

LUKE Lesson 16

Chapter 6:20-29 / The Sermon on the Plain / Things Peculiar to Luke / False Prophets

21 September 2018

In the sermon on the plain (Luke 6:20-49), Jesus is dealing with the Kingdom of God (vs 20).

- God is a Spirit (John 4:24) therefore, the “Kingdom of God” refers to a spiritual (unseen) kingdom.
- You were born into this kingdom when you received Christ. These are instructions for how to live now that you’re saved.

In the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7), Jesus deals with the Kingdom of Heaven (Mt 5:3, 10, 19, 20).

- Heaven is a physical creation of God (Genesis 1:1) therefore the “Kingdom of Heaven” refers to a physical (visible) kingdom. The Kingdom of Heaven will be established on earth during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ.
- These are instructions for how to live if you want access to the Kingdom on earth.

SERMON ON THE PLAIN/KINGDOM OF GOD	SERMON ON THE MOUNT/KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
Blessed be ye poor (vs 20): lack of money	Blessed are the poor in spirit (Mt 5:3): humble, lowly
Blessed are ye that hunger now (vs 21): physically hungry.	Blessed are they which hunger and thirst after righteousness (Mt 5:6): spiritually hungry, a desire to be righteous.

EVENTS ONLY RECORDED IN LUKE (the poverty of Jesus Christ emphasized):

- 2:7 Born in a manger.
- 2:24 Mary and Joseph couldn’t afford a lamb for the purification offering (Lev. 12:6-8)
- 8:1-3 Women ministered to him of their substance (goods, property, possessions) (Job 1:3).
- 14:13-14, 21 Jesus instructs us to feed the poor; people who can’t pay us back.
- 16:19-31 The rich man and Lazarus.
- 19:1-10 Zacchaeus the publican.

Though Jesus never condemns wealth, possessions, property, or material blessings, He did say those things will make it harder for you to live a heavenly life (Luke 12:15, 34, Col 3:1-3).

Verse-By-Verse

Vs 20 You may be poor in this world now, but that doesn’t prevent you from being saved. A poor person can receive Christ and know of a certainty that theirs “**IS the kingdom of God!**” You may have nothing on this earth, but you’ve got an incorruptible inheritance (1 Pet 1:4) and treasures in heaven (Mt 6:20).

Vs 21 You may be often in hunger and in thirst like the apostle Paul (2 Cor 11:27), but the Lord promised “**ye shall be filled.**”

Vs 21 Do you have reasons to weep today? “**Ye shall laugh.**” Weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning (Ps 30:5). God will wipe away all tears (Isa 25:8, Rev 7:17, 21:4).

22-23 Today “men shall hate you” and “separate you from their company” and “reproach you” and abuse you in many ways. The Lord instructs you to “rejoice in that day;” NOT a FUTURE day, but in the day that someone abuses you, you ought to “leap for joy.” Your joy in the Lord ought to show on your face no matter what your condition or situation. Show that you’re happy being saved, especially if you expect someone to want what you have in Christ. (See Ps 32:11, Hab 3:18, Rom 5:11, 1 Thes 1:6).

24-26 The irregular punctuations and grammar in this passage reveals the manner in which Jesus was preaching. The exclamation marks placed in the middle of a sentence show that the Lord preached forcefully there. He didn’t speak in a monotone voice as you’ve seen in the movies. He preached! Jesus was meek and lowly (Mt 11:29), not weak and shy. (Compare Num 12:3 with Exod 32:20). (See also John 2:13-17, Luke 4:32, 36, Matthew 7:28-29, Mark 1:22, and Jeremiah 23:29). A meek man is gentle, patient, and yielding, but stern (unchanging, resolute, serious).

FALSE PROPHETS

Vs 26 Jesus pronounces “woe” upon men who are praised by men. They are showing their true colors as false prophets. The Bible record shows that God’s prophets were hated because they proclaimed the truth.

Jeremiah 5:30-31

God’s people loved to listen to the false prophets. False prophets gained by making the people feel good about themselves.

1 Kings 22:5-18

Jehoshaphat and Ahab sought counsel from 400 false prophets to determine whether they should go to war. The false prophets all agreed to give the same good report. Ahab was satisfied with their report, Jehoshaphat was not.

Micaiah was a true prophet of God, but Ahab hated him (vs 8) because his proclamations weren’t always good. The false prophets tried to corrupt Micaiah and convince him to go along with their program (vs 13).

Micaiah mockingly mimicked the false prophets (vs 15), but Ahab knew he wasn’t telling the truth (vs 16). That means he also knew the false prophets were lying, but just didn’t care because they made him feel good.

Micaiah told the truth (vs 17). Ahab didn’t like it, so he put him in jail (vs 27).

Isaiah 30:8-10

God said rebellious people don’t want to know the truth; they prefer a lie.

Preachers today who know the truth, but preach a lie are more concerned with their own bellies than they are with the importance of proclaiming God’s truth (Phil 3:18-19, Rom 16:17-18).