

THE LAST WEEK OF THE LORD JESUS ON EARTH
IVf. Jesus' Final Day of Public Teaching (cont.)
Jesus Proclaims Truth (Part 6 mid Afternoon c. 1:45 P.M.)

Wednesday, 12th Nisán (April 1), A.D. 33

Mt. 22:23-34a; Mk. 12:18-27; Lk. 20:27-38

Introduction: During the weeks before the observance of The Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection we were studying each day of The Last Week in the physical life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. Since it was impossible to adequately expound all of the teachings by The Lord Jesus Christ during the fourth day of that week in one lesson, we postponed expounding the remainder of His Teachings on Wednesday, 12th Nisán, April 1, A.D. 33 until we covered the rest of the days through out the week and considered The Day of Resurrection. Most of His Teachings used parables to illustrate The Truth that He intended to communicate. It was noted that to properly interpret parables requires explanation and observance of specific guidelines before undertaking to accurately understand them. Therefore we have briefly studied the parables to interpret them only by obtaining the particular reference and the prevailing principle of each.

For the last five lessons we have been studying what took place in the life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Wednesday, 12 Nisán (April 1) in the last week of His life on Earth. He began the day in the morning watch just before dawn (c. 6:00 A.M.). We have considered the first two sessions in which He taught the disciples three lessons in the early morning watch before dawn on the way to the Temple from before 6:00 A.M. to c. 7:30 A.M. and then in the Temple through the morning from 7:30 A.M. to the c. 11:00 A.M. He taught three more lessons, two on Fatal Wrath and one on Financial Responsibility.

A. Lessons Taught on the Way to The Temple (c. 5:50 to 7:15 A.M.).

The Lord Jesus and His disciples spent the night on the south west end of The Mount of Olives. On their way to The Temple, Jesus taught them three Lessons on Faith, Prayer, and Forgiveness.

B. His Ministry in The Temple (c. 7:30 A.M. to c. 6:00 P.M.).

When Jesus entered The Temple early in the morning and began teaching and evangelizing (Lk. 20:2). When the religious leaders (chief priests, scribes, and elders) approached Him, they inquired of Him about His authority. Jesus challenged them by answering with a question about John the Baptizer (Mt. 21:23-27; Mk. 11:27-33; Lk. 20:1-8). After refusing to answer His question of them about John the Baptizer, Jesus told parables and began teaching lessons in eight categories: **Faithful Service, Fatal Wrath, Financial Responsibility, Future Living, False Religion, Fallible Recognition, Fatal Rebuke, and Faithful Giving.**

1. The Lesson on Faithful Service (c. 9:00 A.M.).

This parable indicated two kinds of obedience: Blatant Resistant Disobedience and Reserved Disobedience which is implied consent to do what the father ordered but failed to comply.

- a. The Particular Reference to which this parable is addressed is found in the answer Jesus gave to the religious leaders, who hypocritically claimed to be sons of God The Father and condemned tax collectors and harlots, both of whom they considered to be sinners and outcasts. The application that Jesus made placed these Jewish leaders in a more demeaned category than the outcast sinners whom they condemned because those outcast sinners committed trust in the message of John

the Baptizer while these Jewish leaders in their hypocrisy would and did **not** commit trust in what John said, nor did they consider John the Baptizer to be a genuine prophet according to their own admission in their recent answer to Jesus' question.

- b. The Prevailing Principle is that all sinners who repent and persistently obey The Father God's will and commands shall pass on and enter into The Kingdom of The God before religious hypocrites, who do not live up to what they claim in their relationship to The God. Therefore all religious hypocrites shall not enter The Kingdom of The God but shall be punished eternally by perishing in The Lake of Fire.

