

A Day is Coming...

Introduction

- Context
 - Thousands of people, Recently went to the SBC 21,000. Indoor, air conditioned, seats, meals, Speakers/Televisions. **Giant business meeting**
 - Jesus was surrounded by a similar number here. But Outdoor, Hot, Standing room only(trampled) No food, No audio assistance. **But the message was far more important.** He begins to speak about a day that is coming, when God finishes what He started.

Luke 12:1-21

In the meantime, when so many thousands of the people had gathered together that they were trampling one another, he began to say to his disciples first, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. 2 Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. 3 Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops. 4 “I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. 5 But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. 7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows. 8 “And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, 9 but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. 10 And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. 11 And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, 12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.” 13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” 14 But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” 15 And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” 16 And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, 17 and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ 18 And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ 20 But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ 21 So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Context/Story

- A Day is Coming when things will be different...

- I am of course talking about the return of Jesus Christ. He promises that he will come back just as he left. And on that day everything will change. Justice will reign, death will be undone, We will be united with Christ, and all the things of this world will pass away. (no more hollywood, no more politics, no more brokenness.
- But, if we are honest, some of us don't want that day to come... Some of us are not ready.
 - Some of us just want a little while longer to experience all this life has to offer.
 - Others of us want a little longer to enjoy our sins.
 - **For some of us, the return of Jesus would be a major inconvenience, because we do not actually know Him...**

It's striking how much Jesus warned against false conversion in a religious culture. **The Good Samaritan? Started with a question about eternal life. The Unforgiving Servant? All about who is in God's Kingdom. Sermon on the Mount? He ends by saying "beware false prophets"**. It's more common than we can see. We make far too many assumptions about people. "They claim to be christians, so it must be true." All the while we see no fruit, no evidence, no growth, and no change. Do we look, act, think, and smell like the world around us? Or are we different? When we are alone, do our thoughts and actions honor Jesus? Do we put on a show in front of others, but when we are by ourselves do we let our true selves out? Don't think that this will work forever.

A Day is Coming when Hidden Things Will Be Revealed (1-7)

1. Explain

- a. Bad Deeds
- b. Christians are often accused of being hypocrites...
 - i. Now, the hypocrite is the one who says, "You have a lot of sin, I don't have it. You struggle with it, I don't. I'll judge you, you can't judge me." And then you follow them around and you realize, "Hey, they're ripping people off and committing sexual sin and all the stuff they're telling everybody else not to do, and all of the stuff that they deny doing, that's the very thing they're doing."
 1. Some who claim to be christians are not.
 - a. Matthew 7:21-23 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'
 2. Some christians are hypocrites

- a. Give the presentation that we are holy, devout, pious, moral, good, but if you followed them around you would see some inconsistency...
 - 3. Most christians are not hypocrites
 - a. Real Christianity, requires repentance of sin. On a regular basis, the christian has to look inside himself and repent of his failures, his
 - ii. Jesus is saying this to the people who love and admire the pharisees.
 - 1. Lego Pharisee
 - c. Good Deeds
 - i. Pray in secret
 - ii. Fast in secret
 - iii. Tithe in secret
- 2. Apply
 - a. What we fear reveals a great deal about us. (misplaced fear)
 - i. Fear of Men - Ed Welch - Fear in the biblical sense includes being afraid of someone, but it extends to holding someone in awe, being controlled or mastered by people, worshipping other people. Putting your trust in people, or needing people. The fear of man can be summarized this way: We replace God with people. Instead of a Biblically guided fear of the Lord, we fear others. .When we are in our teens, it is called peer pressure. When we are older, it is called people-pleasing."
 - 1. Fear of bosses, fear of pastors, fear of Governments, popularity, opinions, Jesus says, these people can do nothing to us! They have no lasting power over you!
 - 2. Who is on the throne? Some people walk around with a gavel and a robe and they act like a judge. "Sit down, I'm going to tell you some things. I'm going to confront you on some things. I'm going to judge you on some things." You're like, "Pfft, look, a gavel and a robe does not a judge make. You're a hypocrite. You're playing a role you don't possess.
 - 3. Proverbs 29:25 - Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.
 - ii. Fear of God - this is the fear that we should remember
 - 1. Regardless of who sits on the throne of our hearts, God is on the throne of all the world.
 - a. All that is hidden will be revealed. The things we want to keep in darkness will come into the light. The things whispered in secret will be shouted from the rooftops.
 - i. This terrifies some of you. I understand. Make it right with God now before that day comes!
 - ii. Are you ready for the hidden things to be revealed? Because that day may be today...

