

**Session 18: Jesus Contends with the Scribes and Pharisees<sup>1</sup>**

**Luke 10:25-11:54**

**The Great Commandment**

Matthew 22	Mark 12	Luke 10
<p><b>34</b> <i>But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered themselves together.</i></p> <p><b>35</b> <i>And one of them, a scholar of the Law, asked Him a question, testing Him,</i></p> <p><b>36</b> <i>“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”</i></p> <p><b>37</b> <i>And He said to him, “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.”</i></p> <p><b>38</b> <i>“This is the great and foremost commandment.</i></p> <p><b>39</b> <i>“And the second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’</i></p>	<p><b>28</b> <i>And when one of the scribes came and heard them arguing, he recognized that He had answered them well and asked Him, “What commandment is the foremost of all?”</i></p> <p><b>29</b> <i>Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD;</i></p> <p><b>30</b> <i>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.’</i></p> <p><b>31</b> <i>“The second is this, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”</i></p> <p><b>32</b> <i>And the scribe said to Him, “Right, Teacher; You have truly stated that HE IS ONE, AND THERE IS NO ONE ELSE BESIDES HIM; (cf. Deut 4:35)</i></p> <p><b>33</b> <i>AND TO LOVE HIM WITH ALL THE HEART AND WITH ALL THE UNDERSTANDING AND WITH ALL THE STRENGTH, AND TO LOVE ONE’S NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” (cf. Deut 6:5; 1 Sam 15:22)</i></p> <p><b>34</b> <i>And when Jesus saw that he had answered thoughtfully, He said to him, “You are not far from the</i></p>	<p><b>25</b> <i>And behold, a scholar of the Law stood up and was putting Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”</i></p> <p><b>26</b> <i>And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?”</i></p> <p><b>27</b> <i>And he answered and said, “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”</i></p> <p><b>28</b> <i>And He said to him, “You have answered</i></p>

<sup>1</sup> **Matthew** wrote his Gospel primarily to Jewish readers and presented Jesus as the Messiah, the King of the Jews. **Mark** addressed his Gospel primarily to Roman readers and presented Jesus as the *Servant of Yahweh*. **Luke** addressed his Gospel primarily to Greek (or non-Jewish) readers and presented Jesus as the *Son of Man*, the ideal human being.

<b>40</b> <i>“On these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”</i>	<b>kingdom of God.”</b> <i>After that, no one would dare to ask Him any more questions.</i>	<b>correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE.”</b>
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### **Parable of the Good Samaritan: Luke 10:29-37**

- 29** *But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”*
- 30** *Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.*
- 31** *“And a priest happened to be going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.*
- 32** *“Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.*
- 33** *“But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him, and when he saw him, he felt compassion.*
- 34** *“And he came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them, and he put him on his own animal, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.*
- 35** *“And on the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, when I return, I will repay you.’*
- 36** *“Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?”*
- 37** *And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”*

### **Mary and Martha Host Jesus in Their Home (Luke 10:38-42)**

- 38** *Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.*
- 39** *And she had a sister called Mary, who was also seated at the Lord’s feet, listening to His word.*
- 40** *But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the preparations alone? Then tell her to help me.”*

**41** *But the Lord answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things,*

**42** *but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.”*

**Repeat of the Model Prayer**

<b>Matthew 6:5-15</b>	<b>Luke 11:1-4</b>
<p><b>5</b> <i>“And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.</i></p> <p><b>6</b> <i>“But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, <b>pray to your Father who is in secret</b>, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.</i></p> <p><b>7</b> <i>“And when you are praying, <b>do not use meaningless repetition</b> as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.</i></p> <p><b>8</b> <i>“Therefore, do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.</i></p> <p><b>9</b> <i>“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, <b>Hallowed be Your name.</b></i></p> <p><b>10</b> <i>‘Your kingdom come. <b>Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.</b></i></p> <p><b>11</b> <i>‘Give us this day our daily bread.</i></p> <p><b>12</b> <i>‘And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.</i></p> <p><b>13</b> <i>‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]’</i></p>	<p><b>1.</b> <i>And it happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.”</i></p> <p><b>2.</b> <i>And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come.</i></p> <p><b>3.</b> <i>‘Give us each day our daily bread.</i></p> <p><b>4.</b> <i>And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’”</i></p>

