

JESUS CHRIST SON OF MAN

SAINTS COMMUNICATION SKILLS

I. THE TEACHER ON PRAYER

- A. **Luke 11:1-54** One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."
1. At this time we go back and revisit LUKE 3:21
 2. WHAT IS IT THAT THE DISCIPLES SEE THAT WE MUST GET A GRASP ON.
 - a. **Luke 3:21** When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, **heaven was opened**
 3. **WHEN JESUS PRAYS THINGS HAPPEN!**

II. THE MODEL PRAYER

- A. Luke 11:2-4 ²He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.' "
- B. **Luke 11:2-4** And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. ³Give us day by day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
1. A GREAT DIFFERENCE IN THESE TWO PRAYERS.
 2. HERE WE HAVE JESUS GIVING US A LESSON ON TALKING WITH GOD!
 - A. STAY WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF CERTAIN GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER AND LEARN.

1. HOW TO BEGIN	Matthew 11:25 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.
2. WHO TO ADDRESS	Matthew 6:9 "This, then, is how you should pray:" 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, John 14:13-15 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will obey what I command. John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. John 16:23-26 In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. ²⁵ "Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf.
3. WHOSE NAME IS TO BE REVERED?	Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

4. WHOSE WILL IS TO BE OBEYED!	Thy will be done
5. WHOSE INTEREST IS TO BE SERVED AND HAVE AT HEART?	Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Matthew 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
6. WHAT ARE WE TO ASK FOR?	³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ Forgive us our sins,.. lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
7. HOW DO WE KEEP CLEAR CHANNEL TO GOD?	for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. 1 John 3:21-22 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, <i>then</i> have we confidence toward God. ²² And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
8. HOW ARE WE TO LIVE WITH OUR FELLOW MAN?	Mark 11:25-26 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. ²⁶ But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.
9. HOW DO WE LIVE WITH GOD?	he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us <i>our sins</i> , and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness John 17:2-3 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. ³ And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 1 John 1:3-9 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship <i>is</i> with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. ⁵ This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as.

10. HOW DO WE LIVE FREE FROM SIN?

lead us not into temptation.' " **Romans 6:16-23** Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. ¹⁸You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. ¹⁹I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:12-13 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,

B. HAVE A UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT YOU ARE ASKING FOR?

(1) Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

(A) WHAT EARTH? THIS EARTH!

i) **Genesis 2:7** the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

a) You are asking God to have His way in your life.

III. PARABLE OF A DESPERATE MAN

A. Luke 11:5-8 ⁵Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷"Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

1. ISSUE "FRIEND OF GOD"
 - A. IN THE LAST TEACHING, YOU WERE GOING TO GOD AS "FATHER" SEEKING SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF.
 - B. THIS TEACHING IS SEEKING A FRIEND TO HELP A FRIEND.
 - C. DO YOU SEE A DIFFERENCE?
2. IN THIS CASE JESUS INSTRUCTS US TO BE **BOLD**, URGE WITH FREQUENT REQUESTS, BE STUBBORN IN OUR PURSUIT, REFUSE TO GIVE IN, AND TROUBLESOME IN PURSUIT OF WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED.
 - a. **Luke 18:1-8** Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ²He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' ⁴"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!' " ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"
 - b. **Hebrews 4:14-16** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
 - c. **Hebrews 10:19-23** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
 - d. **Hebrews 10:36** You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

IV. CERTAINTY OF ANSWERED PRAYER

- A. **Luke 11:9-10** ⁹"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.
 1. BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU ARE ASKING FOR, IF YOU DO NOT KNOW GODS WILL ON THE MATTER SEEK FOR IT, IF YOU HAVE TO KNOCK THE GATES OF HELL DOWN TO GET THE ANSWER, DO IT.
 2. BELIEVE IN WITHOUT WAVERING THAT GOD IS THE REWARDED OF THOSE WHO SEEK HIM.
 - a. **John 14:12-15** I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. ¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command.
 - b. **Hebrews 11:6** And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- c. **1 John 3:19-22** This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

