

## I. Intro

A. Working our way through The Gospel of Luke – let's pick up the story in Luke 6

## II. Text

**A. Luke 6:1-11**

1. John 21:25 – Jesus did many things not recorded
  - a) Q: Why did Luke record this? Why does it follow the new wineskin [Luke 5:37]
  - b) A: Luke is painting a contrasting picture for his readers
    - (1) Old way – Israel, 12 tribes, law, Pharisees interpret law for everyone
    - (2) New way – retelling of the old way in new and greater terms
      - (a) Jesus is the better Israel, 12 disciples, fulfilling AND interpreting the law
2. Luke gives 2 sabbath stories to illustrate this point
  - a) Picking grain and healing a withered hand – both on sabbath
  - b) Stories contrast the old way of bondage and new way of freedom
    - (1) Old way – man is a slave to the sabbath (list of do's and don'ts)
    - (2) New way – Christ is lord of the sabbath, sabbath is for man [Mk 2:27]
3. In fact, sabbath is a foreshadow of a deeper mystery
  - a) Sabbath illustrates salvation and eternal rest in God [Heb 4:9-11]
  - b) Jesus takes issue with Pharisees clouding the message
4. Main source of contention for the rest of this chapter
  - a) God things are refashioned into man things and used for bondage
  - b) Old ways, meant to point people to God, now point to man and power
  - c) Therefore, Jesus is retelling the story of Israel by walking it out
    - (1) His entire life is a recasting and retelling of the Israel story
    - (2) Israel was meant to be a light to the nations – they weren't
    - (3) Jesus is placing that light in 12 disciples and sending them to nations
5. The rest of this chapter is a study between the old and the new

**B. Luke 6:12-19**

1. Can you see Luke making connections for his readers?
  - a) Moses on a mountain, came down to the people – Same for Jesus

- b) Jacob up all night praying – Jesus up all night praying
  - c) Jacob had 12 sons (twelve tribes) – Jesus has 12 disciples
  - d) Israel was meant to be a light to gentiles – Tyre and Sidon are Gentile cities
2. The scene is set:
- a) The new and better Israel is ready to deliver the new and better guidelines
  - b) How does he do it? – shows the contrast between the old and new ways

### **C. Luke 6:20-26**

1. These new ways are revolutionary
- a) Anyone who follows Jesus is blessed!
    - (1) Blessed if you are poor in spirit – having nothing else but Him
    - (2) Blessed if you are hungry – desiring nothing else but Him
    - (3) Blessed if people hate you for it – your disdain for this world upsets others
  - b) Rejoice when you treasure Christ and it costs you something
    - (1) It cost the prophets before you
    - (2) But, they received their reward in heaven
2. Speaking of rewards, let's contrast the new way with the old way
- a) Woe to those who get all they can get now – you will have nothing later
  - b) Woe to those who satisfy all their desires now – you will be hungry forever
  - c) Woe to those who pursue pleasure and laughter now – you will weep
  - d) Woe to those who desperately want everyone to like them – God won't
3. *Do you see the contrast between the old and the new?*
- a) *It has spread beyond the old Israel (Pharisees) and new Israel (Jesus)*
  - b) *It now speaks in terms of the whole world*
    - (1) *Old nature vs New Nature – Nonbelievers and Christians*
    - (2) *The old is all the old ways of this world – The new is what Christ offers*
    - (3) *The old looks appealing now, but ends in suffering and woe*
    - (4) *The new looks unappealing to the flesh, but the destination is eternal joy*

### **D. Luke 6:27-36**

1. Jesus continues contrasting 2 ways – “Want to be part of this new thing?”

- a) New: Love your enemies. Don't retaliate. Give freely, hold nothing back
  - b) Old: love those who are easy to love, seek revenge, invest for ROI only
  - c) The main point – these two ways aren't compatible, they are opposites
2. You can't follow Jesus and let the world define love
    - a) *The world, your old nature – looks out for itself, that is what is normal*
    - b) *In Christ, that can't be normal anymore – generosity is now normal*
      - (1) *Think about what you want someone to do for you – do that*
      - (2) *Think of people you don't like – go out of your way to show kindness*
      - (3) *Stop holding grudges and acting only when it benefits you*
  3. These are hallmarks of the new way – Jesus continues

#### **E. Luke 6:37-49**

1. Even our sense of judgment is different in this new way
  - a) Jesus isn't saying "Don't use wisdom" or "Call evil good, and good evil"
  - b) Jesus is addressing the old way of clouding his message
  - c) Pharisees judged who was "worthy" of hearing the message
    - (1) Created a barrier to who could approach God
    - (2) Can't do that in the new way – you don't judge who is worthy of hearing
2. But here is the worst part –
  - a) Old way judged who was worthy AND taught others to live this way – Pharisees
  - b) This is what Jesus is addressing in the final verses of Luke 6

#### III. Conclusion

- A. Old way produced bad fruit AND bad teachers to keep it going
  1. So, not enough to consider your old actions in this new way
  2. You must also consider your old teachers in this new way
- B. To truly move forward in Christ – you must accept Him as a new teacher
  1. It is His way. His terms. His timing.
  2. It means forsaking all things, all worldly desires...and all worldly teachers
- C. The question Luke wants us to consider:
  1. Who is teaching me? Instructing me? What voice is the primary voice in my life?