

“The Sermon on the Level - Part 3”
The Disposition of a True Disciple
Luke 6:37-42
Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. We are studying the Gospel of Luke, and we have come to the place where Luke records for us Christ’s Sermon on the Plain (6:17-49)
 - 1. We have seen in the sermon the marks of the true disciple:
 - a) Poor (v. 20)
 - b) Hungry (v. 21)
 - c) Weep (v. 21)
 - d) Hated (v. 22)
 - e) Love even their enemies (v. 27)
 - f) Kind and merciful like God their Father (v. 36)
 - 2. Today in our text, we discover two more descriptions of the disposition of a true disciple
 - a) Why am I using the word “disposition?”
 - b) It means “a person’s inherent qualities of mind and character”
 - c) A magnanimous disposition
 - d) A discerning disposition

II. A True Disciple Has a Magnanimous Disposition (Luke 6:37-38)

- A. They are not judgmental (v. 37)
 - 1. What does Jesus mean by “judge not?”
 - 2. He is not saying
 - a) Doctrine (1 John 4:1)
 - b) Moral issues (Matthew 18)
 - c) No truth
 - 3. Jesus is saying, “Don’t be judgmental”
 - a) Don’t have a critical, censorious, fault-finding spirit
- B. They don’t condemn others (v. 37)
 - 1. It’s passing sentence on someone
 - 2. Illustration- David (2 Samuel 12)
 - 3. (Romans 2:1)
 - 4. Jesus didn’t come to condemn us (John 3:17)
- C. They are forgiving (v. 37)
 - 1. Again, Jesus is not saying that we earn forgiveness by forgiving others
 - 2. God forgives us by grace
 - 3. A forgiving spirit is a sure sign of a forgiving heart
 - 4. “Be ye kind...” (Ephesians 4:32)
 - 5. To forgive is literally “to release,” or “to acquit.” It is the opposite of “to condemn”
 - 6. The parable of the unmerciful servant (Matthew 18)
- D. They are giving (v. 38)

1. “Give” in verse 38 is an imperative without a modifier. So, it refers to all gifts that we may find that can help others in need
 2. Time, talent, treasure. Be a giving person.
 3. God will give to you. You can’t outgive God!
- E. Do I have a magnanimous spirit?
1. Am I judgmental?
 2. Am I condemning others?
 3. Am I forgiving?
 4. Am I giving?
- F. Three applications
1. The most contented people in the world (psychological)
 2. The most meaningful lives (sociological)
 3. It’s a barometer of one’s spirituality

III. A True Disciple has a Discerning Disposition (Luke 6:39-42)

- A. Jesus is warning us of the danger of following false teachers (vv. 39-45)
1. In verses 46-49, Jesus calls us to follow him, living under His Lordship, obediently and faithfully
 2. Jesus did the same thing in the Sermon on the Mount
 - a) He warned us of the two gates (one narrow and one wide)
 - b) (Matthew 7:13-14)
 - c) False prophets in sheep’s clothing (Matthew 7:15)
 3. A true disciple must have a discerning disposition and not follow blind leaders
 4. Jesus gives us three characteristics of false teachers
 - a) They are blind (v. 39)
 - 1) The blind leaders, Scribes, and Pharisees (Matthew 15:14)
 - 2) Jesus is “the way, the truth, the life” (John 14:6)
 - b) They are spiritually empty (v. 40)
 - 1) The problem is that you become like your teacher
 - 2) Don’t follow a false teacher
 - 3) “Clouds without water” (Jude 12)
 - 4) “Sensual having not the spirit” (Jude 19)
 - 5) “Walk after their own ungodly lusts” (Jude 18)
 - 6) Follow Jesus and become like Him
 - c) They are hypocrites (vv. 41-42)
 - 1) (Matthew 23)
 - 2) “Outwardly you appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity” (Matthew 23:28)

IV. Conclusion

- A. What is our defense?
1. “Building up yourselves on your most holy faith” (Jude 1:20)
 2. “Praying in the Holy Spirit” (Jude 1:20)
 3. “Keep yourselves in the love of God” (Jude 1:21)
 4. “Trust Jesus to keep you from falling” (Jude 1:24)