

#60 *FORUM POST ON THE FATE OF THE PHARISEES

Hi Joe,

You have posted a lot of text on the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man which is not something I like to do as each passage has its own context and meaning.

As you may know I've asked a few here to provide a reason why verse 24 contains the tip of a finger and the tongue.

Take this little symbol of the tip of his finger...

The lawyers would lift one of theirs to help

Luke 11:46 Jesus 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.

Can you see how Jesus uses the symbol to express a truth about these so called religious elite? No longer the whole finger!!!! It's now its tip!!!!

Jesus has already referenced their issue many times and now very creatively has the Rich man with burning tips of this fingers.

The lesson here is simple - Jesus will show no mercy toward those who showed no mercy!

So Luke 16:24 cmp Luke 11:46 is one and the same teaching - one via a Parable the other very Direct!

F

Dear F _____,

Concerning your comments on the "tip of his finger":

Yes, Luke 11:46 fits in nicely with the parable.

Supporting that verse is the statement that Christ made to the scribes and Pharisees in Mat 23:23:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

You said:

The lesson here is simple - Jesus will show no mercy toward those who showed no mercy!

No, your statement is not true.

Like the scribes and Pharisees, you are omitting the weightier matters of the law; judgment, mercy and faith.

Christ is not like the scribes and Pharisees as you are saying. He will not forget mercy and faith, nor will He forget His purpose for judgment:

Isa 1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Isa 4:4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

Jer 4:2 And thou shalt swear, The LORD liveth, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.

Psa 33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

Christ's judgment is a necessary component of our salvation. He uses it to destroy our carnal nature and to teach us His righteousness. Without judgment, our salvation would be incomplete.

Look at what John the Baptist said:

Mat 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 SPIRIT, and with FIRE: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

To convert mankind into children of God, Christ will baptize us with the Holy Spirit and with Fire.

Fire is the spiritual symbol for judgment. And because judgment is necessary for our conversion, Christ longed to start that process:

Luke 12:49 “I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

Christ didn't make this statement because He wants to harm mankind. He made that statement

because He loves us. From His judgment, mankind will be redeemed and blessed (**Isa 1:27, Jer 4:2**).

And Christ will not pervert judgment as the scribes and Pharisees do. Christ will not leave out mercy and faith:

Job 34:12 Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.

Now read Joel chapter 2 where it teaches on His judgment of the lost in the final age. The setting is the Day of the Lord when the scribes and Pharisees (and the rest of the lost) are being judged by the Law.

The "great and strong people" are the Elect (includes Lazarus from the parable) who are reigning with Christ. They are described in quite a bit of detail in the first half of the chapter.

Now look down to verse 18:

Joel 2:18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

Before the lost are destroyed (the penalty of sin), Christ will have pity (mercy, compassion) upon them and will save them.

Joel 2:19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

Christ did this by sending them the Rain, both the Early and Latter Rains:

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former (Early) rain, and the Latter rain in the first month.

With the Early and Latter Rains, the lost are saved.

Jam 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Rain/water is the spiritual symbol for the Holy Spirit. The Early Rain is a small measure of the Spirit. With the Early Rain, an unbeliever is called out from the world and has a measure of faith. Later, when the Latter Rain is poured out upon them, the person is saved.

As you can see from Joel chapter 2, Christ does not forget the weightier matters of the Law as

the scribes and the Pharisees do. Christ is merciful and gracious:

Psa 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

He is not the "hard man" as you believe:

Mat 25:24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

Mankind has no reason to be afraid of Christ. He is our God, Creator, Lord and Savior. He is everything to us!

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Concerning your comments on the "tip of his finger":

Yes, Luke 11:46 fits in nicely with the parable.

It's so very rare in this forum for a person to acknowledge a truth like this - God be praised!

FaithWillDo said:

Supporting that verse is the statement that Christ made to the scribes and Pharisees in Mat 23:23:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

You said that "Jesus will show no mercy toward those who showed no mercy!"

No, your statement is not true.

Like the scribes and Pharisees, you are omitting the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith.

The judgement of those people is already past - its written in the Word of God and none to change that.

The judgement on those Pharisees who rejected Christ and planned his death is all but a formality now. They received their calling for repentance ,but rejected it completely and utterly.

Luke 16:19 is a well-crafted parable which Luke 13:28 supports.

“There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, **when you** see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, **but you yourselves thrown out.**

Of course this is all future tense.

You are correct, the Master is not a hard man, but he is always loving and righteous....however, those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit cannot be saved.

Luke 16 is a parable devised to show their end by their own false beliefs - Abraham and his faith cannot be reached by them because their works were evil.

Keep in mind these comments only relate to those who fit into Luke 16:19 and Luke 13:28 - in no way is this descriptive of Israel as a whole. They can be grafted back in and will be at his coming.

F _____

Dear F _____,

You said:

The judgement of those people is already past.

Yes, you are right but your overall understanding is in error.