V. INFINITE FATHERHOOD OF GOD - THE ALL INCLUSIVE GIFT!!!!

- A. Luke 11:11-13 ¹¹"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"
1. GOD THE FATHER WILL GIVE AT LEAST AS GOOD AS A EARTHLY FATHER.
 2. HE WILL GIVE THE THINGS THAT ARE BEST FOR HIS CHILDREN.
 3. HE WILL GIVE EXACTLY WHAT IS ASKED.
 - a. **Psalm 84:11** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.
 - b. **1 John 3:19-22** This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.
 - c. **1 John 5:14-15** This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.
 4. AND WHAT IS IT THAT HE WILL GIVE: THE HOLY SPIRIT. AND THAT CHANGES THINGS.
 - A. A MEASURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GIVEN AT THE NEW BIRTH.
 - (1) **John 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**
 - (2) **John 3:5** Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**
 - (3) **Romans 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
 - (4) **Romans 8:14-16** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. ¹⁵For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
 - (5) **Galatians 4:6** And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.
 - b. BUT THERE IS MORE; THE ANSWER TO THE REAL QUESTION THAT THE DISCIPLES HAD; HOW CAN WE HAVE THE POWER THAT YOU HAVE? JESUS HERE ANSWERED THE REAL QUESTION. FOR IT IS THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT LIVES WITHIN THAT TEACHES AND POWERS THE ONE WHO WILL BELIEVES.
 - (1) **Matthew 3:11** I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:
 - (2) **John 7:37-39** In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.** ³⁸He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. ³⁹(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)
 - (3) **Acts 2:33** Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.
 - (4) **Acts 2:38-39** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. ³⁹For the promise is unto you,

- and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.
- (5) **Acts 5:32** And we are his witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.
- (6) **Galatians 3:13-14** Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree: ¹⁴That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- (A) WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US?
- i) **Acts 3:6** Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."
- C. BE SO STRONG IN YOUR WALK THAT YOU "KNOW THE WILL OF GOD", YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY OF ANSWERED PRAYER WITH NO WAVERING OR DOUBT AS TO THE FINAL OUTCOME. [IN THE BOOK OF JOHN LOOK AT THE PROGRESSION, UNDERSTAND IT]
- (1) **Matthew 17:20** And Jesus said unto them, **Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.**
- (2) **Matthew 21:21** Jesus answered and said unto them, **Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.**
- (3) **Mark 11:22-24** And Jesus answering saith unto them, **Have faith in God. ²³For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. ²⁴Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**
- (4) **John 14:12-15** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. ¹³And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴**If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.** ¹⁵If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- (5) **John 15:7** **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**
- (6) **John 16:23-26** **And in that day ye shall ask me nothing.** Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you. ²⁴Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. ²⁵These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. ²⁶At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:
- (a) **John 16:23-26** **In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.** ²⁴Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. ²⁵Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf.
- (7) **Hebrews 11:6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God **must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**
- (8) **James 1:5-8** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. **But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.** For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. ⁷For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. ⁸A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.
- (9) **1 John 3:19-22** And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. ²⁰For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. ²¹Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God. ²²**And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.**
- (10) **1 John 5:14-15** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, **if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:** ¹⁵And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

D. GOD THE FATHER HAS IN POWERED.

- (1) **John 1:12** Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—
 - (2) **John 17:2** For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.
 - (3) **Romans 15:13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - (4) **1 Cor. 15:24** Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.
 - (5) **Ephesians. 6:10** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
- (A) WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES POWER.
- (B) THE THING THAT MUST TAKE PLACE, “RECEIVED HIM”, “YOU HAVE GIVEN HIM.”, “YOU TRUST IN HIM”, “DESTROYED ALL DOMINION, AUTHORITY AND POWER”
- i) HOW IS IT DONE? **BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

VI. A SPIRIT IS DRIVEN OUT - THE HOLY SPIRIT IS BLASPHEMED!!

A. Luke 11:14-15 ¹⁴Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon left, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowd was amazed. ¹⁵But some of them said, "By Beelzebub, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons."

