

Lesson #10

PREPARATION FOR LESSON: Read Matthew 19 - 20; Mark 10; Luke 13:22 - 19:28; John 10:40 - 12:11

or Harmony of the 4 Gospels, SECTIONS 109 -13

DEVELOPED OUTLINE 4th year 31 AD - Jesus is now 37 years old.

- A. Jerusalem to East Bethany** 18 miles; **then thruout Perea** Jn 10:40-42; Lk. 13:22 - 17:10
1. Teaches in the villages of Perea
 2. Eats in the home of a Sanhedrin member
 3. Heals a man; teaches in parables
- B. East Bethany to West Bethany** 15 miles John 11:1-54
1. Jesus raises Lazarus; Caiaphas the high priest commands the death of Jesus
- C. West Bethany to Ephraim** John 11:54
1. An unknown area of Judea province; Jesus spends time alone with the apostles
- D. Ephraim, Samaria, Galilee to West Bethany** Matt. 19:1 - 20:34; Lk. 17:11 - 19:28
1. Heals 10 lepers
 2. Teaches thru illustrations, parables and answers to questions
 3. Answers the rich young Sanhedrin member
 4. Heals 2 blind men between the 2 towns of Jericho
 5. Eats and teaches in the home of Zacchaeus
 6. Returns to W. Bethany 6 weeks after raising Lazarus

EXPLANATIONS

Jewish Teaching from Mishnah and the rabbis - this is **not** teaching from God.

Sanhedrin Pharisees could have nothing to do with Jewish tax collectors.

They could not buy from or sell to them; they could not eat with them at their homes. They could not invite them to their home. They could not even say anything to encourage them to change.

The reason: *God rejoices over the death of tax collectors and sinners. They are unacceptable to God.*

The conclusion: If Jesus really were the Messiah, He would not accept them either.

Death For 3 days the soul hovered over the body, so there was always a slight chance of resuscitation.

On the 4th day, corruption/decay began so there was no chance whatever the person could come back to life.

Wealth *Whomever the Lord loves, He makes rich.*

A proof of God's favor and acceptance; a guarantee they will be in His kingdom..

Jesus' Miracles

- Raising of Lazarus Jn. 11

Being loved by God does not mean He answers in the time or way we want.

Jesus delays in answering Mary and Martha - His delay is...

for God's glory, vs. 4; to increase the apostle's faith, vs. 15; to increase the people's faith, vs. 42

God's delays will cause us sorrow, but they also will have great value in the lives of many.

- Lepers healed: 9 Jewish; 1 Samaritan this is a Messianic miracle Lk. 17:11-19

To be officially declared healed, they must go to Jerusalem to the high priest.

Caiaphas, the high priest has just said Jesus must be killed to save the nation (spoken prophetically).

Now 9 times he will verify all were lepers, all were healed and it was Jesus who healed them.

Nine times he must reconsider his sentence on Jesus, since ability to heal lepers is proof He is Messiah.

Jesus' Teaching

There is a lot of repetition because Jesus is teaching different people in different places. He even repeats many things to the apostles because they did not understand the first time they heard it. This means there is no mistake when one Gospel writer says Jesus taught about prayer in Galilee while another says it was in Judea.

During the time of the Gospels, the Church had not yet been formed. Jesus' instruction was to Jews who were still part of the Old Testament believing remnant. They could only believe in Him as Deity / Messiah - not yet as Savior. They were forgiven thru animal sacrifices. Their sin was only covered, not taken away. Some sin could not be forgiven. The Holy Spirit was only on or over them. He came or left them, based on obedience.

All of this changed with the death, resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, the coming of the Holy Spirit and the formation of the Church, the Body of Christ. Principles and lessons from the Gospels apply to us, but our *direct* instruction and commands come from the rest of the New Testament.



