

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 16:15-31

TAPE NUMBER SM-666 OCTOBER 12, 2008

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT DOES YOUR GOD VALUE?

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Eternity, Priorities, Works, Money, Marriage

Introduction to the Text; **Luke 16:15-31**

The Theme and Textual Summation of the Passage

Jesus had hit them right between their wallets

on the value of money and what's really important to them and what was in their wallets because **the wallet & the heart** cannot be separated!

Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on (Wall Street) earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. :20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. :21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Now Jesus targets their hearts in relationship to their evaluation of the word of God

Why?

Because these Pharisee's had come to the place of

“Measuring one's Value Based upon Wealth, Possession & Power.”

1Timothy 6:9

But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. **1Tim. 6:10** For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves

through with many sorrows.

How Relevant is God's word, the Bible regarding human worth?

1John 3:16-7

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. :17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

WHAT DOES YOUR GOD VALUE ?

1.) Is it the **offer** of salvation? v.15-17

IS IT THE OFFER OF SALVATION?

1a.) The Lord offers the **assurance** of salvation?

Verse 15

And He said to them, "**You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.**"

It's not difficult to see why the Pharisee's were so offended at what Jesus had been saying.

Matthew 23:23

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. :24 Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!"

Their Conscience Had Been Convicted by what Jesus had said... Their only Response was Criticism!

When You're Standing for Christ; Criticism Will Often be a Sign of Effectiveness // A Badge of Honor if You Will...

Luke 6:26

Woe to you when all men speak well of you,
For so did their fathers to the false prophets.

“You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts.

John 5:40

But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

The Lord hates Injustice

Injustice happens when we self-justify – “to but people are more like me”

IS IT THE OFFER OF SALVATION?

1b.) The Lord offers the opportunity of salvation?

Verse 16

“The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time (from Moses to John) the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.

You’re Not Thinking Eternally

- Jesus Christ

Pressing

βιάζω *biazo*, *bee-ad´-zo*

To force your way in; to lean or to exert yourself. To “violently” press yourself to get inside. To crowd in!

Why Does Jesus Stress This Point?

He’s saying - Read Moses

The revelation of the Law showed mankind or displayed to mankind the absolute righteousness of God and total sinfulness of man.

He’s saying - Read the Prophets

The revelation of the prophets spoke in perfect detail of how you could identify the messiah, the kingdom, and what he would do...

He’s saying - Read John the Baptist

John 10:41

“John the Baptist performed no signs or miracles, but all the things that John did speak about this Man Jesus were true.” :42 And many believed in Christ there.

Matthew 11:11-13

“Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

:12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. **:13** For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

Jesus is saying to Them;

**“Listen to Moses, Listen to the Prophets, Listen to John the Baptist,
“What did they all preach? – “The Kingdom of God”**

Those Who Can Hear Them, Will Hear Me.

It's Almost Halloween, Let's Pretend Satan's Walking around here. He hates God and you. What would be his plan if the message of the Kingdom of God were true?

Satan's Wicked Little Secret Is This...

Keep People, (Because God Loves People) From Knowing **True Life** that's in God through **Christ Jesus!**

1John 5:10

He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. **:11** And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. **:12** He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. **:13** These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life...

(1) - If you're rejecting Jesus Christ as The Son of God, you're (2) also rejecting the ministry of John the Baptist, (3) you're also rejecting the ministry of the old testament prophets. which means (4) you're rejecting the law of God through Moses...

John's Ministry Was to Announce the Kingdom.

You're Not Thinking Eternally

- *Jesus Christ*

IS IT THE OFFER OF SALVATION?

1c.) The Lord offers the **guarantee of salvation?**

Verse 17

And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away (that's not easy) **than for one title of the law to fail.**

You're Not Thinking Eternally

- Jesus Christ

Matthew 5:17-18

"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. :18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

Jesus Christ is The Guarantee of Our Salvation!

Not Because He **Only** Said So...
But Because He **Totally** Do So!!!

Moses, The Prophets, John the Baptist said "Watch for Him"

He's coming to Remove Our Sins from Us

WHAT DOES YOUR GOD VALUE?

2.) Is it the **sanctity** of a covenant? v.18

IS IT THE SANCTITY OF A COVENANT ?