2. The Lesson on Fatal Wrath (c. 10:00 A.M.) - Two Parables

- a. **The Parable of the Housemaster and the Fruit of his Vineyard.**
This parable teaches that failure to render the fruits of the vineyard to The Housemaster results in **Fatal Wrath of Eternal Destruction.**

(1) The Particular Reference is to the religious leaders of Israel, who determinedly willed to kill their Messiah as the religious leaders throughout the centuries did to the prophets who warned of the impending destruction to the nation and prophesied of The Promised Messiah. They also prophesied as to how to recognize Him. All of those qualifications were demonstrated as fulfilled by The Lord Jesus Christ, Who stood before them and Who was teaching them presently. This final warning was being given to them two days before these same leaders cried out for and successfully obtained His crucifixion by the Romans. They shall be dashed to pieces, utterly flailed, scattered like chaff, and utterly destroyed (caused to perish) by The Son when He returns to set up His Kingdom.

(2) The Prevailing Principle in this parable is that since The God's Vineyard whether of The Old Testament (Israel) or The New Testament (The Church), which has been established at Pentecost has been abundantly provided with all that is needed to produce and render the fruits of it to Him, He expects His Vineyard to bear fruit and be rendered to Him. And He holds the leaders (O.T.: Priests, Scribes, Rabbis, and elders; N.T. Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists, Missionaries, elders, and deacons) accountable for tending His Vineyard and He holds **all** disciple-workers accountable as well. There are severe consequences for true **or** false leaders and for His children who are not productive and do not render the fruits that He expects them to produce and render to Him. We all shall be called into account for complete obedience to The Lord Jesus Christ's Commands to go and announce The Gospel throughout the whole Earth, make disciples, and teach them to completely fulfill His commands as well and thereby render to Him the fruits of their work of discipleship. Unless and until then, any claim to be His disciple-saints is false, misleading, and hypocritical.

- b. **The Parable of the Wedding Feast** (c. 11:00 A.M.)

This parable teaches that failure to respond to the invitation to The Wedding Feast and wear the provided Wedding clothing results in **Fatal Wrath.**

(1) The particular reference is to the religious leaders of Israel, who determinedly willed to kill their Messiah as the religious leaders throughout the centuries did to the prophets who warned of the impending destruction to the nation and prophesied of The Promised Messiah. They also prophesied as to how to recognize Him. All of those qualifications were demonstrated as fulfilled by The Lord Jesus

Christ, Who stood before them and Who was teaching them presently. This final warning was being given to them two days before these same leaders cried out for and successfully obtained His sentence to execution by crucifixion by the Romans.

- (2) The prevailing principle is that The God has prophesied of The Messiah's coming to provide Salvation for all nations. Out of those who **do** respond to The Gospel Invitation He shall establish a new nation, The Church composed of regenerated discipled-Jews and regenerated discipled-Gentiles, which shall replace the vineyard of Israel and will produce and render the fruits to Him in due season. All people of all nations are invited to the marriage feast which The Father provided for and through His Son. Those who respond to the invitation to The Gospel Feast and willingly wear the wedding garment, the Robe of Righteousness which The Father God provides, shall spend Eternity with His Son. But those who refuse to respond and to wear the provided wedding garment shall face Fatal Wrath by being cast into the outer dark and shall suffer in anguish forever with weeping and gnashing of teeth in The Lake of Fire.

3. The Lesson on Financial Responsibility - c. 1:00 P.M. (Mt. 22:15-22; Mk. 12:13-17; Lk. 20:20-26).

a. The Consultation for Confrontation.

After the Pharisees (Mt. 22:15), chief priests, and scribes (Lk. 20:19) were angered at Jesus because of the parables that He used to illustrate their Fatal Wrath, they took consultation together with the Herodians as to how they could entrap Jesus in His speech. Then off to the side, after watching Him intently, in **early afternoon (c. 1:00 P.M.)** they sent spies to Jesus. These disciples of the Pharisees with the Herodians formed a delegation that confronted Him in wickedness by hypocritically pretending to be righteous with a sincere inquiry about paying tax, so as to fulfill their intent to catch Him in a trap in His speech in order to deliver Him over to the principality and authority of the governor, **Pohntéehs** Pilate for execution by crucifixion.