1. UNDERSTAND THE CHARGE! WORK IS DONE! BY WHAT POWER IS IT DONE?

A. POWER OF SATAN

- (1) **Matthew 24:24** For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible.
- (2) **2 Thessalonians 2:8-12** And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. ⁹The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, ¹⁰and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹²and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.
- (3) **Revelations 13:2** The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority.
- (4) **Revelations 16:13-16** Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty. ¹⁵"Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed." ¹⁶Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.
- (5) **Revelations 19:20** But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

B. POWER OF MAN

- (1) **Acts 8:1-40** ⁹Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, ¹⁰and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, "This man is the divine power known as the Great Power." ¹¹They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic. ¹²But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.... ¹⁸When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money ¹⁹and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." ²⁰Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! ²¹You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. ²²Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having

such a thought in your heart. ²³For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin." ²⁴Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

C. POWER OF THE FATHER [GOD]

- (1) **Acts 1:8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

(A) THE POWER OF GOD COMES WITH?

- i) **2 Corinthians 4:7** But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.
- ii) **2 Corinthians 12:9** But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.
- iii) **2 Corinthians 13:4** For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you.
- iv) **Ephesians 1:19** and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength,
- v) **Ephesians 3:20** Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,
- vi) **2 Peter 1:3** His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

VII. The DIVIDED KINGDOM!

- A. Luke 11:15-23 ¹⁵But some of them said, "By Beelzebub, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons." ¹⁶Others tested him by asking for a sign from heaven. ¹⁷Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall. ¹⁸If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim that I drive out demons by Beelzebub. ¹⁹Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁰But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you. ²¹"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. ²²But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils. ²³"He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters.

1. WHAT A STATEMENT. "ANY KINGDOM DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF WILL BE RUINED, AND A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF WILL FALL

A. ANY KINGDOM [NATION], DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF WILL FALL.

2. THE REAL QUESTION, WHOSE KINGDOM DO YOU SERVE?

3. WHOSE POWER DO YOU OPERATE UNDER?

A. WHO IS YOUR MASTER?

- (1) **Matthew 6:24** "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

VIII. THE STATE OF BACKSLIDERS

- A. Luke 11:24-26 ²⁴"When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' ²⁵When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. ²⁶Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first."

1. 10 FACTS ABOUT WE LEARN ABOUT DEMONS

- A. THEY ARE UNCLEAN
- B. THEY CAN GO OUT AND COME INTO THE BODIES OF MEN
- C. THEY CAN WALK
- D. THEY SEEK COMFORT
- E. THEY CAN TALK

- F. THEY MAKE DECISIONS
- G. THEY DISTINGUISH BETWEEN DIFFERENT PLACES
- H. THEY SEEK FELLOWSHIP AND COMPANY WITH EACH OTHER
- I. THEY ARE WICKED
- J. THEY SEEK CONTROL OF MEN
- 2. THIS PARABLE SHOWS THE TRUE STATE OF ISRAEL
 - a. **Matthew 12:45** Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.
- 3. Backslider also is worse than he was before he was cleaned. Do not go back into sin.
 - a. **Hebrews 6:4-9** For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame. ⁷For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: ⁸But that which beareth thorns and briers *is* rejected, and *is* nigh unto cursing; whose end *is* to be burned. ⁹But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.
 - b. **Hebrews 10:26-29** For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. ²⁸He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: ²⁹Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?
 - c. **2 Peter 2:20-22** For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. ²¹For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. ²²But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

IX. TWO OPINIONS ON BLESSED!

- A. Luke 11:27-28 ²⁷As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you." ²⁸He replied, "**Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.**"
 - 1. ONE OPINION, YOUR STATE IN LIFE, OF YOUR STATION IN LIFE.
 - 2. BUT JESUS MAKES IT QUITE CLEAR, "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND OBEY IT."
 - 3. JESUS IS STILL ANSWERING THE QUESTION, HOW DO WE HAVE POWER WITH GOD?