Jesus' Teaching continued

- **Discipleship** means to travel and study with Jesus. It requires leaving everything and everyone and *hating* parents. This means if there is a conflict between listening to parents or following Jesus, they have to follow Jesus to be His student.
- **Stories about Lost Things:** tax collectors and *sinners* Luke 15:1-32
 God's attitude towards them they are like:

<i>Lost sheep</i>	emphasizes their <i>lostness</i>	It is Jesus who finds them.
<i>Lost coin</i>	emphasizes their <i>value</i>	It is the Holy Spirit who searches for them.
<i>Lost son</i>	emphasizes <i>restoration</i>	It is the Father who receives and forgives.

 Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all involved and all rejoice, not at their death, but at their repentance.
 Sanhedrin's attitude is pictured by the older brother of the prodigal son. They want God's acceptance based on keeping rules. They resent God for accepting people based on mercy. Instead of enjoying what Jesus could give them, they complain about what He gives to others (tax collectors and *sinners*).
- **The Manager:** because he was dishonest, he was fired; but as he finalized everything, he was wise. Luke 16:1-13
 The Sanhedrin were false leaders, so they will lose their position; but they can act wisely as individuals to benefit themselves.
 Extended meaning: if we have God's wisdom we will understand that wealth (*mammon*) is not wrong.
 When God is first in our life, material things will be in the proper place and perspective.
 We need to plan ahead for this life with retirement, insurance, investments. We should be the ones with wisdom.
 We should use what He gives us for our good and the good of others.
 We should give to God's work so others can hear about God and have opportunity to believe; this is investing in eternity.
 We are to use our money wisely to have returns on it both in this life and in eternity.
- **Sign of Jonah** is resurrection: it is now the only sign for the nation of Israel to prove Jesus is their Messiah. Matt. 12:39; 16:4
 Resurrection of Lazarus. John 11
 Resurrection of Jesus. John 20
 Resurrection of 2 Jewish prophets in the middle of the 7 year *Time of Trouble* for Israel. Revelation 11:3-12
- **Saving and Losing Life:** Luke 9:24 The person who rejects Jesus to save their physical life will lose eternal life.
 The person who risks their physical life to believe in Jesus will have eternal life.
- **Prayer:** Persistent. Do not give up on God when you do not see His justice and intervention - keep asking. Luke 18:1-14
 But do not let it develop into arrogant or demanding prayer.
 Humble; prayer is an opportunity to express one's need, not to display one's goodness.
 Tax collector's prayer - *God, provide a sacrifice for me, the sinner.*
- **Rich young Sanhedrin:** To get into God's kingdom, he chose to trust his wealth rather than Jesus. Luke 18:18-30
Good Teacher - intrinsic/perfect goodness. If he had said he called Jesus *good* because He was deity, He would have inherited eternal life. Since he did not answer, Jesus refers him to Old Testament law.
Sell all would show his love for God; *give to poor* is love for others; *follow Me* is acceptance of Jesus as Messiah.
 The command to *sell all, give to poor, follow Jesus* was only given to this man because altho he trusted in wealth, he was also searching. Once he understood and then choses wealth instead of Jesus, Jesus let him walk away.
 For a rich Sanhedrin member it was as impossible to give up his trust in wealth as a camel to get thru an eye of a needle.
 In our day, wealth is a blessing from God; it is not wrong; it is our trust and dependence on wealth that is wrong.
- **Land-owner** who hired workers at different hours of the day but paid them the same wage at the end of the day.
 The ones hired first agreed to a specific wage; the others agreed to accept what the owner would give them.
 At first reading, it seems unfair, but a closer study reveals an important truth.
 Jesus is describing a concept of the temporary, divided kingdom which still applies in our day.

APPLICATION

God does not bless or reward us just because we have been a believer for an extra long time or have used our spiritual gifts for years and years. Our responsibility is to be faithful in what He puts in front of us to do - big or little - serving in ministry or serving family and friends. God will bless and reward us as He chooses, based on things only He knows and sees.

Some people still want to live and serve God by contract - to get blessings and rewards because they have done so much and rigidly followed rules. They want to get blessings based on what they think they deserve.

God wants us to live and serve by faith, so He can give us what we do not deserve - rewards and blessings that come from His mercy and grace. He rejoices when we want is a relationship of trust and love, accepting whatever He chooses to give us.

