..... Luke 19:28 – 22:65.....He Voluntarily Suffered – Be Grateful
- 12) 20 May..... Luke 22:66 – 23:49.....He Offers Salvation – Believe
- 13) 27 May..... Luke 23:50 – 24:12,36-53..... He Lives Eternally – Carry On

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS FROM LAST WEEK:

- If it is true that God no longer works the miracles of the 1st century (e.g., instantaneous and 100% healings of everyone they came into contact with) then can we still effectively pray for the sick?
 - ♦ **ABSOLUTELY – and more effectively**, since we are praying more in line with God’s will. God still heals, God still works miracles, God still answers prayers – That’s His Nature!
 - ♦ We just have to realize God now heals and works miracles **PROVIDENTIALY** – whether it is healing a loved one of a kidney stone or of cancer through medical intervention, or protecting a soldier on the battlefield, or bringing rain, or “pulling down strong holds” or spiritually removing trees & mountains - All things work together for our good..... **Romans 8:28**
- Why has God stopped healing everyone instantaneously?
 - ♦ The miracles of the 1st century, including the “signs of an Apostle” (2Cor 12:12) had a specific purpose – to proclaim that the Messiah had come and to kick start His church into existence by establishing Apostolic credibility. Recall that Paul’s handkerchief and aprons could heal (**Acts 19:12**); & jumping into Peter’s shadow also could heal apparently (**Acts 5:15**)
 - ♦ Plus, realize the 2 main types of miracles, and their purposes:
 1. **Substantiated miracles** of Moses, Elijah and Elisha, and of Jesus and His Apostles/Disciples where the people of their generations could not logically deny such miracles and healings were of God.
(Note: The next occurrence of substantiated miracles will be done by the 2 witnesses of Revelations 11)
 2. **Subjective miracles** are those that the rest of us can testify to of answered prayers for healings, jobs, food, finances, rain, protection, guidance, deliverance, and the list goes on....
- They are subjective because of God’s providential approach to answering them, leaving room for skeptics to doubt and to claim “coincidence” – yet they will still be accountable

God provides convincing (not compelling) evidence for people to believe in Him – No one is ever forced to go to Heaven

INTRODUCTION

- In the next 4 chapters (9-13) Luke tackles more kingdom teachings than healings and miracles. He’s confirmed for Theophilus that Christ is the Messiah, now it’s time to concentrate on His teachings

Passage	Comments
Luke 9:51-62	<p>Convenient Christianity is a Killer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “First let me go bury my dad” and “say bye to family” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ These would-be followers of Christ were saying – “I’ll serve God later when it is more convenient for me” ♦ Most Christians read their Bible and pray when it is convenient, give when it is convenient, and do the speed limit when it is convenient ♦ God wants us to be living sacrifices, which entails obeying Him even when it is not convenient to do so

Passage	Comments
10:1-24	<p>Send out the 70</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1 & 9. Jesus went from sending out 12 to 70 with orders to heal the sick – no exceptions; and to preach that the Kingdom of God was near, so get ready • vv12-15. It will be more tolerable in the judgment day for ancient Sodom, Tyre and Sidon, who practiced sexual perversion, sought destruction of Israel, and practiced idolatry, than for the cities Jesus traveled through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ v13. Willful ignorance is deadly2Peter 3:5 ♦ What if a prophet like Jonah was sent to Tyre and Sidon? Jesus says they would’ve repented ♦ Sodom, Tyre, & Sidon are still accountable for their atrocious behavior whether or not they were visited by a prophet of God who performed signs & wonders ♦ Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum chose not to believe the miracles which conveyed Jesus is God • v19. Jesus told the 70 He gave them authority over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Recall how Paul was bitten by a snake with no harm ♦ But 11 out of 12 Apostles met a martyr’s death ♦ James, the brother of John was the 1st to die ♦ Acts 8 & 9 record how Saul/Paul ravaged the church ♦ Since Scripture does not contradict itself we must see this passage as no injury to our eternal spirits OR this was a temporary protection clause for the 70 • v20. Our eternal destiny is more exciting than miracles
10:25-37	<p>The Good Samaritan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What must I do to be saved? Love God with our heart, soul, strength, and mind (emotions, consciousness, physical ability, mental capacity) • Who is being neighborly? The Samaritan saw a valid need (not a scam), He took action at a personal cost of time, money & safety, and he promised a follow-up visit - 2 denarii was equivalent of 2 months food & lodging
10:38-41	<p>Who’s more blessed? Martha or Mary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary was more blessed for her willingness to forego the Urgent for what was Important (be with Jesus)
11:1-13	<p>Let’s Pray (to Pray is to Ask)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are never commanded to sing unceasingly, or talk unceasingly, or even worship unceasingly – but we are commanded to pray unceasingly – & praying is asking • We have not because we ask notJames 4:2 • vv5-13, Persistence in asking helps us fine tune our requests from asking amiss for things to squander on ourselves to asking for good things for which God delights in answering on our behalf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ For example, we might start off asking God for more money to survive in this tough economy (God knows it’s not money we need, it’s Him we need) ♦ Over time we adjust our prayer to something like this – “Lord, your word commands us to work hard and not to be in any need (1Thes 4:11), to seek your kingdom first, to help those in need and to produce fruit for your kingdom, and you promise to meet my every need. So as I live an obedient life I trust you will meet my every need and provide the abundant life you so richly promise to those who love you
11:14-26	<p>More on Demons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus heals a demonic mute and is accused of driving out demons by the power of Satan • We are not told how demons choose their victims • Not all illnesses are due to demonic activity • vv24-26. When a demon leaves a person, and the person fails to establish a firm grounding in Christ, his latter end is worse than the beginning.....2 Peter 2:20