X. SIGN OF JONAH

- A. **Luke 11:29-30** ²⁹As the crowds increased, Jesus said, "**This is a wicked generation. It asks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.**" ³⁰For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation.
 - 1. WICKED GENERATION
 - A. THE THING THAT MAKES THEM A WICKED GENERATION.
 - (1) THEY SEEK MIRACULOUS SIGNS INSTEAD OF HEARING THE WORD OF GOD AND OBEYING IT."
 - 2. THE SIGN OF JONAH

- A. **Jonah 1:17** But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.
- b. **Mark 8:31** He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.
- 3. JONAH WAS A SIGN TO THE NINEVITES,
 - a. **Jonah 3:5-10** The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. ⁶When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. ⁷Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let any man or beast, herd or flock, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. ⁸But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. ⁹Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish." ¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.
 - b. **Matthew 12:41** The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here.
- 4. WILL THE SON OF MAN BE TO THIS GENERATION
 - A. GENERATION IS ALWAYS A SPAN OF LIFE AND NOT A RACE OF PEOPLE
 - (1) AGAIN, AGAIN, AGAIN, THIS GENERATION WILL BE JUDGED ON WHAT THEY DO ABOUT THE SON OF MAN.

XI. JESUS SPEAKS TO THE JEWS

- A. Luke 11:31-32 ³¹The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here. ³²The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here.
 - 1. **1 Kings 10:1** When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relation to the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions.
 - 2. **2 Chronicles 9:1** When the queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's fame, she came to Jerusalem to test him with hard questions. Arriving with a very great caravan--with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones--she came to Solomon and talked with him about all she had on her mind.
 - a. THE QUEEN CHECKED OUT THE POWER [WISDOM] OF SOLOMON AND CAME TO THE DECISION THAT HE WAS SERVING THE ONE TRUE GOD.
 - b. HER QUESTION, WITH ALL THESE SIGNS AND WONDERS THAT YOU HAVE SEEN PERFORMED BY THE SON OF GOD B, HOW COULD YOU NOT BELIEVE.
 - c. THE PEOPLE OF NINEVEH REPENTED AT THE TEACHING OF GOD, THIS GENERATION WILL NOT.

XII. PARABLE OF THE LIGHTED CANDLE

- A. Luke 11:33-36 ³³"No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead he puts it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light. ³⁴Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body also is full of darkness. ³⁵See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness. ³⁶Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be completely lighted, as when the light of a lamp shines on you."
 - A. **Luke 11:34** The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when *thine eye* is evil, thy body also *is* full of darkness.

2. WHO OR WHAT IS THIS LAMP?
 - A. **1 Kings 11:36** I will give one tribe to his son so that David my servant may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city where I chose to put my Name.
 - (1) **Revelations 21:23** The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.
 - b. **Psalm 119:105** Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
3. WHO OR WHAT IS THIS LIGHT?
 - A. **Psalm 27:1** Of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation--whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life-- of whom shall I be afraid?
 - b. **Psalm 119:130** The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.
 - c. **Proverbs 6:23** For these commands are a lamp, this teaching is a light, and the corrections of discipline are the way to life,
 - d. **Matthew 4:16** the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."
 - e. **Matthew 5:14** "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.
 - f. **John 1:4-5** In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.
 - g. **John 1:7-9** He [John] came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.
 - h. **John 3:19-21** This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."
 - i. **John 5:35** John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.
 - j. **John 8:12** When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
 - k. **John 9:5** While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
 - l. **John 12:35-36** Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going. ³⁶Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.
 - m. **Acts 26:18** to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'
 - n. **1 John 1:5** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.
4. WHEN YOUR EYE IS GOOD OR SINGLE, YOUR WHOLE BODY IS FULL OF LIGHT.
 - A. WE HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT JESUS IS THIS LIGHT.
 - B. NOW WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN IT SAYS THAT YOUR EYE IS GOOD OR SINGLE?
 - (1) **Deuteronomy 29:4** Yet the LORD hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see,

and ears to hear, unto this day.

