

SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016

THEME: FORSAKING ALL I TRUST HIM...THE FAITH STORY UNIT THREE – “FULLNESS OF FAITH”

“FAITH THAT CARES AND SHARES THE BIBLE WAY”



Sunday School Lesson No. IX – May 1, 2016 Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Luke 17:1-10

Required Reading: Luke 17:1-10

Motto Text: Luke 17:3 (NLT), “So watch yourselves! If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive.”

Reliable Resources: What the Bible Teaches by R. A. Torrey; New Pilgrim Edition Study Bible; Easton’s Illustrated Dictionary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Wilmington’s Bible Handbook; Standard Lesson Commentary; Precepts for Living (UMI Publishing); Master Outlines from “The Open Bible” Thomas Nelson; The Outline Bible by H. L. Wilmington; Analytical Bible Expositor by Butler

INTRODUCTION

According to Butler’s Analytical Bible Expositor, “This chapter records more lessons taught by Christ on His journey from Galilee to Jerusalem (Luke 17:11). This journey was a long, slow journey from Galilee to the holy city. The journey was not a straight line from Northern Galilee to Jerusalem, but rather it was a journey which took many turns from location to location.”

Beloved, this is how the Christian life moves “*from faith to faith.*” (Romans 1:17). Now according to the Bible Knowledge Commentary, “Jesus’ teaching about obligations toward men of God in 17:1-10...Followers of Jesus are not to cause people to sin...They also are to counteract sin by forgiving others (17:3-4).

17:5-10, Jesus also taught that His followers have responsibilities toward God. The first responsibility is to have faith...The disciples’ second responsibility toward God was humble service (vv. 7-10). They should not expect special praise for things they were expected to do.”

Now beloved, let us examine our Anticipated Power Points and examine the first lesson of Jesus in Luke 17. **Anticipated Power Points:** “Faith that Cares and Shares the Bible Way”...

- **Is Longsuffering.** Luke 17:1-4
- **Is Legitimate.** Luke 17:5-6
- **Is Loyal.** Luke 17:7-10

LESSON OUTLINE

“...Christ at times deals with a number of different conduct matters for God’s people. God’s people are to behave differently than the world. Christ’s standards are not going to be accepted by the world, but they must be practiced by God’s people if God’s people are to be obedient and have a good testimony for Him.” Butler’s Analytical Bible Commentary

I. Faith that Cares and Shares the Bible Way is Longsuffering. Luke 17:1-4

A. In persecution. vv. 1-2

Jesus gives words of warning to the faithful, that laboring for Him is no Sunday School picnic. A bullseye will be on the backs and hearts of the faithful in Christ. Paul said, *“I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.”* (Romans 7:21). In John 10:10, Jesus said, *“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy...”*

In our lesson verses, Jesus said temptation to sin is a daily challenge, but truly what woe awaits those who place such snares in the way of the righteous. Verse 2 truly warns the offensive that their end is as committing suicide. *“...God will judge.”* Hebrews 13:4

B. In purification. vv. 3-4

Jesus teaches that even the weakest brother or sister, if they truly repent, needs to be forgiven and seek to purify themselves through true repentance. This act of restoring the impure saint calls for a great deal of longsuffering and forgiving grace. Ephesians 4:32 tells us, *“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”* And remember, *“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”* Proverbs 28:13. (Forgiving an honest person even 7 times a day for the same sin!)

II. Faith that Cares and Shares the Bible Way is Legitimate. Luke 17:5-6

Now what does legitimate mean in this context? It means to be totally genuine and not a fraud or fake!

A. The request for increased faith. v. 5

Why? Because to forgive those who have wronged us is very different. Jesus cried from the cross, *“Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.”* Luke 23:34. Jesus wants them and us to know that no matter how small our faith, it is enough through Christ alone to get the job done.

B. The response to their request. v. 6

Legitimate faith can move the unmovable and conquer anything. As little faith as a grain of mustard seed is enough, when placed undoubtingly in God’s Word and Person, to move a mulberry (sycamore) tree which possessed one of the greatest root systems in the middle east by a simple word. *WOW!* You say, if you doubt, remember the request of a doubtful father in Mark 9:24, *“...Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”*

III. Faith that Cares and Shares the Bible Way is Loyal. Luke 17:7-10

These final verses tell us a dynamic truth overlooked in today’s church society. Note four things a loyal, faithful, serving Christian must remember as a servant of Christ:

- **The duty of the servant. Luke 17:7.**
It is duty that requires hard work. The servant does not sit around in a soft chair all day sipping tea and eating mints. He must work in hard-sweating labor.
- **The deference of the servant. Luke 17:7-8**
Though the servant has worked hard all day, he still must give deference to the master who requires the servant to fix the master’s meal and wait till the master has eaten until the servant can do likewise.
- **The due for the servant. Luke 17:9**
A servant must be more interested in his duty than what is due him. He must make service more important than salary.
- **The demureness of a servant. Luke 17:10”** Butler’s Analytical Bible Expositor

Beloved, when one acts with an attitude of demureness, it simply means their service is an act characterized by modesty and saintly shyness, one who is unassuming. Truly not one who oversteps their position or is aggressive! Beloved, *“...A servant does not get special praise from his master for doing his job. Likewise, disciples have certain responsibilities which they are to fulfill in humility as God’s unworthy servants.”* (Bible Knowledge Commentary)

CLOSING

A thought from Standard Lesson Commentary on this week’s lesson: “Exercise the kind of faith that forgives extravagantly.” Remember the faith words of prayer for us from our Saviour. Luke 23:34, *“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”* Thank You Jesus Christ!



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Looking Ahead: May 8, 2016 Luke 17:11-19

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School Lesson