

Luke 6 Pt 3 vv 22-36

Jesus

- **Sermon on the Plain...**

1. Blessings [4 Beatitudes] 8 in Mat Sermon on Mount vv 20-23
2. Curses vv 24-26
3. Love your Enemies vv 27-36
4. Do not Judge vv 37-42
5. Tree Known by its Fruit vv 43-45
6. Building our Lives on the Rock vv 46-49

III. Blessings/Beatitudes [last of 4 in Luke. Mat 9]

- Blessed are you now who are...

1. **Poor** Step 1: Know/Admit Need Receive Kingdom today
2. **Hungry** Begin: Longing for Eternal Righteousness, Justice, Truth
3. **Weep** Become: Vexed current state Unrighteousness/Injustice/Lies

Blessed are we who Hunger/Weep now...
We will be filled/We will laugh together w/Jesus in the Kingdom

- **For now, Jesus turns it up a notch...4th Beatitude**

22 Blessed are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you, And revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake. 23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy!...

- **Happy are you when for Jesus sake they...**

1. **Hang up** because they don't want to hear it
2. **Exclude you** because their uncomfortable
3. **Mock you** for speaking truth because living the lie allows them to sin

1 Peter 4:3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that **you do not run** with them in the same flood of dissipation, **speaking evil of you**. 5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

4. Call you evil for My sake...Called evil for what?

- Pro-Life Anti-killing babies in womb Call me evil
- Pro-Truth Anti-Relativism/Compromise Call me evil
- Pro-Purity Anti-Perversity Call me evil
- Pro-Justice Anti-Lawlessness Call me evil

Isaiah 59:14 [Upside down world 2023] Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. 15 So truth fails, And he who departs from evil **makes himself a prey**.

**Call the ways of God evil? Bring it! We fear God
Woe to those who deny the obvious**

Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

We are not of this Satanic World System. We are Transformed
So, When we won't conform...we are no longer welcome. Hated as Jesus was/is

John 15:18 If the world hates you, you know that **it hated Me before it hated you.** 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, **therefore the world hates you.**

Mark 3:22 [Religious leaders to Jesus] "He has Beelzebub," and, "By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons."

John 10:20 [Crowd] "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?"

**When it happens leap for joy! Don't despair...Jump in the air
The world calls us evil... Jesus calls us blessed, so...**

- **We continue the work Jesus began:** Threshing Floor of Soul Separation

Matthew 10:34 Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace **but a sword.**

Galatians 6:17 From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

Colossians 1:24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

- **Lacking?** More work to do/souls to save/More persecution to be had

2 Timothy 3:12 ...and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Leap for Joy...

23b... For indeed your **reward is great in heaven,** For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.

- **Blessed are the...**

1. Poor	Admit need/Receive Kingdom	Blessed now.
2. Hungry	For Eternal: Righteousness, Justice, and Truth	Blessed Later
3. Weeping	Vexed at seeing exact opposite	Blessed Later
4. Hated	Excluded by those we seek to save	Blessed Later

IV. Sermon on the Plain Pt 2 Curses

- Jesus spoke the disciples/learners/teachable

Jesus now addresses the **Posers/Make-believers**

24 "But **woe to you who are rich,** For you have received your consolation. 25 **Woe to you who are full,** For you shall hunger. **Woe to you who laugh now,** For

you shall mourn and weep. 26 Woe to you when all men speak well of you, For so did their **fathers [speak well of] the false prophets.**

But woe to those **whose hope** in is in this World System/Not God

- **Trust in Riches** Advice? Take what you can get now Cursed Now/Forever

1 Timothy 6:10 For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness and **pierced themselves** through with many sorrows. 11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. [Woe to you who are...]

- **Satisfied w/world** Gratified in things of world Hunger forever
- **Laugh w/world** No fear of God/hatred sin Mourn forever
- **Loved by world** People pleasers Damnation forever

Who is Jesus talking to?

Make-believers/Religious Imposters/Deceivers/False-Disciples/Hypocrites/Self-Reliant
Earth Dwelling People Pleasers vs Heaven Bound God Fearers

- **Those Satisfied with earthly things/praise of men**
 1. No personal cost/No persecution/No delayed gratification. Want it now.
 2. No cross/no crown. No pain/no gain. No sacrifice death/thus no resurrection

[Jesus] is turning upside-down [rather, right-side-up] their perception of the Kingdom of God. Many feel that if they are rich, full, and laughing, then they have all they need in life. Jesus points out just how wrong this thinking is. [Guzik]

Salvation is Free...Following Jesus is Not
Personal Cost to you for following Jesus? Everything.
Every part of you: Body soul, and spirit. Hopes/Dreams/Goals

Luke 14:33 ... whoever of you does not **forsake all that he has** cannot be My disciple.

As Hard teachings begin Make believers begin to exit...

John 6:66 [Flesh/blood for Eternal Life] ... many of His disciples went back and **walked with Him no more.** 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" 68 But Simon Peter answered Him...

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of Eternal Life.