- (2) **Ezekiel 12:2** Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they *are* a rebellious house.
- C. SO IF MY EYES ARE GOOD I SEE THE LORD AND PERCEIVE WHO AND WHAT HE DOES.
- D. AND IF I SEE THIS, WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
 - (1) **WHEN YOUR EYES ARE GOOD, YOUR WHOLE BODY ALSO IS FULL OF LIGHT**
 - (2) **³⁶THEREFORE, IF YOUR WHOLE BODY IS FULL OF LIGHT, AND NO PART OF IT DARK, IT WILL BE COMPLETELY LIGHTED, AS WHEN THE LIGHT OF A LAMP SHINES ON YOU."**
 - (A) IN THE LIGHT THERE CAN BE NO DARKNESS.
 - i) WHAT MAKES THIS TRUE. SEE THE PARABLE ABOVE.
 - ii) WHAT MAKES THE DARKNESS FLEE?
 - (B) SO IF I HAVE JESUS, WHO IS LIGHT, THERE CAN BE NO DARKNESS.

XIII. JESUS DENOUNCES SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

- A. Luke 11:37-41 ³⁷When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited him to eat with him; so he went in and reclined at the table. ³⁸But the Pharisee, noticing that Jesus did not first wash before the meal, was surprised. ³⁹Then the Lord said to him, "**Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? ⁴¹But give what is inside the dish to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.**
- a. **Luke 11:41** But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you.
- B. **WASHED = BAPTIZO, GREEK 907, STRONG'S BAPTIZO, BAP-TID'-ZO**; FROM A DERIVATIVE OF GREEK 911 (BAPTO); TO *MAKE WHELMED* (I.E. *FULLY WET*); USED ONLY (IN THE N.T.) OF CEREMONIAL *ABLUTION*, ESPECIALLY (TECHNICAL) OF THE ORDINANCE OF CHRISTIAN *BAPTISM* :- BAPTIST, BAPTIZE, WASH.
 - (1) SO THIS WAS NOT WASHING HIS HANDS TO CLEANS THEM, BUT A CEREMONIAL WASHING. A SHOW OF SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- C. NOW, WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT THIS?
 - (1) **BUT INSIDE YOU ARE FULL OF GREED AND WICKEDNESS**
 - (2) **DID NOT THE ONE WHO MADE THE OUTSIDE MAKE THE INSIDE ALSO?**
- D. SO WHAT MUST THEY DO WITH THE THING THAT IS ON THE INSIDE?
 - (1) FIRST LET US MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT IS ON THE INSIDE?
 - (A) **YOU ARE FULL OF GREED AND WICKEDNESS**
 - (B) **ALMS** HERE COMES FROM THE FOLLOWING WORD - **ELEOS, GREEK 1656, STRONG'S ELEOS, EL'-EH-OS**; OF UNCERTAIN AFFINITY; *COMPASSION* (HUMAN OR DIVINE, ESPECIALLY ACTIVE) :- (+ TENDER) MERCY.
 - (C) JESUS HERE SHOWS US A BOWL. HE SAYS THE BOWL IS LIKE OUR BODIES. SOME PEOPLE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE APPEARANCE ON THE OUTSIDE. HE SAYS THIS BOWL IS LIKE OUR BODIES. HE LIKENS OUR BODIES TO A BOWL.
 - (D) SO NOW WE HAVE TWO BOWLS, ONE IS FULL OF "**BUT INSIDE YOU ARE FULL OF GREED AND WICKEDNESS**" THE OTHER IS FULL OF MONEY.
 - (E) WHAT MUST WE DO WITH THIS? GIVE IT AWAY. GET RID OF IT.

