

Let's Worship God

31st Dec. 2018-5th Jan. 2019

Luke



THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Monday - Luke 17:20-25 - The Coming of Christ

There are two comings of Christ that we are taught about in the Bible. He comes the first time in weakness and humiliation, to suffer and to die. He will come the second time in power and great glory, to put all enemies under His feet, and to reign. At the first coming, He is to bear our sins upon the cross. At the second coming, He will be our sinless Judge.

To see these two comings of Christ distinctly is very important to understanding the Bible. The disciples, and all the Jews of Jesus' time, see only one coming. They expect a Messiah who will come to reign, but not one who comes to suffer. The majority of Christians today also seem to see only one coming. They believe that Christ came the first time to suffer, but they seem unable to understand that He is coming a second time to reign. Both parties understand part of the truth but not the whole truth.

A good Christian should keep clearly before his mind both comings of Jesus Christ. Jesus coming in person the first time to suffer, and Jesus coming in person the second time to reign, are two landmarks of which we should never lose sight. We stand between the two. Let us believe that both are real and true.

Questions

1. What was Jesus' purpose in coming the first time?
2. What will be His purpose in coming the second time?
3. Why do we need to remember that Jesus is coming again?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is coming again.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.” Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 148 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Tuesday - Luke 17:25-37 - Separation

Our Lord Jesus Christ gives a solemn warning here to those who profess to be Christians but whose hearts are not right with Him. Lot's wife goes far in religious things. She is the wife of a "righteous man." She is connected through him to Abraham, the father of the faithful. She flees with her husband from Sodom in the day when he escapes for his life by God's command. But Lot's wife is not really like her husband. Though she flees with him, she has left her heart behind her. She willfully disobeys the strict command that the angel has given them. She looks back toward Sodom, and is at once struck dead.

Lot's wife is meant to be a warning to all those who claim to be Christians. There are many who go a long way in religious things. They do Christian things, they talk the way Christians talk, they even go to church regularly to worship God. But all the time their souls are not right in the sight of God. The world is in their hearts, and their hearts are in the world. And at the day of judgement they will be revealed for who they are.

The day of Christ's second coming will be the day when good and evil, converted and unconverted, will be divided. The Church will no longer be a mixed group. The wheat and the tares will no longer grow side by side. The angels will come and take the Godly to their reward, and the wicked will be left to be punished. It will not matter that people have worked together, and slept together, and lived together for many years. They will be dealt with at last according to their hearts. Those members of the family who have loved Christ, will be taken up to heaven; and those who have loved the world, will be cast down to hell. Converted and unconverted will be separated forever when Christ comes again.

Questions

1. Why should we remember Lot's wife?
2. What will happen on the last day?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of your friends and family.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it." Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 149 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Wednesday -Luke 18:1-8 - Prayer

Christ uses this parable to teach us to persevere in prayer. If persistence obtains so much from a wicked man, how much more will it obtain for the children of God from their Father in heaven. Prayer should always interest Christians. It is the very breath of our faith. It is in prayer that our faith begins. It is in prayer that our faith grows. And it is in prayer that our faith decays. Prayer is one of the first signs of conversion, and neglect of prayer the sure road to a fall.

It is far easier to begin a habit of prayer than to keep it up. When things go wrong in our life, or when we get really excited about our faith, it's easy to start praying. But to go on praying requires faith. We are apt to get tired and give in to Satan's suggestions that it's useless. That is when we need to remember this parable. Do you ever feel a secret desire to hurry your prayers, or shorten your prayers, or become careless about your prayers, or stop praying altogether? Be sure that when you do, it is a direct temptation of the devil. Resolve to pray steadily, patiently, perseveringly, and never doubt that it does us good. However long the answer may be in coming, let us pray on.

These verses also teach us that God has a chosen people on earth who are under His special care. Unless God chooses and calls Christians, they will never choose and call on Him. He chooses them of His own good pleasure, not because they are good or worthy of being chosen. But how do you know if you are one of God's chosen people? If you have faith in Christ and have cried out to Him to save you.

