



SERMON REFLECTION GUIDE

Luke, Part 39: Another World - Luke 12:13-13:9 - August 17, 2025

SERMON OUTLINE

Intro - Old Panhandle v. New Panhandle (the tension that's not quite real) - and the idea of two realms (or kingdoms) existing parallel to one another.

A. THIS WORLD and GOD'S KINGDOM (Luke 12:13-34)

Jesus presents two sinful marks of those who love this world more than God's kingdom.

1. Covetousness (or Greed) - 12:13-21
 - Fighting over an inheritance is a clear sign of covetousness. Jesus isn't a banker or lawyer.
 - An untimely death reveals the foolishness of piling up possessions.
 - **Illustration:** Self-Storage Industry (built on the back of covetousness)
 - "Covetousness is idolatry" (Col. 3:5) - One's life does not consist of possessions (Lk. 12:15)
2. Anxiety (or a lack of trust in God's provision) - 12:22-34
 - Flip-side of the same coin as covetousness. Anxiety = a lack what we covet.
 - Keeping your eyes on your possessions (or lack thereof) only produces anxiety. This is an earthly mindset, not a kingdom mindset.
 - Most comforting verse in our section - Lk. 12:32 - we need not be anxious because the Lord is thrilled to give us his kingdom as a better reward than all this world possesses.

B. STAYING READY for GOD'S KINGDOM (Luke 12:35-13:5)

Jesus gives several teachings about being prepared for God's Kingdom while in this world.

1. A Parable about the return of Jesus, The Son of Man - 12:35-48
 - We get no calendar, but must still be ready.
 - The long wait for his return + our misunderstanding of the brevity of life = unreadiness
 - Unreadiness reveals itself in sinful practices and will lead to judgment (v. 45-46)
2. The Cross both divides and reconciles this world and God's Kingdom - 12:49-53
 - "Baptism" (v. 50) is a metaphor for Jesus' death - the ultimate dividing force
3. Pay attention to signs and settle your affairs - 12:54-59
 - Hypocrisy to have worldly awareness with a spiritual ignorance
4. Repent and trust in Jesus - 13:1-5
 - The only true preparation is a repentance of sin and trust in Jesus Christ.
 - Pain and suffering should remind us the urgency that lies before us.

C. THE PATIENCE of GOD (Luke 13:6-9)

Against the urgency of the previous 52 verses, Jesus tells us of his grace/patience.

- Human nature is give up on that which does not produce results. We understand the judgment of "cutting down the tree"
- God, through, doesn't remove resources from the fruitless - he gives more grace. (v. 8)
- His patience doesn't last forever (v. 9), but as long as you live and Jesus tarries and the word is preached - God reveals his patience.



SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How often do you consider life in the world to come? Does that impact how you live your life in this world?
2. What is covetousness? What does it reveal about our hearts? *Should Christians have storage buildings*?
3. How often do you worry about money or possessions? What is your chief concern? How does Luke 12:22-34 speak to that in your life?
4. If Jesus were to return today, would you be *ready*? Why do we neglect to think about being prepared for that day?
5. How does the death of Jesus both divide and reconcile?
6. How do we know that Jesus is patient with us as he calls us to recentness and readiness?