- (F) IF WE DO THIS, WHAT HAPPENS TO US?
 - i) **and everything will be clean for you.**
- (G) WHO WILL TAKE IT?
 - i) **Galatians 1:4** Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:
 - ii) **Hebrews 1:3** Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;
 - iii) **1 Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
 - iv) **1 John 2:2** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.
 - v) **1 John 3:5** And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
 - vi) **1 John 4:10** Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.
 - vii) **Revelations 1:5** And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,
- (H) THIS ALL STARTED WITH JESUS TELLING US SOMETHING ABOUT HIMSELF.
 - i) WHAT WAS THAT?
 - A) When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, **"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**
- (I) IF I AM TO BE CLEAN AND JESUS SAYS I CAN BE CLEAN. WHAT MUST I DO.
 - i) GIVE AWAY THE DARKNESS, OR LET THE LIGHT SHINE ON IT.

SIX WOES OF PHARISEES AND LAWYERS

- I. WOE TO SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS
 - A. Luke 11:⁴² **"Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.**
 - 1. WHAT IS THE CHARGE?
 - A. **YOU NEGLECT JUSTICE AND THE LOVE OF GOD.**
 - (1) WHAT IS JUSTICE?
 - (a) **Isaiah 64:4-6** For since the beginning of the world *men* have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, *what* he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. ⁵Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, *those that* remember thee in thy ways: behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved. ⁶But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.
 - (b) **1 Kings 8:46** If they sin against thee, (for *there is* no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near;
 - i) SO JUSTICE STARTS WITH THE FACT THAT ALL MEN HAVE SINNED AND OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AS FILTHY RAGS.
 - (2) YOU NEGLECT THE LOVE OF GOD, WHAT IS THE LOVE OF GOD?
 - (a) **Romans 4:6-7** David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins

are covered.

- i) **Psalm 32:1-11** Of David. *A maskil*. Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ²Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit....⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"-- and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah ...¹⁰Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.
¹¹Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!
- (b) So what is the charge against the Pharisee then and NOW?
 - i) YOU NEGLECT JUSTICE?
 - a) What is justice?
 - b) **Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
 - c) **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin *is* death;
 - ii) YOU NEGLECT TO TELL OF THE LOVE OF GOD, WHAT IS IT?
 - a) but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

II. WOE TO THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES! OR THINK HIGHLY OF THEMSELVES!

A. Luke 11:⁴³"**Woe to you Pharisees, because you love the most important seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.**

1. WHAT ARE WE TO BE CAREFUL OF?

- a. **Galatians 6:3** If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.
- b. **Ephesians. 4:17** So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

2. WHO MUST WE LOOK TO FOR OUR PLEASURE?

- a. **1 Timothy 6:17** Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

3. WHAT ARE THINGS LIKE TODAY?

- a. **2 Timothy 3:2** People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,
- b. **1 John 2:16** For everything in the world--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does--comes not from the Father but from the world.

4. SO WHAT DOES GOD ASK OF US?

- a. **Revelations 3:17-18** YOU SAY, 'I AM RICH; I HAVE ACQUIRED WEALTH AND DO NOT NEED A THING.' BUT YOU DO NOT REALIZE THAT YOU ARE WRETCHED, PITIFUL, POOR, BLIND AND NAKED. ¹⁸I COUNSEL YOU TO BUY FROM ME GOLD REFINED IN THE FIRE, SO YOU CAN BECOME RICH; AND WHITE CLOTHES TO WEAR, SO YOU CAN COVER YOUR SHAMEFUL NAKEDNESS; AND SALVE TO PUT ON YOUR EYES, SO YOU CAN SEE.

III. WOE TO THOSE WHO WILL MAKE AN OUTWARD SHOW!

A. Luke 11:⁴⁴"**Woe to you, because you are like unmarked graves, which men walk over without knowing it."**

B. **Luke 11:44** Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over *them* are not aware of them.

1. HERE JESUS SHOWS US THE REAL REASON THAT HE IS SO UPSET WITH THE PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES THEY DO NOT ONLY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THEMSELVES BUT THEY EFFECT OTHERS.

- A. WHEN A PERSON DID NOT SEE A GRAVE AND WALKED ON IT HE WAS DEFILED. THE CUSTOM WAS TO KEEP ALL GRAVE SITES WHITE WASHED.

- B. THE ATTITUDE OF THE PHARISEES TOWARDS GOD[GOD HATES YOU, YOU MUST OBEY HIS LAW TO THE LETTER] WAS STEALING THE LOVE OF GOD FROM THE PEOPLE.