- b. Jesus responded with a question followed by an example and another question, “O hypocrites, why are you testing **Me**?” [Why put **Me** to proof? (APT)]. Then He asked them, “Exhibit to Me the legal coin of the poll tax!” (Mt. 22:19 APT). When they gave Him a **δηνάριον** (daynáhreeohn), a small Roman silver coin the size of a dime, equal to a day's pay with which they must pay the poll tax, He asked this second question: “Whose /image and /inscription is this?” (Mt. 22:20). Their brief answer was, “**Káisahr**'s!” Jesus then made this application. “Therefore, . . . surely now render [give back] the things belonging to **Káisahr** to **Káisahr** and the things belonging to The God to The God!” It is equally important in the eyes of The God to render to each authority that which rightfully belongs to each.

- c. The particular reference was to the Jews' obligation, firstly horizontally to pay tax to the ruling human government. Every Jew is legally obligated before The God to be financially responsible to render, to ever government over them, the taxes assessed by each governing body. On the other hand vertically every Jew is equally legally obligated to be financially responsible to The God to see that He receives the proper proportion (the tithe, 10%) of all gross income plus other additional tithes to The Lord God as stated in The

Law. The Lord Jesus said nothing more, in His response to the spies sent by the Pharisees and Herodians, than that it is a legal financial responsibility to render what is due to each authority. The actual consequences for those Jews who failed to respond completely, positively, and persistently to this responsibility are found later elsewhere in Scripture. Jesus said nothing about the benefit of such giving but later Scripture addresses the beneficial aspects of rendering these financial obligations. However there are always benefits for doing all that The Lord Jesus commanded and completely obeying all that The Word of Truth Teaches as well as the benefits for avoidance of the consequences of incomplete obedience and of an outright or blatant disobedience. The Lord Jesus repeatedly emphasized this fact.

- d. The prevailing principle both to Jews and Gentiles is firstly their obligation horizontally to the ruling human government(s) over them. Every human is legally obligated before The God to be financially responsible to render to every government over them the taxes assessed by each governing body over them. On the other hand vertically every regenerated human is equally, legally obligated to be financially responsible to The God to see that He, through gifts to His True Church, receives the proper proportion (the tithe, 10%) of gross income plus additional percentage(s) to The Lord God and His Beloved Son as love gifts in response to His great love for us and for all the blessings that The Godhead pours out upon us daily. The Lord Jesus gave no other indication than that it is a legal financial obligation to render what is due to each authority. He said nothing here about the consequences of failing to render what is due to each authority over every human. That is reserved for Him to mete out to each individual the consequences of one's own failure to comply with this principle both here on Earth and later at the appropriate Judgment Day.

After the spies that the Pharisees and Herodians sent to trap Him with the ploy that they concocted and then failed miserably in their effort, they marvelled and kept silent.

Now we shall consider the afternoon session of The Lord, Jesus Christ's teachings on Wednesday, 12th Nisán (April 1), A.D. 33

4. The Lesson on Future Living (c. 1:45 P.M.) - (Mt. 22:23-34a; Mk. 12:18-27; Lk. 20:27-38).

Then c. 1:45 P.M. certain of the Sadducees, who deny both the resurrection and the existence of angels, approached Him with a question that had puzzled them in their ignorance because of error in their doctrine that had been expounded by their teachers.

- a. The Sadducees' Puzzling Question Concerned Future Living (Mk. 12:18-27; Mt. 22:23-33; Lk. 20:27-40).

‘²⁰Now seven brothers were existing. And the first one⁺ took a wife^[woman] and he died off and did not permit seed. . . . ²²And the seven[&] took her, and they did not permit seed. Last of all the wife^[woman] died off also. ²³Therefore in the resurrection, whenever they will rise again, whose wife of them will she be? For the[&] seven had her as a wife.’ (Mk. 12:20,22,23 APT).

(1) Why they asked this question? There are two reasons.