Passage	Comments
11:27-28	<p>Who's More Blessed? Mother Mary or Others?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a good passage to witness with Catholics Those who heed the word of God are more blessed than being the earthly mother of Jesus, just as those of us who believe without seeing the risen Christ are more blessed than those who did have that experience
11:29-36	<p>The Sign of Jonah for an Evil Generation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This evil generation just wanted more signs, more free food, more miracles, more handouts - give me, give me Jesus was going to give them one more sign – the sign of Jonah – Repent or Perish – and they perished 70 AD v35. Warning to us – be not self-deceived thinking we have the light. Examine yourself carefully 2Cor 13:5
11:37-54	<p>Religious Hypocrisy – Part 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6x Jesus says “WOE to you” religious leaders for your self-centeredness – They thought “It’s all about ME” v52. Warning to us – We too can hinder people from coming to Christ by exhibiting a bad testimony
12:1-12	<p>Religious Hypocrisy – Part 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v1. Thousands had gathered to be near Jesus, so His strategy to send out 70 to heal everyone ahead of his travels worked wondrously Jesus took time to warn His disciples about the false teachings of the religious leaders (Pharisees) – they must be challenged & people must hear sound doctrine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blaspheme against the Holy Spirit, which is rejection of Jesus Christ, whom the Holy Spirit testifies about, is the only unforgivable sin
12:13-21	<p>Parable of the Rich Fool – Watch Out For Greed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being rich is not a problem – it’s the love of riches So, he that has the most toys is not the winner in life How can someone making minimum wage be richer toward God than billionaire Bill Gates?
12:22-40	<p>The Cure for Anxiety – Seek God’s Kingdom First</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v30-32. God knows our every need – and He delights in meeting our needs – but do we delight in Him? God guarantees to meet our every need when we choose to “seek His Kingdom” (obedient living)
12:33-34	<p>Where’s our Treasure? How Generous are We?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v33. Sell your possessions and give to the poor! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we sell some or all possessions? Do we give to certain poor or any poor? Looking at “the whole counsel of God” it is obvious we are not commanded to sell all our possessions and indiscriminately give to any poor person Acts 2:45-46. Believers still had their homes to go to for church meetings after they sold (some) of their possessions to feed the poor within their fellowship Acts 3:1-10. Peter did not give money to a lame man (though he had money to give as he received funds from believers to feed the poor within the church), but instead gave the man the ability to go to work by healing his lameness – and the man was THRILLED Acts 2:44-45; 5:1-2. Funds were deposited initially at the Apostles feet for distribution – So, qualified leaders distributed aide to qualified poor
12:41-53	<p>Rewards and Punishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v48. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required – the Law of Accountability – Since we have average IQs, we live in America, & we have all working limbs we are HIGHLY accountable
12:54-59	<p>Judge for Yourself What is Right</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus says if we are smart enough to get out of the rain, we are smart enough to discern spiritual things So there’s no legitimate excuse for anyone to go to Hell

Passage	Comments
13:1-8	<p>Repent or Perish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The righteous can receive harsh treatment..... Job Accidents at work can happen to good people. Ecc 10:9 In all cases – God is in control – and both good and bad people need to repent to avoid perishing
13:6-9	<p>The Parable of the Fig Tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This parable was told as a last ditch effort for the nation of Israel to repent and bear fruit – or else!
13:10-17	<p>Another Demonic Illness Healed Instantly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus, on a Sabbath, healed a woman who was bent over for 18 years due to demonic activity – and this agitated the establishment. Jesus humiliated His adversaries by rightfully calling them hypocrites and logically defending His actions
13:18-21	<p>Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church growth is good and honors God.....Prov 14:28

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- So much more can be said about the miracles of the Bible and what is and is not applicable for us today
 - Do we need miracles for our faith to grow? NO. In fact, One can preach & work miracles even without being saved....**Mat 7:21-23**
 - Don't miracles lead people to Christ? Not Always. If people don't believe in God's word, even if one were to rise from the dead they won't believe**Luke 16:31 (next week's lesson)**
 - One more note on Substantiated Miracles:** They are meant to be attention-grabbers, they are temporary in nature, and they give credibility to the miracle worker and his message. Jesus had to reprimand some of His followers about miracles. In essence, he said “You are looking for me for the wrong reasons – don't look for another miracle which perishes, but look for food that lasts for eternal life” **John 6:26-27**

NEXT WEEK: Luke 13-17. We move further away from miracles (only 1 healing in the next 5 chapters) and stress more on teachings of the Kingdom. Five parables are told, including the prodigal son. We lead off with a question – “Are there few being saved” Lk 13:22