<p><b>14</b> <i>“For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.</i></p> <p><b>15</b> <i>“But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.</i></p>	
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**Parable of the Persistent Friend**

<b>Matthew 7:7-11</b>	<b>Luke 11:5-13</b>
<p><b>7</b> <i>“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.</i></p> <p><b>8</b> <i>“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.</i></p> <p><b>9</b> <i>“Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a <u>loaf</u>, will give him a <u>stone</u>?</i></p> <p><b>10</b> <i>“Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he?</i></p> <p><b>11</b> <i>“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,</i></p>	<p><b>5</b> <i>Then He said to them, “Which of you has a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves,</i></p> <p><b>6</b> <i>for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’;</i></p> <p><b>7</b> <i>and from inside he answers and says, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot rise up and give you anything.’</i></p> <p><b>8</b> <i>“I tell you, even though he will not arise and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.</i></p> <p><b>9</b> <i>“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.</i></p> <p><b>10</b> <i>“For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened.</i></p> <p><b>11</b> <i>“But what father among you, if his son asks for a <u>fish</u>, will give him a <u>snake</u> instead of a fish?</i></p> <p><b>12</b> <i>“Or, if his son asks for an <u>egg</u>, will give him a <u>scorpion</u>?</i></p> <p><b>13</b> <i>“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,</i></p>

<p><b>how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!</b></p> <p>12 "Therefore, in all things, whatever you want people to do for you, so do for them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.</p>	<p><b>how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"</b></p>
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**Jesus Accused of Aligning with Beelzebub**

Matthew 12:22-29	Mark 3:22-27	Luke 11:14-28
<p>22 Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute was brought to Jesus, and He healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.</p> <p>23 And all the crowds were astounded, and were saying, "Can this man really be the Son of David?"</p> <p>24 But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "This man does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub the ruler of the demons."</p> <p>25 And knowing their thoughts He said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand.</p> <p>26 "And if Satan casts out Satan, he is</p>	<p>22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebub," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."</p> <p>23 And He called them to Himself and began speaking to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?"</p> <p>24 "And if a kingdom is</p>	<p>14 And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. Now it happened that when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the crowds marveled.</p> <p>15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."</p> <p>16 And others, testing Him, were seeking from Him a sign from heaven.</p> <p>17 But He knew their thoughts and said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a house divided against itself falls.</p> <p>18 "But if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebub.</p> <p>19 "And if I by Beelzebub cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason, they will be your judges.</p> <p>20 "But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.</p>

<p><b>divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand?</b></p> <p>27 "And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason, they will be your judges.</p> <p>28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.</p> <p>29 "Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.</p>	<p><b>divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.</b></p> <p>25 "And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.</p> <p>26 "And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but he is finished!</p> <p>27 "But no one can enter the strong man's house and plunder his property unless he first binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house.</p>	<p>21 "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are undisturbed.</p> <p>22 "But when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied and distributes his plunder.</p> <p>23 "He who is not with Me is against Me and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. <sup>2</sup></p> <p>24 "When the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'</p> <p>25 "And when it comes, it finds it swept and put in order.</p> <p>26 "Then it goes and takes along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and live there, and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first."</p> <p>27 Now it happened that while Jesus was saying these things, one of the women in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You and the breasts at which You nursed."</p> <p>28 But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."</p>
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<sup>2</sup> Mark 9:40 "For he who is not against us is for us."

**The Sign of Jonah**

<b>Matthew 12:38-43</b>	<b>Mark 8:12</b>	<b>Luke 11:29-36</b>
<p>38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered and said to Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."</p> <p>39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation eagerly seeks for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet;</p> <p>40 for just as <u>JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER,</u> so will the Son of Man be <u>three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.</u></p> <p>41 "The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.</p> <p>42 "The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.</p>	<p>11 And the Pharisees came out and began to argue with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him.</p> <p>12 And sighing deeply in His spirit, He said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation</p>	<p>29 Now as the crowds were increasing, He began to say, "This generation is a wicked generation; it seeks a sign, and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah.</p> <p>30 "For just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so will the Son of Man be to this generation.</p> <p>31 "The Queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon. And behold, something greater than Solomon is here.</p> <p>32 "The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah. And behold, something greater than Jonah is here.</p>