(A) The Sadducees were composed of a number (but not all) of the priests, scribes, and Rabbis who strictly adhered to the Law of Moses, but did not believe in The Resurrection and the future life

- after death nor the miraculous power of The God (Mt. 22:23-32; Mk. 12:24-27; Lk. 20:34-38).
- (B) Since the Pharisee and the Herodian leaders failed to trap and take hold of something He spoke to them that would incriminate Him so they could turn Him over to the Governor in order to have Him condemned to extermination by crucifixion, the Sadducees attempted another approach which backfired and silenced them.
- (2) They still did not accept what Scripture stated about resurrection and this fact proved what Jesus said about their condition of being led astray because they were being led astray.
- b. The Answer that Jesus Gave to the Sadducees (Mk. 12:24)
- “²⁴And /Jesus answered and said to them, Because of this~ you[&] are being led astray, are you[&] not? Because you[&] do not perceive^[aware of] The Scriptures, neither the miraculous power of The God” (APT).
- (1). Four reasons why the Sadducees were being led astray from The Scriptures which Jesus cited in His answer to their question .
- Firstly, He stated their main problem. **The Sadducees had been led astray** from the doctrine handed down by Moses and the true prophets that The God had sent.
- (a) They were being led astray because they did not perceive The Scriptures. Like so many they had read The Scriptures many times and could quote them from memory, but they did not perceive the deep spiritual meaning of them. Paul expressed the same Truth in his First Epistle to Corinthians.
- “But a soulish^(carnal, controlled by the flesh) human does not welcome the~ things of The Spirit of The God. For to him they are foolishness. And it is not possible ^[from experience] for him^l to know^l because they are investigated spiritually” (1 Cor. 2:15 APT.)
- (b) Then they were being led astray because they kept listening to and embracing the false doctrine being taught to them. False prophets had insidiously been taught false doctrine mid a content of partial truth along with a majority of Truth. Thus a number of the priests, scribes, and Rabbis had been indoctrinated with error taught by their forebears that led them astray from The Truth. This same ploy of Satan is active today: using false prophets, preachers, and teachers insidiously and subtly slipping in to present false doctrine to lead astray believing people to their own detriment and Satan’s benefit. Time does not permit a detour in this message to develop The Scripture Truth concerning the warning to The True Church and Her committed regenerated members.
- Secondly, **the Sadducees did not perceive The Scriptures and the miraculous power of The God** (Mk. 12:24). They did not accept what was recorded by Job, Moses, or even by David concerning the resurrection of the physical body. And they totally ignored the teachings of The One Whom the people proclaimed as The Promised Messiah and Prophet, The Lord Christ, The One standing before them and speaking to them.
- Thirdly, **the Sadducees did not perceive The Truth concerning The Self-existent, Creator-God and His eternal existence** (Mt. 22:32) **and relationship in union to those who personally heeded His summons** (Greek translation, a stronger word than call) to do His will as did their ancestors (Abraham, **Eesah-áhk** {Isaac}, and **Yahkōb** {Jacob}) did.

“³¹But concerning the resurrection of the dead ones, you[&] have read, have you[&] not, what was declared by The God to you[&] saying,^[Ex. 3:6] ³²I Am Myself continuously being, The God of Abraham and The God of Isaac^[Eesah-âhk], and The God of Jacob^[Yahkôb]? The God is not God of dead ones, but of absolutely living ones” (Mt. 22:31,32 APT).

Fourthly, **the Sadducees did not understand the form of human life after death**, neither the state of death, nor the state of inter-relationship and union with The God in the age to come (The Church Age) **and** in Eternity, consequently they came to a wrong conclusion about all three (Mk. 12:25-27).

c. The twofold thrust of the parable:

- (1) The particular reference is to the Sadducees who had been led astray from the doctrine handed down by Moses and by the true prophets that The God had sent down through the ages. Jesus sought to correct their doctrinal errors concerning resurrection, the miraculous power of The God, The Self-existent Creator, and life after death and the form it takes.
- (2) The prevailing principle is that The God expects every human to live in the light of life after death and the resurrection which follows, and which every one must face whether or not that one believes it and permanently commits trust to The Lord Jesus Christ. There is on the one hand The Resurrection of Absolute Life in union with The Lord Jesus Christ and on the other hand the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation. The tremendous cost of denying resurrection and failing or refusing complete persistent obedience to The Lord Jesus Christ results in the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation of agonizing pain and suffering in The Lake of Fire according to one’s works (Jn. 5:28,29 cf. 3:17,18; Rev. 20:11-13). On the other hand repentance, confession, and persistent obedience and persistent personal faith committed to The Lord Jesus Christ results in Resurrection of Absolute Life with Him forever.

