

**Session 21: Stewardship and the Coming of the Son of Man****Luke 16:1-17:37****Parable of the Dishonest Steward (Luke 16:1-17:10)**

| Matthew 6 | Luke 16:1-13   |
|-----------|--|
|           | <p><b>1</b> Now He was also saying to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a steward, and this steward was reported to him as squandering his possessions.</p> <p><b>2</b> "And he called for him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an accounting of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.'</p> <p><b>3</b> "And the steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig; I am ashamed to beg.</p> <p><b>4</b> 'I know what I shall do, so that when I am removed from the stewardship people will take me into their homes.'</p> <p><b>5</b> "And he summoned each one of his master's debtors, and he began saying to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'</p> <p><b>6</b> "And he said, 'One hundred baths of oil.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'</p> <p><b>7</b> "Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' And he said, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'</p> <p><b>8</b> "And his master praised the unrighteous steward because he had acted shrewdly, <b>for the sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light.</b></p> <p><b>9</b> "And I say to you, <b>make friends for yourselves from the wealth of unrighteousness, so that when it fails, they will take you into the eternal dwellings.</b></p> <p><b>10</b> "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much, and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.</p> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>24</b> "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."</p> | <p><b>11</b> "Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?"</p> <p><b>12</b> "And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?"</p> <p><b>13</b> "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."</p> |
|---|--|

**Response to the Ridicule of the Pharisee**

| <b>Matthew</b>  | <b>Mark</b> | <b>Luke 16</b>   |
|---|-------------|--|
| <p><b>Matthew 11:</b></p> <p><b>12</b> "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.</p> <p><b>13</b> "For all the prophets and the Law prophesied until John.</p> <p><b>Matthew 5</b></p> <p><b>18</b> "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished."</p> |             | <p><b>14</b> Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and were scoffing at Him.</p> <p><b>15</b> And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts, for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.</p> <p><b>16</b> "The Law and the Prophets were until John; since that time the good news of the kingdom of God is proclaimed, and everyone is forcing his way into it.</p> <p><b>17</b> "But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail.</p> |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Matthew 5:</b> (cf. Mt 19:9)<br/> <b>31</b> “Now it was said, ‘WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE’;<br/> <b>32</b> <i>but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman <b>commits adultery.</b>”</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DIVORCE</b></p> <p><b>Mark 10</b><br/> <b>11</b> <i>And He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her; 12and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she is <b>committing adultery.</b>”</i></p> | <p><b>18</b> <i>“Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a woman who is divorced from a husband <b>commits adultery.</b>”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(See Session 22)</u></p> |
|---|--|--|

### **The Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)**

- 19** *“Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day.*
- 20** *“But a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores,*
- 21** *and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man’s table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores.*
- 22** *“Now it happened that the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham’s bosom, and the rich man also died and was buried.*
- 23** *“And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.*
- 24** *“And he cried out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.’*
- 25** *“But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things. But now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.*
- 26** *‘And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you are not able, and none may cross over from there to us.’*
- 27** *“And he said, ‘Then I am asking you, father, that you send him to my father’s house—*

28 for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

29 “But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’

30 “But he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!’

31 “But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’”

**LUKE CHAPTER 17**

**Do All That Jesus Commands**

| <b>Matthew</b>  | <b>Mark</b>   | <b>Luke</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Matthew 18:</b><br/>                     6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depth of the sea.<br/>                     7 “Woe to the world because of its stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come; nevertheless, woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes!</p> <p><b>Matthew 17:20</b> (cf. Mt 21:21)<br/>                     20 And He said to them, “Because of your little faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and</p> | <p><b>Mark 9:</b><br/>                     42 “And whoever causes one of these little ones who believe to stumble, it would be better for him if, with a heavy millstone hung around his neck, he had been cast into the sea.”</p> <p><b>Mark 11</b><br/>                     23 “Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in</p> | <p><b>Luke 17:</b><br/>                     1 Now He said to His disciples, “It is inevitable that stumbling blocks come, but woe to him through whom they come!<br/>                     2 “It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea, than that he would cause one of these little ones to stumble.<br/>                     3 “Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.<br/>                     4 “And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ forgive him.”<br/>                     5 And the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”<br/>                     6 And the Lord said, “If you have faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be planted in the sea’; and it would obey you.</p> |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>nothing will be impossible to you."</b></p> | <p><b>his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him."</b></p> | <p><b>7 "But which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come immediately and sit down to eat'?</b><br/> <b>8 "But will he not say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat, and clothing yourself properly, serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink'?</b><br/> <b>9 "Is he grateful to the slave because he did the things which were commanded?</b><br/> <b>10 "In this way, you also, when you do all the things which are commanded of you, say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'"</b></p> |
|---|--|---|

