

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 13:18-30

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

A MEGA WARNING – PART 1

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

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Christianity, Judgment, Salvation, Sin, Pastors, Church

Our Message is Entitled

“Mega Warning”

and we're looking at part 2 of this teaching that Jesus gave concerning the future of His church and what we can expect as Christians living in our day!

If Satan had a Mantra about how to ruin a church,
it would have to be...

“If You Can't Beat Em' – Join Em'”

wasn't this the strategy of Satan when he possessed Judas Iscariot?

Matthew 7:15

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.”

2 Peter 2:1

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies,

The Sad News Is...

Acts 20:29-31

:29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. **:30** Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. **:31** Therefore watch and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

But The Good News Is...

Matthew 16:18

Jesus said "Upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. and what is that Rock? – "That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Since The Church's Birthday, on the Day of Pentecost

It has never ceased to Exist – and The Gates of Hell **have not, is not and will not** Prevail Against It.

Luke 13:18-30

Then He said, "What is **the kingdom of God like**? And to what shall I compare it? **:19** It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and put in his garden; and it grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the air nested in its branches." **:20** And again He said, "To what shall I liken **the kingdom of God**. **:21** It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened...." **:22** And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. **:23** Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, **:24** "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. **:25** When once the Master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' **:26** then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' **:27** But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' **:28** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. **:29** They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. **:30** And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."

Contrary to The Understanding of Some.

This is not a teaching about healthy, happy church growth,

Rather it is a grave and serious warning,

a **Mega Warning** from Jesus Christ Himself about the Greatest of all dangers that would plague the church as time passed, - unhealthy growth!

So Much of What is Called “Christian” or “Christianity”
is anything but What Jesus Has Approved of....

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. :19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, :20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*”

Sadly, The Truth is - - The Gospel’s Influence is Retarding, It’s Fading, not for a Lack of Power, But for Scarcity

you and I are living in the days of apathy and apostasy. and more and more people will be giving up on their faith in Christ. I know Biblically that Christianity will become a decreasing influence in the world and even hated!

In Part One We Learned This...

A MEGA WARNING

1.) A mega warning about appearances vs.18-21

1a.) What something looks like can be good vs. 18-19a

Then He said, “What is **the kingdom of God like**? And to what shall I compare it?
:19a It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and put in his garden...

1b.) What something looks like can be bad vs.19b

...and became a **large tree**...
and **the birds** of the air nested in its branches.”

mustard seeds do not grow into great trees.
they can grow into a large bush – but not a tree.

This Is the Life of The Kingdom

- Mega “Growth” but not all Good.
- Mega “People Coming” but not all Christians.
- Mega “Servants” but not all Real.

Therefore, Churches Need Real Pastors

who have been called by God to the ministry of tending the church.

1c.) What something looks like can be ugly vs. 20-21

:20 And again He said, “To what shall I liken the kingdom of God. :21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.”

Found in the Bible 98 Times,

Leaven In Scripture, is Viewed Always, Without Exception
as a Type or Symbol for Evil

1 Corinthians 5:6

...Do you not know that a little **leaven** leavens the whole lump?

Leaven in your House are Those Things that Spoil the Work of the Lord in
Your Life – *whatever those things may be!!*

A MEGA WARNING

2.) A mega warning about apathy v.22-27

2a.) Being apathetic to the fight vs. 22-24

:22 And He went through the cities and villages, **teaching**, and **journeying** toward Jerusalem. :23 Then one said to Him, “**Lord, are there few who are saved?**” And He said to them, :24 “**Strive** to enter through the narrow gate, for **many**, (*not a few*) I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

This is a Great Question and One
I’m glad for this guy asking – he appears to be honest!

in the first century, the Jews had a sense of entitlement or privilege.

salvation was viewed as a “genetic” thing or a “national” thing.
“I’m going to heaven because **“I’m a Republican, Democrat, American”**”

Verse 24

“**Strive** to enter through **the narrow gate**, for **many**, (*not a few*) I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

Some Three Years Earlier, Jesus had Taught this Truth

In The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 7:13-14

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. :14 Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

WARNING

every one of us ought to be asking ourselves questions
about what is reality and what of my life

*why am I here? what is the meaning to life? do I have purpose?
what happens when I die? is there life after death?*

we are to be “striving” with ourselves about these things
“Do I know God and Does God know Me?”

Strive ajgwni+zomai agonizomai, *ag-o-nid´-zom-ahee*;
fight, labor fervently, agonize, struggle, search, grapple with

Verse 24

“Striving to **enter through the narrow gate**,
for **many**, (*not a few*) I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

The Invitation & Exhortation is in the Singular.
(*I alone and You alone must see to this ourselves*)

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling..... :13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

work out katergaꞥzomai katergazomai, kat-er-gad´ -zom-ahee;
to finish the job, to see it accomplished, to stay with it.

James 4:8

Draw (or to be drawing) near to God and He will draw near to you.
is me **working out my own salvation** with fear and trembling

There’s an Effort Drawing Near to the Lord

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

It Takes Faith to be “Striving” to enter through the narrow gate.

It Takes Faith to be “Striving” to Believe

Philippians 1:6

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ.

It Takes Faith to be “Striving” to Believe

Psalms 138:8

The LORD will fulfill [his purpose] for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever — do not abandon the works of your hands.

