



The Life of Jesus

A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY

Lesson 40: Sermon on the Mount - Part 5

Matthew 6:1-18

I. Righteous Behavior of a Disciple

- A. Three activities of the Believer: Charity, Praying, Fasting
- B. How are we to do this? “In quiet” Then what? “reward”

II. Secret - Reward - Hypocrites

A. What are the words?

1. Secret - Greek word is *kryptos*
2. Reward #1 - *misthos* - getting rewarded for what you did
3. Reward #2 - *apodidomi* - “giving from”
4. Hypocrite - *hypokrites* - an actor with a mask

B. Disciples (truly to You)

1. v.4 - Giving/charity: do in secret rewarded by the Father
2. v.6 – Praying: do in secret rewarded by the Father
3. v.18 – Fasting: do in secret rewarded by the Father

C. Hypocrites

1. v.2 - Giving/charity: Sound a trumpet? Getting what you deserve
2. v.5 – Praying: Do it in the streets? Getting what you deserve
3. v.16 – Fasting: Acting all sullen? Getting what you deserve

III. vv.1-4 - Charity

- A. v.1 - “practicing your righteousness” - active verb -
- B. v.2 - WHEN you give not IF you give to the poor
- C. v.3 - the Tzedekat “offering box” was at the right-hand entrance

IV. vv.5-15 - Praying

- A. Jesus never says don’t pray in public - Don’t do it for others to see - Don’t babble like the pagans do
- B. Elijah prayed before YHWH in order to show the priests of Baal who He was
- C. We have the Holy Spirit to help us when we don’t know what to say to a Holy God – Romans 8:26-27
- D. This is a model not a liturgy
 - 1. v.9 - “in this way” - same Greek word from John 3:16 “for God so loved”
 - 2. Do I have to do it this way every time? Luke 11:1-4 - not verbatim but similar - Apostles never recorded as having said it - only in Matthew

V. The Model Prayer

- A. Preface - *Our Father in heaven*
 - 1. Our Father - not our Judge or Creator of All (even though He is)
 - 2. This is not OT thinking
 - 3. “in heaven” - we recognize Who He is by where He is
- B. Six Petitions: Your Name, Your Kingdom, Your will, Give bread, Forgive sin, Lead not – note the action verbs
- C. *Your Name* - Hallowed - set apart and dedicated to God – *hagiozo* - Apostles means “stand apart”
- D. *Your Kingdom Come* - Acknowledges His reign - “the Kingdom of Heaven is near”
- E. *Your will be done* - Death to myself - Bring what will be in Heaven to us on Earth IF that is Your will
- F. *Give us today our daily bread*
 - 1. This is sustenance not abundance

2. “daily” bread - only used in reference to bread in the models here and in Luke 11
3. Just like manna - it comes from Him and just for today - Why not give me a week’s worth?
FAITH

G. *Forgive us our debts*

1. Jewish concept of sins and debts were interchanged
2. Root Hebrew word for “debt” is “to deceive” and same word used of the serpent with Eve
3. Luke 7:41-50 Jesus uses parable of sin/debt to Peter - In Luke he uses “forgive our sins”

H. *Don’t Lead Us Into Temptation*

1. Does God tempt us? Does He test us? James 1:13-15
2. How do we stay away from temptation? 1st Corinthians 10:13-14

VI. vv.14-15

- A. “Trespases” (sins, offenses, transgressions) still note the need to forgive others - debts/sins still the thought process
- B. Where is the Doxology? “For Thine is the kingdom, glory...” - It ain’t there but it is in 1st Chronicles 29

VII. vv.16-18

- A. Fasting is between you and God and not for others to witness - This is not being salt/light
- B. Gloomy/somber/sad face - only twice in NT - other time is the unknown disciples on Emmaus Road
- C. Jesus doesn’t emphasize it much

VIII. My “Take Away”

- Previous emphasis was on external - God also wants us to be internal
- Praying, giving, and fasting are about my faith-journey with Him; its personal
- There are times to be salt/light and there are times for me to be in my prayer closet

Questions? Comments? Thoughts?
nick@nickwalters.org



www.nickwalters.org/sundayschool