2a.) Because God **relates** to us by a covenant

Verse 18

"Whoever **divorces** his wife and (he) marries another (wife) commits **adultery**;

What Does This Have to Do With

WHAT YOUR GOD VALUES?

This almost seems **out of place** at first glance.
What would the context of money and values have to do with divorce?

Remember They'

"Measuring One's Value Based Upon Wealth, Possession & Power."

Now Jesus goes for the **value of the marriage** (women).

The Pharisee's were divided on the issue of divorce.

(The school of Rabbi **Shaman** – only if she's caught in adultery)

(The school of Rabbi **Hillel** – if she wasn't pleasing in your site)

(The school of Rabbi Akiba – until you better looking one came along)

The Scholar Edershim writes that at the time of Christ
Some Pharisee's had up to 20 wives for their own particular pleasures.

But God Has Never Been Divided or Confused About Divorce

The sanctity of marriage.

*There were those who believed that the marriage
was to be protected and defended.*

The opportunity of marriage.

*There was another group that believed that marriage and women in particular could be
utilized for fun and status.*

The rabbi's had reduced woman down to a piece of property.
{this one **cooks**, this one **cleans**, this one makes **babies**, this ones for **later**}

But What Does God Say About Marriage?

Genesis 1:26-28a

Then God said, "Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; let **them** have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." :27
So God created mankind **in His own image**; in the image of God He created him; **male** and **female** He created them. :28 Then God blessed **them**, and God said to **them**, "Be fruitful and multiply..."

Matthew 19:4-6

And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female,' :5 and said, "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? :6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

IS IT THE SANCTITY OF A COVENANT?

2b.) Because God **invented marriage for life**

Verse 18

**And whoever marries her who is divorced
from her husband commits adultery.**

1. A marriage is a **sacred model** created by God.
2. A marriage is a **spiritual institution** built by God.

3. A marriage is where **sex happens**.
4. A marriage is where **baby's come from**.
5. A marriage was **designed by God** to build a family.
6. A marriage where **nations come from**.

Genesis 2:21-25

And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. :22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. :23 And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." :24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. :25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Here in California, (4) four lunatic, godless, megalomaniac judges decided to go rouge on us and overturned the will of 61.4 percent of California's and suspend "democracy" by overturning Prop. 22 in defense of marriage.

"So I'm asking you to go overturn those 4 judges
on November 4th. By voting
Yes on Prop.8"

Matthew 19:6

So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." – unless you are one of the 4 California state supreme court judges, "who think they can do whatever you want to do.

Isaiah 10:1

"Woe to those judges who establish unrighteous laws,
Who write misfortune, *Which* they themselves have prescribed.

Democracy

"A system of government based on the principle of a majority rule."
The exercised right of the people to select from among themselves their leaders by majority rule. The establishment and enforcement of the judicial, legislative and executive orders of government"

"Government of the people, by the people and for the people."
(not in California)

"The sanctity of home-life is one of the basic principals to national strength, and when a nation sacrifices this virtue upon the alter of lust, it commits national suicide."

Dr. Ivor Powell c.1965

WHAT DOES YOUR GOD VALUE?

IS IT THE REALITY OF ETERNITY?

3a.) Eternity in light of **what I am**

Verse 19-21

Luke 16:19-21

“There was a **certain rich** man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. :20 But there was a **certain beggar** named Lazarus, full of sores, who was **laid** at his gate, :21 desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. (infected, oozing sores)

“Rich Men Don’t Go to Hell Because They’re Rich.
They Go to Hell Because They’re gods!”

Laid

Dropped off, abandoned, left for dead.

Verse 22-23

So it was that the beggar died, and was **carried** (tenderly) by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.

To The Pharisee’s, Jesus Filed This Indictment against Them:
You viewed this poor, sick man as a sinner, a loser, a nobody.

Dr. H.A. Ironside Comments;

“Thanks be to God, at last, the poor beggar died.”

“...he was **carried**
by the angels to Abraham’s bosom”

What is Abraham’s Bosom?

Before the Coming of the Messiah, the Bible Taught That;
Every believer, when they had died was taken to what that was called Paradise. It was not the Heaven that you and are going to but the dwelling or place that pre-cross believers went. - Abraham’s Bosom or the Place of Comfort and Rest.