Questions

1. Why is it so important for a Christian to pray?
2. How can we keep up the habit of prayer?
3. Do Christians deserve to be chosen by God? Why not?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be faithful in prayer.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.” Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 150 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Thursday - Luke 18:9-14 - Humility

Our Lord is warning us here against self-righteousness. We are all naturally self-righteous. From the greatest to the least of us we think more highly of ourselves than we should. We secretly flatter ourselves that we aren't as bad as some. The true cure for self-righteousness is self-knowledge. When we see what is really in our own hearts, and what the holy law of God requires, our pride will die.

The Pharisee has no sense of sin or need. He confesses nothing and asks for nothing. He does not feel guilty, and he does not ask for mercy and grace. His prayer is just a boasting recital of how good he is and an unloving observation about another sinner. It is a proud prayer missing sorrow for sin, humility, and love. It hardly deserves to be called a prayer at all. When we examine ourselves, we must be careful of behaving like the Pharisee. We evaluate our thoughts, words, and actions, not by man's standards, but by God's.

The prayer of the tax-collector is the exact opposite of the Pharisee's. It is a prayer asking God for something, it is a direct, personal prayer, and it is a humble prayer. It is a prayer in which mercy is the chief thing desired, and faith in God's covenant mercy is shown. And it is a prayer that comes from the heart of the tax-collector

Our sins may be many and great. Our prayers may seem weak, faltering, unconnected, and poor. But remember the tax-collector and take courage. That same Jesus who commends his prayer is sitting at the right hand of God to receive sinners. Let us hope and pray on.

Questions

1. What is the cure for pride?
2. What is wrong with the Pharisee's prayer?
3. What does the tax-collector ask for?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's mercy and forgiveness.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it." Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 1 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Friday - Luke 18:15-17 - Children

The souls of young children are precious in God's sight. Christ cares for them just as much as He cares for adults. They are born in sin and without grace cannot be saved. There is nothing in the Bible to make us think, though, that they can't receive the Holy Spirit, and be justified, even from infancy. The minds of young children are perfectly capable of hearing and understanding the things of God and then responding.

All Christians should try to be like little children in certain ways. We should have the same unwavering confidence and simple trust in our heavenly Father that a child has in its earthly father or mother - a knowledge that they are always in control and that they will always take care of their children.

These verses should emphasise to us that the souls of children are valuable. We should see our children and young people as a most important part of Christ's Church, and a part that our Lord and Saviour does not like to see neglected. From their earliest days we should train children in the ways of God, sowing the seed of God's Word in their minds, with strong confidence that one day it will bear fruit. We should believe that they think more, feel more, and understand more than it seems; and that the Holy Spirit is often working in them as much as in us. Above all, we should bring them to Christ in prayer and ask Him to take charge of them. He never changes. He cares for boys and girls when He is upon earth, and He cares for them still at the right hand of God in heaven.

Questions

1. How old does someone have to be to become a Christian?
2. How should we be like little children?
3. How can we care for the souls of the children in our church?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for our covenant children.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it." Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 2 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Saturday - Luke 18:18-27 - Riches

Our Lord knows this ruler's heart, so He gives him the answer that is most likely to reveal the ruler's true soul. Sure enough the ruler's response to Christ shows that he knows nothing about himself, or God, or God's law. There are thousands like this ruler today - men and women who do not understand the spiritual nature of God's law, and know nothing of their own sinfulness. They do not see that we can break commandments by our hearts and our thoughts, even if not our actions. To have your eyes open to your own sinfulness is one of the first steps towards crying to God for salvation.

These verses also shows what harm just one master-sin can do to a soul. This rich ruler wants eternal life, but there is one thing he loves better - money. Many people are ready to give up everything for Christ except for one special sin, and for the sake of that sin, they are lost forevermore. We must not hold back, if we want eternal life. We must be willing to part with anything, however dear it may be, if it stands between us and our salvation.

It is hard for a rich man to be saved. Why? For one thing, riches can often lead to pride, selfishness, and love of the world. For another thing, very few rich men are honestly warned about the state of their soul. Instead they are flattered, with their good points exaggerated, and their bad points excused. But God's grace has a mighty power. By grace a man may serve God and reach heaven in any condition of life. Many rich men in the Bible love and serve God. Christ can give power to any to follow Him. We must beware thinking that anyone's salvation is impossible because of their situation. God is able to do all things.

Questions

1. What does this ruler love more than eternal life?
2. Why is it hard for a rich man to be saved?
3. Who is it impossible for God to save?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it." Luke 17:33

Praise: Psalm 3 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance
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