

## LUKE Lesson 34

### The Importance of Being a Faithful and Wise Steward (Luke 12:41-59)

25 January 2019

Jesus has been talking about His Second Coming, but His disciples do not fully comprehend the lesson because they're not expecting that He'll be leaving them soon. As a result, the Lord's instructions about how to live until He returns have left them confused.

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**Vs 41** Peter assumed Jesus had been teaching in parables. But the Lord was teaching plainly and literally.

**42-44** The Lord set the conditions for becoming a ruler in His kingdom. If you are faithful and wise today, you'll be ministering the Lord's word, His food, and His provision until He comes. If you are not faithfully ministering today, you will not be trusted to do so in the Lord's kingdom.

If you used to minister in various ways, but you quit, then you were not faithful. If you keep looking for the Lord's return with expectation, it will help you to continue faithfully serving Him.

The Lord isn't interested in quantity or results. He's not looking for "great men" (1 Cor 1:26). He's interested in you being faithful to do what He gave you to do till He comes.

You ought to earnestly covet anything the Lord says you can obtain through faithfulness (1 Cor 12:31).

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**45-46** The results of quitting. When you quit on the Lord, you'll backslide back to your old ways. That's the natural regression. But the quitting resulted from doubting the Lord's return. When you lose that expectation, you will stop trying to keep yourself pure (1 Jn 3:3)

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**47-48** You are responsible to prepare yourself for the Lord's coming. If you're a child of God, you will be disciplined for your unfaithfulness (Heb 12:6). If you think you've been getting by with no chastening, either you're not God's child (Heb 12:7) or your chastening will come at the Judgment Seat (1 Tim 5:24).

If you have greater knowledge, understanding, and ability to serve the Lord than someone else, He expects more from you than He does from those who don't know His will like you do. What are you doing with the talents the Lord has entrusted you with? (Mt 25:14-30).

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**49-50** Jesus must bring judgment to earth, but in his body of flesh, He was limited (straitened). He had to first die on the cross for our sins, be buried, and resurrected. Afterward He will send fire (Rev 8:5).

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**Vs 51** Jesus' first coming did not result in "Peace on earth, good will toward men" (Lk 2:14). He came in peace, but it resulted in division and war. At His Second Coming, He'll come in war to bring peace.

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**52-53** Whenever somebody trusts Jesus Christ as their Savior and begins living for Him, it results in division between the believer and his family members who don't want to follow Jesus. The only way to get along is to compromise your principles, convictions, and Bible standards and beliefs. That is not an acceptable compromise for a Bible believer. Mega-churches are built on such a foundation.

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**54-57** The people should have been able to recognize that it was time for the Messiah to come by observing the fulfillment of prophecy concerning Jesus' birth and life and ministry. They were blinded by their unwillingness to submit to a holy Messiah (Lk 19:14).

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**58-59** While you're living on this earth in a body of flesh, you have an opportunity to settle some things with the Lord so that when it comes time for judgment, you won't find the Judge to be so harsh.

Settle out of court: humble yourself today and repent of your sins as you discover them in God's word and seek the Lord's forgiveness. Then, when you see Him at the Judgment, you'll already be in agreement with Him and see everything His way.

Aim to be more and more like Jesus every day. Not only will it reduce the severity of your judgment, but it will determine how much authority you'll be given in the Lord's kingdom. That is being decided right now, not after the judgment.

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