<p><b>Matthew 5:</b>  <b>14</b> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;  <b>15</b> nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.  <b>16</b> "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."  <b>Matthew 6:22-23</b> (cf. 1 John 2:16)  <b>22</b> "The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.  <b>23</b> "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"</p>	<p><b>Mark 4:</b>  <b>21</b> And He was saying to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be put on the lampstand?  <b>22</b> "For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has anything been secret, but that it would come to light.  <b>23</b> "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."</p>	<p><b>33</b> "No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.  <b>34</b> "The eye is the lamp of your body; when your eye is clear, your whole body also is full of light, but when it is bad, your body also is full of darkness.  <b>35</b> "Therefore watch out that the light in you is not darkness.  <b>36</b> "If therefore your whole body is full of light, with no dark part in it, it will be wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays."</p>
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**Jesus Denounces the Scribes and Pharisees**

<p><b>Matthew 23:13-36</b>  <b>13</b> "But <b>woe</b> to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. (cf. Luke 11:52)  <b>14</b> ["<b>Woe</b> to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore, you will receive greater condemnation.] (cf. Luke 20:47).</p>	<p><b>Luke 11: 37-54</b>  <b>37</b> Now when He had spoken, a Pharisee asked Him to have a meal with him. And He went in and reclined at the table.  <b>38</b> But when the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He had not first ceremonially washed before the meal.  <b>39</b> But the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees clean the outside of</p>
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15 **Woe** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

16 **Woe** to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the sanctuary, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary is obligated.'

17 "You fools and blind men! For which is more important, the gold or the sanctuary that sanctified the gold?"

18 "And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, that is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated.'

19 "You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering?"

20 "Therefore, whoever swears by the altar, swears both by the altar and by everything on it.

21 "And whoever swears by the sanctuary, swears both by the sanctuary and by Him who dwells within it.

22 "And whoever swears by heaven, swears both by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it.

23 **Woe** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier provisions of the Law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

24 "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!"

25 **Woe** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.

the cup and of the platter, but inside of you, you are full of robbery and wickedness.

40 "You foolish ones, did not He who made the outside make the inside also?"

41 "But give that which is within as charity, and then all things are clean for you.

42 "But **woe** to you Pharisees! For you pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, and yet disregard justice and the love of God, but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

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

44 **Woe** to you! For you are like concealed tombs, and the people who walk over them are unaware of it."

45 Now one of the scholars of the Law answered and said to Him, "Teacher, when You say these things, You insult us too."

46 But He said, "**Woe** to you scholars of the Law as well! For you weigh men down with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves will not even touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

(cf. Matthew 23:4)

26 *"You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.*

27 *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.*

28 *"In this way, you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.*

29 *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,*

30 *and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'*

31 *"So you bear witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.*

32 *"Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.*

33 *"You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?*

34 *"On account of this, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will flog in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,*

35 *so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.*

36 *"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.*

47 *"Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, but your fathers killed them.*

48 *"So you are witnesses and approve the deeds of your fathers; because it was they who killed them, and you build their tombs.*

49 *"For this reason also the wisdom of God said, 'I will send to them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and some they will persecute,*

50 *so that the blood of all the prophets, shed since the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation,*

51 *from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the house of God; yes, I tell you, it shall be charged against this generation.'*

52 *"Woe to you, scholars of the Law! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who were entering."*

53 *And when He left there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to be very hostile and to question Him closely on many subjects,*

54 *plotting to catch Him in something He might say.*

**Memory Verse:**

***“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”***

***Luke 11:13***

**Discussion Questions**

1. What did you do to *inherit eternal Life*?
2. Who is your *“neighbor?”*
3. How do you pray in *secret*? What *“meaningless repetitions”* do you use in your prayers?
4. For what are you *asking, seeking, and knocking*?
5. What would it take for you to trust and submit to Jesus *completely*?
6. Is your *eye clear* and your *life a light*?
7. Of which the *“woes,”* are you guilty? How and why?