Now note The Progression of Truth that The Lord Jesus Christ taught in The Temple on that Wednesday.

Firstly, He taught complete persistent obedience to The God’s Word and the failure to enter The Kingdom of The God by those who claim to be obedient to The God’s Word and put on a front that they are obedient ones, but actually are not. These The Lord Jesus Christ called religious hypocrites, all of which shall not enter the Kingdom of The God.

Secondly, then The Lord Jesus taught that The God expects His vineyard to bear fruit and render the fruits thereof in due season and be rendered to Him. He holds both the leaders and the workers accountable and will call every one individually to give account of the results in severe judgment for failure and great rewards in Eternity for fulfilling each one’s role acceptably.

Thirdly, The Lord Jesus taught that all people of all nations are invited to the marriage feast which The Father provided for His Son. Those who respond to the invitation of The Gospel, and willingly wear the wedding garment, which The Father provides, will spend Eternity with His Son. But those who refuse to wear the provided wedding garment, The Robe of Righteousness, shall face Fatal Wrath by being cast into the outer dark and shall suffer

in anguish forever with weeping and gnashing of teeth in The Lake of Fire.

Fourthly, The Lord Jesus taught that in addition to those under The Old Covenant, all are financially responsible horizontally to render, to every government over them, the taxes assessed by each governing body and at the same time all are equally legally obligated to be financially responsible vertically to The God to see that He receives the proper proportion (the tithe, 10%) of all gross income plus other additional tithes to The Lord God as stated in The Law. This dual financial obligation also applies to those who have committed trust to The Lord Jesus Christ under The New Covenant (Testament) to be sure that His True Church that has spiritually qualified leaders (deacons) being spiritually guided in handling The God's finances is properly distributed to His bondsman ministers for the spread of The Gospel as well as the care for the poor committed disciple- saints through offerings in addition to the tithe (10%).

Fifthly, The Lord Jesus taught that The God expects every human to live in the light of life after death and the resurrection which follows and which every one must face whether or not that one believes it. There is on the one hand The Resurrection of Absolute Life in union with The Lord Jesus Christ and on the other hand the resurrection for judging to eternal damnation. The tremendous cost of denying resurrection and failing or refusing to persistently obey The Lord Jesus Christ and live for Him and not for self, results in the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation of agonizing pain and suffering in The Lake of Fire according to one's works (Jn. 5:28,29 cf. 3:17,18; Rev. 20:11-13). On the other hand repentance, confession, and persistent obedience and persistent personal faith committed to The Lord Jesus Christ results in Resurrection of Absolute Life with Him forever.

Conclusion: Today we continued our study of the fourth day of The Last Week in The Life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. In the early afternoon (c. 1:45 P.M.), Wednesday, 12 Nisán (April 1), A.D. 33, **Sadducees, who deny existence of resurrection and angels, approached The Lord Jesus Christ** with a question about resurrection. His reply by instruction to them was carefully analyzed followed by observing first the particular reference to the Sadducees and then the prevailing principal to all people throughout the ages of time. It was observed that the tremendous cost of denying resurrection and failing or refusing to obey The Lord Jesus Christ results in the resurrection for judging to according to one's works. Repentance, confession of Sin, persistent obedience, and persistent personal faith committed to the Lord Jesus Christ results in Resurrection of Absolute Life with Him forever. Everyone is destined to Eternal Damnation and the resurrection of judging to Eternal Damnation in The Lake of Fire until persistent obedience and personal persistent commitment to The Lord Jesus Christ is made. Have you made that commitment to Him yet? If not, when will you make it? Today! is the day of Salvation! Tomorrow or later may be **too late!!!**

Application: What will you do beginning today to insure that you will be in The Resurrection of Absolute Life and not fail to live in the light of resurrection with an eternally living body unto life with The Lord Jesus Christ and **not** unto eternal condemnation in The Lake of Fire?

For next week: Read and meditate upon: Jesus' Final Day of Public Teaching (2:30 to 3:15 P.M.): False Religion (Mt. 22:34-46; Mk. 12:28-34; Lk. 20:39-48).