A Day is Coming when God will Save His People (8-12)

1. Explain
 - a. Do not Fear
 - i. We will be taken care of in this life. provision is a promise from God. It doesn't mean we don't have to work, it doesn't mean we can just sit on our couch and eat hot pockets paid for by government stipends. And it also doesn't mean that we get to be rich, driving ferraris around. But it does mean we will have what we need!
 - ii. And we will be taken care of in the life to come!
 1. Joel Osteen - Your best life now... YOUR BEST LIFE IS LATER!
 2. God will acknowledge you in His heavenly kingdom.
 - iii. GOSPEL through the lens of Sin, death, destruction, WRATH
 1. Adam and Eve gave us a gift - Sin
 2. Christ gave us a gift also - Salvation
2. Prove
 - a. Romans 5:12 - Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men[e] because all sinned
 - b. Romans 5: 15-17 - But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. 16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. 17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.
3. Apply
 - a. Are you His people?
 - i. I'm amazed at how many people buckle up and eat their vitamins and run every day, and drink bottled water and watch their cholesterol and don't even think about their eternity.
 - b. Come join Christ, take His gift of salvation. Because a day is coming when Jesus will save His people, and only his people. ARE YOU READY? Because that day could be today.

A Day is Coming When You Will Stand Before God (13-21)

1. Explain
 - a. Someone shouts out from the crowd, Tell my brother to give me some money... You are wasting your life.
 - i. This man was wasting his life on greed. But there is no shortage of things to waste your life on. (Video games, Education, the Corporate ladder,

- ii. Small groups - Giving, Tithes and offerings, but here I want to direct us to a different reality.
 - b. Parable of a man who wasted his life building a bigger barn.
 - i. Welcome to America - filled with fools trying to build bigger barns.
 - 1. I didn't call them a fool, God did.
 - c. The Average male life expectancy in America is 75 years.
 - d. The Average female life expectancy in America is 80 years.
 - i. Hebrews 9:27 - And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment
 - ii. Not much time left
 - 1. Building bigger barns?
 - 2. Or building the kingdom?
- 2. Prove
 - a. 1st Thessalonians 4:16-17 - For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.
 - b. A Day is coming when you will stand before God. Are you ready? I imagine that you may already know what He will say to you. (Well done/Depart from me)
- 3. A day is coming...
 - a. A Day is coming when Jesus will return
 - b. A Day is coming when every cemetery on earth will erupt as the sleeping ones from the ages before us arise at the command of Jesus.
 - c. A Day is coming when we will finally finish the race
 - d. A Day is coming when we will finally be sanctified perfectly like Jesus.
 - e. A Day is coming when Sin, Pain, Sickness, Death will be undone.
 - f. A Day is coming when God's children will receive blessings beyond our wildest imaginings.
 - g. A Day is coming when we will see our God face to face.
 - h. A Day is coming when we will be called His children, and given an inheritance.
 - i. A Day is coming when we will rule and reign alongside our God
 - j. A Day is coming when all mankind will stand before the great Judge
 - k. A Day is coming when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.
 - l. Friend, that day is coming, and it could be today, it could be tomorrow, it could be a hundred years from now, but that great day IS coming.
 - m. Let's live today reminding ourselves of THAT day.

**Invitation
Pray**



LUKE 12:1-21 A Day is Coming...

INTRODUCTION The gospel has the power to save and transform our lives but it must land on receptive hearts. We are reminded in the Parable of the Sower that if our hearts are not tender then the gospel will not take root.

DISCUSSION

- What is Hypocrisy?

EXPLANATION

- How is the Hypocrisy of the Pharisees like Leaven?
- Why should we not fear those who could kill us?
- What is a Biblical understanding of giving?

APPLICATION

- How does fear of man hinder our faithfulness to God?
- What is your gut level response to the call to giving?
- What fears compel you to spend or hoard money, and keep you from giving generously?
- How do we cultivate a generous heart?

THE 5 W's (broken up into gendered groups)

- Word (How have you gotten into the word this week?)
- Wife/Husband/Family (How are you doing with your spouse/family?)
- Wellness (What are you doing to take care of yourself?)
- Work (How are you handling the work God has given you?)
- Witness (Who have you witnessed to, or prayed for this week?)