Scripture Reading: Luke 6:20-26

Sermon Title: Uncommon Royalty: Woe to those

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

- "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
- "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
- ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.
- ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
- ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.
- "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- ²⁶ "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets. Luke 6:20-26

Jesus' direct warnings call for examining & reordering our deepest loves.

"But woe to you who are..."

And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was *a chief tax collector* and was *rich*... And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. To For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:2 & Luke 19:9

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Woes are warnings of pending judgement & a way to express sadness over your personal state or the state of another.

(Hosea 7:13, Zephaniah 2:5, Habakkuk 2, Matthew 11:21, Matthew 18:7, Matthew 23, Luke 11, Revelation 8:13, Isaiah 5 Isaiah 6:5, Psalm 120:5, Jeremiah 10:19, 1 Corinthians 19:6)

Jesus is calling people to himself through confronting people with themselves.

"But woe to you who are rich *for you have received your consolation*....Woe to you, when all people speak well of you"

With Jesus, the heart is the target.

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will *hate the one* and *love the other*, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. *You cannot serve God and money*.

Matthew 6:24

No servant can serve two masters, for either he will *hate the one* and *love the other*, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. *You cannot serve God and money*."

Luke 16:13

The Pharisees, *who were lovers of money*, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him Luke 16:14

"Mammon is not simply money but the anti-God impetus that finds its power in money." -Andy Crouch. The life we're looking for.

Woe to you Pharisees! For *you love the best seat* in the synagogues and *greetings* in the marketplaces.

Luke 11:43

Mine & well done are the highest blessing for any human.

The essence of sin is distorted & disordered love

"The body by its own weight strives towards its own place. Weight makes not downward only, but to his own place. Fire tends upward, a stone downward. They are urged by their own weight, they seek their own places. Oil poured below water, is raised above the water; water poured upon oil, sinks below the oil. They are urged by their own weights to seek their own places. When out of their order, they are restless; restored to order, they are at rest. My weight, is my love by it am I borne whithersoever I am borne (My weight, is my loved. I'm carried by it wherever I am carried)

Augustine of Hippo. Confessions.

Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

Jesus calls everyone everywhere to love God fully, love themselves correctly, & love others sincerely.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and **to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,** that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

A growing view of & ongoing interaction with the love of God is what I need most in my life.

A growing view of & ongoing interaction with the love of God is what God is most eager to give.

Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets

Lies are the most powerful when they're built on a bit of truth & they address a real desire or wound.

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Galatians 1:10

If God's approval isn't the foundation of my identity (sense of self), something lesser will be.

"Blessed are you..."

Jesus is calling people to himself through confronting people with Himself.