

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"The Great Divide"
Luke 12:49-59
Study-56

Term "Great Divide" *has been defined as "the passage from life to death"*

Luke 9:51-19:27 The Rejection Of The Son Of Man

Luke 12 – Hindrances To Holiness:

Verses 1-12 Be Careful Lest Satan Hinder You - The Fear Of Man

Verses 13-34 Be Confident God Will Not Fail You - Love Of Money

Verses 35-59 Be Consistent In Preparing For Christ's Return: Matthew also records these verses: **Matthew 5:25-26; 10:34-36; 16:2-3**

Thought Of Our Passage: "A Relationship With Jesus Will Affect All Other Relationships Because Jesus Is The Way The Truth, And The Life."

- 1. Verses 49-53 Divided Households:**
- 2. Verses 54-56 Inept Meteorologists:**
- 3. Verses 57-59 Unforgiven Debtors:**

1. Verses 49-53 Divided Households:

Luke 12:49 "I have come to cast fire upon the earth;

Context – Verses 35-48 Jesus exhorted His disciples to be Watchful and Faithful for His return! **Luke 12:41**

Verses 45-48 Punishment For Foolish And Unfaithful Servants:
Luke 12:48

Jesus left off with punishment and now speaks of judgment! As we **wait**, **watch**, and **work**, we will not have an easy time, because we are aliens in enemy territory.

"I have come to cast fire upon the earth; (Context) Jesus is speaking to His disciples – Jesus changes direction in **Luke 12:54 And He was also saying to the crowds.**

Note the images Jesus uses — **fire, baptism, division;** speaks of opposition and conflict. To the Jews, **fire** - was a symbol of *judgment*.

fire – *destroys and purifies both are in play in their use, speaks of judgment.* **upon the earth;** Jesus' coming and His living witness was that of judgment. His life was perfect, God's standard for man. **Fire of the Holy Spirit!** **Luke 3:16-17**

**Jesus came with fire to destroy the works of darkness:
Jesus' coming and the Holy Spirit of fire purify the righteous:**

**and how I wish it were already kindled! John 9:39 And Jesus said,
"For judgment I came into this world,**

Luke 12:50 I have a "baptism" *"to dip, to dye, to submerge"* refers to His suffering and death, which was pictured by His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus would die and be completely separated from His Father to a baptism of death. **Psalm 42:7; Jonah 2:3**

Note Jesus' reference to Jonah in **Luke 11:29-30**

Mark 10:38-39

Israel in Jesus' day was under Roman rule, Israel was aware of God's promises for the future through the Messiah. **Isaiah 9:7; Micah 4:3**

and how distressed I am until it is accomplished! (Fulfilled - according to the divine plan) The burden of the cross. (Jesus took the fire of judgment) Luke 22:42-44

Luke 12:51 "Do you suppose that I came to grant peace on earth?
The Roman's revered peace.

The Romans would have gladly added Jesus to their list of gods! (Polytheism) Exodus 20:3 "You shall have no other gods before Me.

What does Jesus mean by this? Luke 2:14

Romans 5:1 Jesus is a cause of division (**John 7:12, 43; 9:16; 10:19**)

I tell you, no, but rather division; Jesus was truth. **2 Timothy 3:12**

Verses 52-53 Truth Divides: Luke 12:52

Luke 12:53 "They will be divided, father against son and son against father, (Luke 2:34)

daughter-in-law against mother-in-law It is over love for the Lord, wanting to be obedient to Him, wanting His will over all else, and to follow Him. Luke 16:13

Even if there is not "peace on earth," there is "peace in heaven"
Luke 19:38; Isaiah 61:1-2

2. Verses 54-56 Inept Meteorologists:

Luke 12:54 And He was also saying to the crowds,

Jesus rebukes the crowd for being hypocritical about not trusting Him

Discernment: "When you see a cloud rising in the west, this would be a storm coming on shore from the Mediterranean.

immediately you say, 'A shower is coming,' and so it turns out.

If people were as discerning about spiritual things as they are about the weather, they would be better off!

Luke 12:55 "And when you see a south wind blowing, you say, 'It will be a hot day,' From the South the desert it would be hot tempts coming from the South Arabian desert.

and it turns out that way. Basic truth that hot weather from the desert.

Luke 12:56 "You hypocrites! *"Play actors, to speak from underneath"* They were able to use the physical signs of approaching weather conditions but as to the spiritual they were not using the same discernment in the spiritual, which was eternal.

(Pretended to not understand the evidence of Jesus that revealed Him as being God)

Point being a storm of all storms was clearly visible, warning them it was on the way! This storm would affect persons for eternity!

Isaiah 1:3 But Israel does not know, My people do not understand."

You know how to analyze the appearance of the earth and the sky, clouds and the wind. (Skies But Not The Heavens)

but why do you not analyze this present time? Jesus was speaking the Word of God

The Jewish nation had the prophetic Scriptures for centuries and should have known what God was doing, but their religious leaders led them astray.

3. Verses 57-59 Unforgiven Debtors:

Luke 12:57 "And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?"

We somehow can't seem to include God in the daily decisions of life.

It's Not Science But Sin That Keeps People From Jesus!

Our educated world possesses a great deal of scientific knowledge but not much spiritual wisdom.

Verses 58-59 Diligence: "For while you are going with your opponent to appear before the magistrate, this is a guilty person, (Sinner) the sinner before God the judge.

on your way there make an effort to settle with him, attempt to settle the matter peaceably.

1. We are sinners, that we are separated from God. Romans 3:23

2. Our sins have earned us death. Romans 6:23

3. Jesus out of His great love for us has paid for our sins. Romans 5:8

4. Turn our lives over to Him. Romans 10:9-10

so that he may not drag you before the judge, (Too Late) non-believer stands before God the judge. Revelation 20
Books open expose the guilt and sin!

and the judge turn you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. Thrown into Hell. **Luke 13:34-35**

Luke 12:59 "I say to you, God's Word to us!

you will not get out of there until you have paid the very last cent."
There is no getting out of Hell! Every person has a debt to settle with God.
John 5:24

"A Wrong Road Never Led To A Right End"

Application:

1. Receiving Jesus, The Truth Will Result In A Division In Our Earthly Relationships.
2. Failing To Believe In Jesus As Our Savior Is Not The Result Of Science But The Result Of Sin. It Is Failing To Be Honest About Jesus Which Is Hypocrisy/Play Acting.
3. All People Are Guilty Sinners That Will Stand Before God And Found Guilty Of Our Sin. Knowing This Should Prompt Us To Seek God's Forgiveness And Avoid God's Righteous Judgment.