V. Sermon on the Plain Pt 3 Love Your Enemies

Q. How important is Truth? A. All important.
Sermon on Plain: Hard truth that demands change...

- **To Make-Believers/Earth dwellers/Posers:** You can't handle the truth

27 "But I say **to you who hear, Love your enemies**, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. 29 To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. 30 Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back.

- **Love your enemies.**

1. **Do good** Actions we do for them
2. **Bless** Words we say to them
3. **Pray** Requesting God's desire for them...our enemies

Jesus commanded us His follower to love our enemies. He did not command us to **like** our enemies. Love is a verb thus not motivated by emotion but by sincere desire to please God by loving those we may not even like. Surprise them with grace. [NJC]

Q. Is there a limit self-sacrifice for another? IOWs when does love stop being love...

Q. When does a river stop fulfilling its purpose?

A. When it floods causes destruction

[Love your enemies] If we really lived this, wouldn't people walk all over us? **Where would the limit be?** The limit is easy to find, i.e., the **limit of love**. When fulfilling a person's request isn't loving towards them, then I shouldn't do it. Giving a person everything they ask for isn't necessarily love. But it is **all too rare that we come to the limit of love**. Usually, we allow our own pride, or lack of comfort, or unwillingness to sacrifice to be our limit. [Guzik]

- **IOW's** Err on the side of discomfort/willingness/sacrifice...and we should be alright

Q. What does self-sacrificial love look like at street level?

A. We can know exactly at any given moment...

31 And **just as you want** men to do to you, **you also do** to them likewise.

- **Some taught easy version/negative:** Don't do others you don't want done to you
- **Jesus teaches the positive:** Be Love your neighbor as yourself

IOWs How do I desire to be loved?

Now do that for others...even your enemies

- **Q.** Isn't going to church/reading my bible enough? **A.** No. James says listen/do
- **Q.** Can I do these things with a bad attitude **A.** Yes but it won't count...

1 Corinthians 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but **have not love, I am nothing**. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, **but have not love, it profits me nothing**. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails

▪ **vv 4-8 Answers Q. what is Love?**

1. Patience reflects the value we place on others.
2. Kindness expresses an attribute of God to others
3. Delight in success of others demonstrates selflessness
4. Humbly treating others more important is a God thing

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each **esteem others better** than himself.

5. Words: Speaking Truth/Edification/Blessing/Encouragement
6. Bearing w/quirks in others...Honors God as Creator
7. Believing the best when we don't have all facts honors God place as Judge
8. Hoping for the best outcome is a supernatural attribute of God
9. Enduring all their ups and downs is how we would hope to be treated

▪ **Love never fails...** Lit. has no end as it is sent ahead to Heaven

To our enemies: Just as you want done for you...You do for them

Anything less the Heathens are already doing...

32 "But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.

How much heavenly currency is deposited in our Heavenly account for simply reciprocating Love/Goodness/Giving? **Not much.**

Kingdom Investments don't come cheap or w/out great personal sacrifice
Want a great yield on you HIA [Heavenly Investment Account]?

- Love the one who hurt you...really bad For Jesus' sake
- Love the one who robbed a precious thing For Jesus' sake
- Love the one still hurting you... For Jesus' sake. Supernatural Love

Even the godless repay good for good...that's easy and anyone can do that and be commended by the world. Only those who belong to Jesus and are filled with the Spirit of God can go beyond worldly reciprocal self-love to sacrificial love, i.e., a love that seeks NOTHING in return satisfied in simply knowing we are pleasing our King. [NJC]

35 But **love your enemies, do good, and lend**, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

**Children should begin to act like their Father
Kind to the Unkind and Good to the Bad**

Luke 23:33 And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. 34 Then Jesus said, **"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."** And they divided His garments and cast lots. 35 And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God."

- **Do not know what they do?**

Getting angry and frustrated by the selfish actions of those who do not have the Holy Spirit is akin to punching a person who is blind because they bumped into you. **They are blind.** The **world is blinded by Satan.** We are to forgive. They don't know what they're doing and even if they did...**they don't have the power to do what is right.** [NJC]

2 Corinthians 4:3 ... if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose **minds the god of this age has blinded**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

We are called to be the Light of the World
Be so close to God that He radiates from our faces to those who need the Light

- **Sermon on the Plain:** Why this hard teaching?
 1. **Hope** for believers in Eternity
 2. **Growth** for believers while we wait
 3. **Salvation** for sinners as recognize God in us. Responses/Love/Peace

1 Timothy 2:3 ... this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires **all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

God desires all to Repent, Believe, Healed, Made whole

- **Our response to hurt will...**
 1. Draw them to God as they see Him in us
 2. Validate/Solidify their unbelief
- **So, we remember who we are...**

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, **of whom I am chief.**

36 Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Therefore...because God is kind to unkind/Good to the bad...show mercy

- **Grace:** God giving us what we don't deserve Salvation
- **Mercy:** God not giving us what we do deserve Judgment

So do that...Be Merciful

- God will deal w/our enemies who don't repent...

Romans 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, **I will repay,**" says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- He will repay. **We will love**
- Salvation is Free...Following Jesus is Not

Personal Cost to you now as per Sermon on Plain? **Everything.**
Reward to us Eternally as per Sermon on Plain. **Everything.**