### **Jesus Starts His Last Journey to Jerusalem**

#### **Jesus Heals Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)**

- 11 And it happened that while He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing through Samaria and Galilee.**
- 12 And as He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him.**
- 13 And they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"**
- 14 When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And it happened that as they were going, they were cleansed.**
- 15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice,**
- 16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.**
- 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they?"**
- 18 "Was there no one found who turned back to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"**
- 19 And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."**

**The Coming of the Kingdom (Luke 17:20-21)**

20 Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed,  
 21 nor will they say, 'Look, here!' or, 'There!' For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst."

**The Coming of the Son of Man**

| Matthew  | Mark  | Luke 17   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Matthew 24</b><br/>                     26 "Therefore, if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them.<br/>                     27 "For just as the lightning comes from the east and appears even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be."</p> <p><b>Matthew 17:</b><br/>                     11 And He answered and said, "Elijah is coming and will restore all things;"</p> <p><b>Matthew 24:</b><br/>                     37 "For just as the days of Noah were, so the coming of the Son of Man will be.<br/>                     38 "For as in those days before the flood</p> | <p><b>Mark 9:</b><br/>                     12 And He said to them, "Elijah does first come and restore all things. And yet how is it written of the Son of Man that He will suffer many things and be treated with contempt?"</p> | <p>22 And He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.<br/>                     23 "And they will say to you, 'Look there! Look here!' Do not go away, and do not run after them.<br/>                     24 "For just like the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day.<br/>                     25 "But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.</p> <p>26 "And just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:<br/>                     27 they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the</p> |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><i>they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,</i><br/> <b>39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.”</b></p> <p><b>Matthew 24:</b><br/> <b>17</b> “Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.<br/> <b>18</b> “And whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his garment.”</p> <p><b>Matthew 16:</b> (cf. Mt 10:39)<br/> <b>25</b> “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”</p> | <p><b>Mark 13:</b><br/> <b>15</b> “And the one who is on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house;<br/> <b>16</b> and the one who is in the field must not turn back to get his garment.”</p> <p><b>Mark 8:</b><br/> <b>35</b> “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.”</p> | <p><i>ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.</i><br/> <b>28</b> “It was the same as <b>in the days of Lot</b>—they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building;<br/> <b>29</b> but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.<br/> <b>30</b> “It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.<br/> <b>31</b> “On that day, the one who is on the housetop and whose goods are in the house must not go down to take them out, and likewise the one who is in the field must not turn back.<br/> <b>32</b> “Remember Lot’s wife.<br/> <b>33</b> “Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.<br/> <b>34</b> “I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left.<br/> <b>35</b> “There will be two women grinding grain at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left.<br/> <b>36</b> [“Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.”]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p><b>37 And answering they said to Him, "Where, Lord?" And He said to them, "Where the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered."</b></p> |
|--|--|---|

### **Memory Verse:**

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

**Luke 16:13**

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Where do you place the greater priority—the things of this world or the things of God? What is the evidence for your answer? Would your acquaintances consider you a faithful disciple of Jesus or a convenient follower of Jesus?
2. What is your greatest difficulty in serving Jesus as the LORD, the *MASTER*, of your life?
3. What things/emphases/priorities do you see that are highly esteemed among men but is "detestable" from God's perspective?
4. What obligations/promises in God's Word are you thankful that they will not "pass away?"
5. In Jesus' story about Lazarus and the rich man, what concerns you and what comforts you?
6. How would you define "faith?" What is the source of your faith? What faith *stumbling blocks* have you encountered in your life?
7. Like the nine Jewish lepers who were healed by Jesus, have you been guilty of presuming upon God's gracious mercies in your life?
8. Considering the prerequisites that Jesus gives for His "coming," how soon could He return? What do you need to do in anticipation of His return? Does the possibility of His imminent return frighten you or comfort you?