IV. WOE TO THOSE WHO GIVE UNBEARABLE BURDENS!

- A. Luke 11:45-46 ⁴⁵One of the experts in the law answered him, "Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us also." ⁴⁶Jesus replied, "And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.
1. NOTE THAT THIS TEACHER DID NOT IDENTIFY HIMSELF WITH THE OTHERS, BUT HE STILL HAS A PROBLEM.
 - A. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?
 - (1) **Matthew 23:4** They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.
 - B. WHAT DOES THE "CHURCH" CONTINUE TO DO?
 - (1) **Acts 15:10** Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of the disciples a yoke that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear?
 - C. WHAT DID PAUL SAY TO PETER ABOUT THIS?
 - (1) **Galatians 2:14** When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"
 2. WE ARE NOT TO LOAD ONE ANOTHER DOWN WITH "CHURCH" CUSTOMS! YOU HAVE TO DO IT MY WAY, OUR WAY!

V. WOE TO THOSE WITH THE BLOOD OF PROPHETS ON THEM!!

- A. Luke 11:47-52 ⁴⁷"Woe to you, because you build tombs for the prophets, and it was your forefathers who killed them. ⁴⁸So you testify that you approve of what your forefathers did; they killed the prophets, and you build their tombs. ⁴⁹Because of this, God in his wisdom said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and others they will persecute.' ⁵⁰Therefore this generation will be held responsible for the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the beginning of the world, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, this generation will be held responsible for it all. ⁵²"Woe to you experts in the law, because you have taken away the key to knowledge. You yourselves have not entered, and you have hindered those who were entering."
1. SO WHAT IS THE CHARGE HERE?
 - A. ⁴⁸So you testify that you approve of what your forefathers did; they killed the prophets, and you build their tombs
 2. SO WHAT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN? THE LORD KNOWS!
 - A. ⁴⁹Because of this, God in his wisdom [this is JESUS] said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and others they will persecute
 3. SO THESE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE KILLING OF JESUS.
 4. HOW SERIOUS IS THIS? TODAY WE THINK LITTLE ABOUT THOSE THAT DID THE KILLING!
 - a. ⁵⁰Therefore this generation will be held responsible for the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the beginning of the world, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, this generation will be held responsible for it all
 5. WHAT WAS THE NEXT CHARGE?
 - a. because you have taken away the key to knowledge

(1) UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY HAVE DONE!

- (a) **Matthew 15:1-9** Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, ²Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. ³But he answered and said unto them, **Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?** ⁴For God commanded, saying, Honor thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. ⁵But ye say, Whosoever shall say to *his* father or *his* mother, *It is* a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; ⁶And honor not his father or his mother, *he shall be free*. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. ⁷*Ye* hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, ⁸This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me. ⁹But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.
- (b) **Matthew 16:6-12** Then Jesus said unto them, **Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.** ⁷And they reasoned among themselves, saying, *It is* because we have taken no bread. ⁸*Which* when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, **O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?** ⁹Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? ¹⁰Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? ¹¹How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? ¹²Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

(2) THE LAST CHARGE!

- (A) **YOU YOURSELVES HAVE NOT ENTERED, AND YOU HAVE HINDERED THOSE WHO WERE ENTERING."**
- 1) THE MESSAGE THEN AND TODAY. YOU CAN NOT ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD. YOU ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH, NO ONE IS.

VI. THE COST OF THE TRUE GOSPEL!!

- A. Luke 11:53-54 ⁵³When Jesus left there, the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to oppose him fiercely and to besiege him with questions, ⁵⁴waiting to catch him in something he might say.
1. YOU AND I HAVE FREEDOM TODAY AND A RIGHT STANDING WITH GOD THE FATHER BECAUSE OF WHAT JESUS DID FOR US.
 2. WE COULD NEVER FULLY FILL THE LAW.
 3. THAT IS WHY JESUS CAME!
 - a. **John 3:16-17** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.