Until Jesus Christ Had Been Resurrected, that’s Where a Believer Went from Adam to the Thief on the Cross...

Luke 23:43

And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today

you will be with Me in **Paradise.**" - Abraham's Bosom

It was a place was rest – not sleep, but comfort, but temporary

Psalms 116:15

Precious in the sight of the LORD *Is* the death of His saints.

Verse 23

And being in **torments** in hell, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham **afar off**, and Lazarus in his bosom.

You're Not Thinking Eternally

- Jesus Christ

There is a Great Separation
between the lost vs. those found
The Lost & Found

Hebrews 9:27-28

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, **:28** so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

IS IT THE REALITY OF ETERNITY?

3b.) Eternity in light of reality

Verse 24-26

Luke 16:24-26

"Then he (the formerly rich man) cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' **:25** But Abraham said, "**Son, remember** that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. **:26** And besides all this, between us and you there is a **great gulf fixed**, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

Notice the "**Attentiveness**" of Those in Hell to **Details**

Daniel 12:2-3

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,

Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. :3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

John 5:28-29

Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice :29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

It's Not Easy to Get to Hell.

“You’ve Got to Jump Over The Body of Jesus Christ
To Get There.”

I just want you to know something. Your sins were canceled at the cross. But the one and only sin that will suck you down into the darkness of hell is refusing Jesus Christ.

Matthew 23:37

“...How often I have wanted to gather you together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

Dwight L. Moody

The great American evangelist a century ago stated;

“Hell is not a place for the sick to recover,
It’s a place where the condemned suffer,
It’s that place for **those who would not!**”

Listen, We’re Not Jihadist - We Won’t Kill You for Rejecting, Cursing, Mocking or Drawing Cartoons About Jesus

Those who would not!”

John 3:17-20

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. :18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. :19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. :20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

The Lord is Reaching, He’s Stretching Out to You!

Ephesians 5:14

Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead,

And Christ will give you light.”

A Terrifying Reality about Hell is This;
Those who are there are very awake, very alert, very aware
that they missed heaven forever!

Verse 24

Send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

You're Not Thinking Eternally

- Jesus Christ

Verse 26a

A great gulf fixed

The Bible speaks about what is called
The Second Death

Revelation 2:11

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.” ’

The first death, we all get to go thru that one –
but the second death, I won't see that one – that's the big hurt

First death is your departure from **this world** into eternity.
The second death is your departure **from God**.

The Second Death is Eternal Separation from God and the Benefits of God.

None of You (us) Have Any Capacity to Know What That's Like.

It's Called Hell

It's where God is Not

1. In absolute isolation, alone
2. In suffocating darkness
3. In unbearable heat
4. There are consuming, worm-like things on you
5. There's a sense of forever falling

6. There's excruciating pain
7. There is the sensation of burning
8. Emotional torment
9. There's knowledge of the past and that others are in heaven

Here's The Only Part I Like About It

None of Us in Heaven Will Know You're There

You're Not Thinking Eternally

- Jesus Christ

IS IT THE REALITY OF ETERNITY?

3c.) Eternity in light of **what you know**

Verse 27-31

:27 "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would **send him** to my father's house, **:28** for I have five brothers, **that he may testify** to them, lest they also come to this place of **torment.**'

Torment

βάσανος *basanos, bas'-an-os;*

The Greek word implies of "plunging" or "racing" to the bottom.

The result of being tied to a great stone that's sinking!!!

Note to Self;

How Can I Make This Clear to The Church?

- O' Lord Help Me!

Jesus Warned About Hell

more than any other person in all of the bible...

28 I have five brothers, **that he may testify** to them, lest they also come to this place of **torment.** **:29** Abraham said to him, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." **:30** And he said, "No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent." **:31** But he (Abraham) said to him, "If they do not hear **Moses** and the **prophets**, neither will they be persuaded though one **rise from the dead.**" **:31** But he (Abraham) said to him, "If they do not hear **Moses** and the **prophets**, neither will they be persuaded though one **rise from the dead.**"

Abraham / Jesus

Let Them Read Their Bibles - They have excess just like you did

(But clearly you never chose to read it or believe it)

You're Not Thinking Eternally
- *Jesus Christ*

WHAT DOES YOUR GOD VALUE?

**Come Forward for Prayer
or to Receive Jesus Christ**

End of Study