Here is the verse:

John 3:18 He (a child of God) that believeth on him is not condemned: but he (all mankind) that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Mankind has no faith in Christ - no one.

Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

Because carnal mankind was made in this faithless condition, all mankind is condemned already.

The only people who can know Christ and believe in Him are the children of God who are not carnal. They have been given a new spiritual nature - one which is governed by the Holy Spirit. Their old spiritual nature, which was carnal, was destroyed by judgment. This is what it means to be converted. To be saved, we must die, but from that death, we are "born again" as a child of God.

John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel (the natural man) that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel (the spiritual man), as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Christ will do this spiritual work of conversion within all mankind before the final age ends. In this age, Christ is only converting His chosen Elect. They are blessed, not because of anything they have ever done to deserve it, but simply because it satisfies God's plans and purposes for mankind.

Look at this verse below: It says that only with the Holy Spirit can anyone believe in Christ:

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

This verse above is really quite profound and is not hard to understand. However, it is completely rejected by the apostate church. This verse is in direct conflict with their "another gospel" which they preach to the world. Their false gospel teaches that salvation comes by a mixture of "works" and faith. But this is not true. Salvation comes only by faith in Christ; mankind contributes nothing. Under the New Covenant, 100% of the work which is necessary for our salvation & conversion comes from Christ. Even our confession of faith comes from Christ. We make that confession as a result of Christ's spiritual work which He does within us. And after He does that work, we can no longer reject Him.

Paul's conversion is the pattern all the Elect will follow for their salvation (**1Tim 1:16**). Paul never asked for Christ to come to Him on the Damascus Road, nor did Paul give Christ permission to give him the Early Rain. Paul only had it in his heart to persecute Christians. But Christ came to Paul anyway. Christ did so simply because of His grace and because Paul was chosen to be blessed from the foundation of the world - just like all the Elect are. After Paul received the Early Rain, Paul fell to his knees and called Jesus "Lord".

Paul's confession was caused by the work of Christ within Paul. Paul cannot take any credit for it.

From Christ's work, Paul's heart and mind were changed.

These verses apply:

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Only AFTER Christ comes to a person and gives them the Holy Spirit (without them asking for it and without their permission) will they make the confession of faith. And since Christ is not willing that anyone should perish (**2Pet 3:9**, the true penalty of sin), Christ will come to all

mankind someday at a time of His choosing; the Elect in this age, then the rest of mankind in the final age.

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

You said:

The judgement on those Pharisees who rejected Christ and planned his death is all but a formality now. They received their calling for repentance ,but rejected it completely and utterly.

The Pharisees who rejected Christ and crucified Him never repented before their deaths. As a result, they will "suffer loss" but they will still be saved at the end of the final age:

1Cor 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

The "loss" they suffer is the loss of being a "heir" and a "First Fruit" of Christ's harvest of mankind. The heirs (the Elect) will have "life" during the ages and will have the honor of reigning with Christ in the final age to help Him bring in the full harvest of mankind.

Here is what Christ told the Pharisees who crucified Him:

Mat 21:31 Which of the two was obeying his father?" They replied, "The first, of course." Then Jesus explained his meaning: "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors (Matthew**) and prostitutes (**Mary Magdalene**) will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.**

With Christ, there was never any doubt that He would save the Pharisees who crucified Him. The only issue was when their salvation would occur. Matthew and Mary Magdalene are the Jewish Elect who Lazarus represented in the parable. They will be blessed and saved first. Then in the final age, the Pharisees will be saved.

Also, this verse:

Luke 12:59 I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny."

The Pharisees will be saved after they have "paid the last penny". The payment is their spiritual death and is the same spiritual death even the Elect must pay. However, the Elect will not be judged in wrath as will those of the final age. But even so, Christ will give them the Early and Latter Rains before they perish (last penny). They will then enter into life as a new creation; a child of God.

You said:

You are correct, the Master is not a hard man, but he is always loving and righteous....however, those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit cannot be saved.

No, that is not true.

Here is the verse:

Mat 12:32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this age (the Old Covenant age), neither in the age (this present age) to come.

However, they will be forgiven in the final age. They will miss the blessing of being a heir.

You said:

Keep in mind these comments only relate to those who fit into Luke 16:19 and Luke 13:28 - in no way is this descriptive of Israel as a whole. They can be grafted back in and will be at his coming.

Paul said this:

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written...

The physical Nation of Israel will be the last group to be saved in the final age. Their salvation will come after the last Gentile is saved. After Israel is saved, Christ will deliver up the Kingdom of Heaven to His Father and God will then be "all in all" (1Cor 15:20-28).

Your blindness to Christ actually being mankind's Savior is causing you to understand scripture incorrectly. Christ really is mankind's Savior and He will not rest until the last person is saved. Only then will He have completed the mission His Father gave Him:

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

Anything less than 100% of mankind being saved would make Christ a failure. But of course, that cannot be. God is love and love never fails.

Joe

I never heard back from F _____.