

Sermon Notes – December 28, 2014

Introduction

1. Luke & Acts form over a quarter of the NT and together they describe the M_____ and the M_____.
2. We are currently studying the third section of Luke's gospel that began in 9:51 in which Jesus has s_____ H_____ f_____ to go to _____.
3. In our last study in Luke we saw "A Savior Who D_____ N_____" (10:25-11:13).

Today's Text

"Luke 11:14-54 shows the widening rift between Jesus and the Jewish religious leadership... This unit closes with Jesus' strongest rebuke of the Pharisees and scribes in this Gospel, which show just how off-course the Jewish leadership is." (Bock)

As Jesus confronts hypocritical religious leaders He levels three serious charges at them:

"You Have No Answer to Life's Big Problems"

(11:14-28)

- ⇒ As we have seen so far in Luke, the ministry of Jesus was accompanied by many evidences of the s_____.
- ⇒ In 11:20 Jesus makes a subtle but intentional reference to the events of the first great r_____ event in Scripture.
- ⇒ The main point of this section is not demonology, but C_____.
- ⇒ A warning to armchair quarterbacks: It's always easier to tell other people that they're doing it wrong when you're not doing it at all.

"You Have a Hard Heart" (11:29-36)

- ⇒ Sometimes (often!) a request for more proof is simply an evidence of an unwillingness to believe *no matter what!*

Luke 11:14-54
The BIG Problem with Religion
Pastor Jay Mosser

⇒ Jesus references the great revival that took place in the wicked Gentile city of Nineveh when Jonah preached there. The point? *"Ungodly Gentiles responded to a spiritual challenge quicker than you do."*

⇒ Cf. Luke 16:31

"You Love to Impress People with Externals"

(11:37-54)

This interchange was prompted by a moment of criticism about an external religious ceremony. Jesus issues three strong rebukes...

- #1: "Your h_____ are clean but your h_____ are filthy."
- #2: "You're more worried about s_____ than _____."
- #3: "You've made a life of faith impossibly hard... You've managed to _____ the _____ out of everything good that God created."

Responding to God's Word

- ⇒ The issues that Jesus addressed with the religious leaders seem to be perpetual problems as people interact with issues of faith!
- ⇒ Then — as now — what is truly needed is a heart c_____ by Christ. Regenerated! Humbled!
- ⇒ A challenge! God calls you today to a joyful and humble response of faith to Christ's offer of salvation.

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Next Sunday: January 4, 2015

"Hear Again the Call to Holiness"

(Luke 12:1-59)

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