It Takes Faith to be “Striving” to Believe

Jude 24

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

A MEGA WARNING

2.) A mega warning about apathy

v.22-27

2a.) Being apathetic to the fight

2b.) Being apathetic to the time vs. 25

When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, “**Lord, Lord, open for us,**” and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, *or where you are from,*’

Jesus is Giving a Mega Warning about what time it is

—

that a day is coming when a person will no longer be able to come to Jesus Christ

There is a Great Sense of Urgency Here

Romans 13:11

knowing the time, that now it is **high time** to awake out of sleep.
for now, our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

Notice Here what Jesus does not say.

“He does not say “**I once knew them. we once had a relationship.**”

He Never Knew Them – Ever!

John 10:27-30

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. **:28** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. **:29** My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father’s hand. **:30** I and My Father are one.”

2 Timothy 2:19

Nevertheless, the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal:
“The Lord knows those who are His,”

John 10:14

I am the good shepherd; and I **know My sheep** and am **known by My own**.

I heard Something Remarkable a Couple a Weeks Ago

a young man came up to me and spoke.

"I'm from Pakistan. I was born and raised a Muslim. my family moved here to California. But it was here in America that I had a chance to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. I came across these verses, and I knew that I had to become a Christian.

Matthew 18:11-12

For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.

:12 "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? **:13** And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that *sheep* than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. **:14** Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

You see pastor Jack, Islam teaches that if I stray, Allah will replace me with someone else, he will not come and look for me or rescue me. In fact, Allah will punish me for wondering off!!!

A MEGA WARNING ABOUT APATHY

2c.) Being apathetic to the opportunity vs. 26-27

:26 then you will begin to say, "We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets." **:27** But He will say, "I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity."

this is a **MEGA WARNING**

about "being associated" with Jesus Christ and with Christians

There will come a time when a man seeks
the strait and narrow and agree with it – **but it will be too late!**

There will come a time when a man wants
Jesus as his Lord and Saviour - **but it will be too late!**

There will come a time when a man asks
to be rescued and delivered and saved - **but it will be too late!**

Matthew 7:21-22

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.** **:22** Many will say to Me in that day, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?"

Only a Real, Vital, Living Relationship with Jesus Christ
can save you from being lost for Eternity.

How Real is Your Relationship with Jesus?

tell me – (1) what have **the two of you** been talking about?

(2) how often do **the two of you** talk?

(3) when was the last time **the two of you** did something together?

(4) what are **the two of you** planning on doing next?

you answering those questions
will tell yourself everything you need to know about you and God.

Can You Today Say,
That You Have an Authentic Relationship with Jesus Christ?

(1) **A MEGA WARNING ABOUT APPEARANCES**

(2) **A MEGA WARNING ABOUT APATHY**

A MEGA WARNING

3.) A mega warning about assumptions v.28-30

3a.) Assumptions breed self-deception vs. 28

:28 There will be **weeping** and **gnashing** of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out.

the warning is against “Making Assumptions”
having a sense of privilege or entitlement.

His listeners thought that being “a Jew” and being related to
“Abraham” or “Knowing the Bible” somehow saved them.

There will be **weeping**
the word means to be grieved over missing the chance.

There will be **gnashing**
the word means to be suffering excruciating pain or the ultimate pain.

Matthew 13:41-42

Jesus said that when He returns, He will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, :42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 22:13

Then the king said to the servants, "Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

1. your **genealogy** will not help you then.
2. your **associations** will not help you then.
3. being a **spectator** to the action will not help you then.
4. your **reputation** will not help you then.

Notice:

the lost will be able to recognize Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets but they themselves will miss out on heaven.

Do You Know Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets?
Do You Know Your Old Testament Scriptures?

A MEGA WARNING ABOUT ASSUMPTIONS

3b.) Assumptions cause misunderstanding vs. 29

They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south,
and sit down in the kingdom of God.

Jesus Announces That Non-Jews will be in Heaven

Galatians 3:26-29

For you are all **sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus**. :27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. :28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; **for you are all one in Christ Jesus**. :29 And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. **(The spiritual DNA)**

Isaiah 49:6b

I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles,
That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'

Isaiah 11:10

“And in that day, there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.”

Isaiah 60:3

The Gentiles shall come to your light,

Malachi 1:11

My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the LORD Almighty.

A MEGA WARNING ABOUT ASSUMPTIONS

3c.) Assumptions lead to ultimate disappointment vs. 30

And indeed, there are last - who will be first,
and there is first - who will be last.”

The “Last” in this world, who will be the “First”.

are all those who in this life live for God and are faithful to what the Lord has called them to do. they are the ones that few people know of. they are the toes and heels and the elbows of the church. these will be first in heaven.

Those “First” in this world who will be “Last”

are all those who in this life have recognition, are well known and well treated but have not invested all that much into the kingdom life.

“a body of believers - staying faithful to the word of God will regulate the growth of any church.”

an opinion of Jack’s

“I am having a hard time seeing the good of the “mega” church movement. very few of them have stayed true to the” “fullness” of the gospel.

Staying On the Straight and Narrow

What Are We to Do?

John 15:1-16

Jesus said "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. :2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit... :4 **Abide** in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **Abide** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **Abide** in Me. :5 "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who **Abide** in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. :6 If anyone does not **Abide** in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. :7 If you **Abide** in Me, and My words **Abide** in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. :8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. :9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; **Abide** in My love. :10 If you keep My commandments, you will **Abide** in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and **Abide** in His love... :16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain...

————— *End of Study* —————