

Luke 6:17-49 – 12 March 2023

“Kingdom Living”

Introduction

*Since Chap 4 Jesus has been teaching of His identity & His mission to bring the Kingdom of God to people

*In Luke 4:43 Jesus said, “I must preach the Kingdom of God...for therefore am I sent.”

*The kingdom is the Christian’s invisible place of allegiance to our King Jesus: in this world but not of it

*In Luke 6, Jesus has just chosen the 12 men into which He’ll spend most of His time

Read Vs 17-19

1. People are coming from Israel & beyond now to learn and be healed
2. Virtue went out from Him to heal
 - a. This is dunamis as in Acts 1:8

Today, in this ‘Sermon on the Plain’ we’ll see 3 aspects of our kingdom living

1st aspect of kingdom living is in the future: How great will be our reward? (Vs 20-26)

Intro

1. There's kingdom yet coming: Jesus will rule on rejuvenated earth on throne of David for 1,000 yrs
2. Read II Tim 4:1: Jesus is the King of kingdom

Read Vs 20

1. John (Matt 3:2) & Jesus (Matt 4:17) preached 'repent for the kingdom of God is at hand'
 - a. "Poor (& so on)" – These are spiritual indicators, not physical indicators (see Matt 5)
 - b. For the poor in spirit that knew they had to repent...theirs is the kingdom!

Read Vs 21

1. Although we do it imperfectly, we long for righteousness & the joy of God's presence

Read Vs 22-23

1. Jesus came to divide people into 2 (Matt 10:34), so it's not possible to preach Jesus & have all like us

2. Can only rejoice if we see long view of things
 - a. Read I Pet 4:13: We're becoming like Jesus

Read Vs 24

1. Verses 24-26 are the opposite of verses 20-22
2. Just as 'poor' was about poor in spirit (vs 20 & Matt 5:3), rich are those thinking they're self-sufficient
 - a. Read Rev 3:17-18 to Laodicea

Read Vs 25

1. Those not seeking after God now, will seek when it's too late and they will weep
2. Rich man in hell (Luke 16) was seeking to make things right after he died, but it was too late

Read Vs 26

1. If people like seeking Jesus, then they should love us, but if all men love you then you're not presenting Jesus (Read Gal 1:10)
 - a. Be as winsome as possible, so that when they're offended, it's Jesus in you & not our bad presentation

2nd aspect of kingdom living is in the present: How shall I live in the kingdom now? (Vs 27-38)

Intro

1. Pharisees misunderstood thinking the kingdom is ONLY a future state & not also a present state
2. Read Luke 17:20-21 – among you now

Read Vs 27-28

1. Love, do good, bless and pray for those that actively come against us, not just the neutrals
 - a. This is an impossible command like when Jesus told crippled man to stretch out his hand
 - b. It's only accomplished as we trust God to empower us with His Spirit and power
2. Paul (Rom 12:20) quotes Prov 25:22 that doing good to our enemy heaps coals of fire on their head
 - a. How? Conviction of H.S. shows their guilt

Read Vs 29-30

1. In Matt 5 Sermon on the Mount Jesus compared OT Law (eye for eye) to NT grace

2. Remember these aren't intended as govt laws but as personal conduct for kingdom citizens
3. Notice we're told to offer, not mercy, but grace

Read Vs 31

1. This's sum of the Law – Love God, love others

Read Vs 32-34

1. When returning equal for equal, that's simple justice, but cannot be called help or grace
2. Grace is how you change the world

Read Vs 35-36

1. Notice this isn't saying we should aid those that are actively living against the cause of Christ
 - a. ie Deut 23:6 & Read II John 11
2. The Law said love your neighbor, the grace of Jesus says, love even your enemy

Read Vs 37

1. This isn't saying...
 - a. Not to judge right & wrong (John 7:24)

- b. Not to decide disputes (I Cor 6:1-4)
 - c. Not to characterize lifestyles (Matt 7:15-16)
2. This is saying...
- a. Not to have a condemning attitude
 - b. Not to prejudge before the facts (Prov 18:13)

Read Vs 38

- 1. Not about money, but condemnation & forgiveness
- 2. Our posture toward others frees them up to act this way toward us
- 3. It's the law of sowing and reaping (Gal 6:7-8)

3rd aspect of kingdom living is in the past: How do I enter the kingdom? (Vs 39-49)

Intro

- 1. Most will declare they're headed to heaven, but
- 2. Read John 3:3 – You need to be born into it

Read Vs 39-40

- 1. The one you choose to role-model will determine your limitations and your maximum

2. We enter the kingdom by coming to Jesus the Creator of heaven & earth, the Author & Finisher of our faith that will usher us into kingdom
 - a. Read John 9:39-41

Read Vs 41-42

1. Consider our own life before helping another
 - a. Note, mote & beam are made of same stuff
2. Doesn't say to give up & not help another
 - a. Tells us to take action to rid sin so we can move into helping the greater body of Christ
 - b. Same as Communion in I Cor 11:27-29 – 'Examine yourself' and then take

Read Vs 43-45

1. Examine ourselves to see if we've been truly born again into the kingdom
2. Might be fruit in a life b/c we gave them the Word of God, but what about in our own life
3. Year after year are we bearing fruit or just works?

Read Vs 46

1. Not all that call Jesus Lord & that ‘worked for Him’ will enter the kingdom
2. Like Peter in Acts 10:14, we can’t say “no so, Lord”
3. Read John 6:29 – the work of God is to believe
4. And true belief will act on itself James tells us

Read Vs 47-49

1. Life w/ deep foundation takes longer to grow up
2. All the building of good works in our life will fall if not build on the one and only solid foundation of Jesus Christ
 - a. Read I Cor 3:11
3. Whether building on sand or rock, the storms will come
 - a. Read Psa 18:31

Conclusion

So the Christian is always to live in the presence of the King, Jesus

1. **How great is our reward in the future?**
 - a. It an eternal reward of satisfaction
 - b. Forever in the presence of Jesus our King
 - c. I hath not seen, not hear hath heard all that God has prepared for those that love Him!
2. **How shall we live in the kingdom now?**
 - a. Relying on the H.S. to produce supernatural love within us
 - b. Heaping grace upon others to the changing of their lives
3. **How do we enter the kingdom?**
 - a. By letting Jesus, the perfect master & rock teach us the way thru death by His cross
 - b. Ye must be born again by the Spirit of God

Can we say as Psalmist (62:6) “He only is my rock & my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved”