

“The Lost Opportunity”

Luke 12:49-59

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I. Introduction

- A. Jesus in Luke 12:1-13:9 is giving a long discourse. He has warned his disciples of four things:
 - 1. Beware of hypocrisy (v. 1)
 - 2. Beware of covetousness (v. 15)
 - 3. Beware of worry (v. 22)
 - 4. Be ready for His coming (v. 40)
- B. Now Jesus wants to warn His disciples and the crowds (and us) that before His Messianic Kingdom comes, there would be a delay, and that the present age would be a time of conflict, strife, and division.
 - 1. “I am come” (v. 51)
 - 2. Illustration- The angels at His birth
 - 3. Contrast Christ’s two comings
 - 4. Illustration- John the Baptist said about Jesus, “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”
 - 5. In our text, Jesus issues three warnings or admonitions:

II. There’s Going to be a Cross (Luke 12:49-50)

- A. Jesus came to die—His mission. Key words to understand the cross of Christ
 - 1. Redemption
 - a) “In Him we have...” (Ephesians 1:7)
 - 2. Reconciliation
 - a) (Romans 5:10)
 - 3. Propitiation
 - a) (1 John 2:2)
 - 4. Substitution
 - a) (Isaiah 53:6)
 - b) (Hebrews 9:28)
 - 5. Imputation
 - a) “For he hath made him to be sin for us...” (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - 6. *“The cross of Christ is now dividing the world.”* – C.R. Erdman

III. There Will be a Cost (Luke 12:51-53)

- A. Division
 - 1. “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me,

is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it” (Matthew 10:34-39).

B. Peace

1. With God and of God

IV. There Will be a Lost Opportunity (Luke 12:54-59)

A. This is a strong warning to the crowds

1. “He said also to the people” (v. 54)
2. Their lack of discernment put them in danger of missing out on salvation
3. It’s the Jewish Nation of Israel
 - a) But all people as well

B. They failed to discern the time (vv. 54-57)

1. The time- Jesus weeps over Jerusalem
2. Jesus- words and works
 - a) Illustration- In a synagogue in Nazareth
3. “How is it...” (v. 56)
 - a) (Romans 9, 10, 11)

C. They failed to discern the threat (vv. 58-59)

1. “All have sinned...”
 - a) We are all debtors
2. Judgement is coming
 - a) The Great White Throne (Revelation 20)
3. Get right with God!