

Light Reflectors - Sun Morning, Sept. 27, 2015

Introduction:

Last Week - Two Kinds of Judgment

One for Unforgiven Sin, One for Identifying Good Works

What is the Key to Good Works?

I. Light Bears Light to Reveal Truth

(Luke 11: 33 – 36)

33 “No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light.

34 The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also is full of darkness.

35 Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness.

36 If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light.”

Object Lesson: Lamp/Light Covered
Eye Covered in Darkness
Eye Enveloped in Light (both eternal)
Darkness and Light Comes From Within

- ✦ A good eye is full of Light, when we focus on things God says is good.
- ✦ A good eye is full of Light, when a heart gains godly instruction, wisdom & understanding. It fills with Light.
- ✦ Likewise, when an eye focuses on sin and darkness, the truth of God's Light is blocked out.
- ✦ The object of an eye full of Light is to reveal Light to others that they may embrace it.

Jewish culture teaches that Light comes from within the eye (heart) and creates Light.

If we follow the Light of Jesus then the Light of Jesus shines through us, being an example and direction to those who are watching.

II. How Does Your Eye Reflect Light?

(Luke 11: 37 – 44)

37 And as He spoke, a certain Pharisee asked Him to dine with him. So He went in and sat down to eat.

38 When the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He had not first washed before dinner.

39 Then the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness.

40 Foolish ones! Did not He who made the outside make the inside also?

41 But rather give alms of such things as you have; then indeed all things are clean to you.

42 “But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

43 Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.

44 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like graves which are not seen, and the men who walk over them are not aware of them.”

To Ourselves?

Pharisees wanted to look good.

Light to Ourselves Is False Light

Look good externally...Yet evil internally

Object Lesson: Beautiful Tea Cup, Dirty Inside

(More of Points on Next Page)

Pharisees looked religiously upright, but they were: greedy, merciless, and imposed stringent man-made laws on the people, which they themselves did not keep.

How generous are you to God, the poor and those in need around you?

Jewish Culture:

People were religiously contaminated if they walked over a grave. Pharisees would not let their shadows touch a grave. *(Numbers 19:16)*

Jesus told the Pharisees that they were as dead men, spiritually inside. Those that were in contact with them were contaminated, because they taught ceremonial, eternal practices and not righteousness and the love of God!

If our hearts are right or clean before God, then our lives will reflect our focus on Him through kind, good works.

(James 2:20)

But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

III. The Light is Hated By the World

(Luke 11: 45 – 54)

45 Then one of the lawyers answered and said to Him, “Teacher, by saying these things You reproach us also.”

46 And He said, “Woe to you also, lawyers! For you load men with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

47 Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.

48 In fact, you bear witness that you approve the deeds of your fathers; for they indeed killed them, and you build their tombs.

49 Therefore the wisdom of God also said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute,’

50 that the blood of all the prophets which was shed from the foundation of the world may be required of this generation,

51 from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah who perished between the altar and the temple. Yes, I say to you, it shall be required of this generation.

52 “Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered.”

53 And as He said these things to them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to assail Him vehemently, and to cross-examine Him about many things,

54 lying in wait for Him, and seeking to catch Him in something He might say, that they might accuse Him.

(Points on Next Page)

- ✚ The lawyers of the law also imposed ridiculous laws on the people. Things like what knots were or were not allowed to be tied on the Sabbath. How far they could walk. They could only carry the weight of a fig a certain distance. They could not help the sick, but could rescue livestock.
- ✚ Teachers of the law did not teach a right relationship with God.
- ✚ These things they locked up from the people and themselves.
- ✚ They built tombs to honor the dead prophets, yet agreed with the forefathers in killing them. They were hypocrites!
- ✚ They will be judged for such rejection of the prophets of God and the killing of them, because they spoke the word of God which was culminated in Jesus, the Word of Life, who they rejected and killed.

When we stand for the Gospel of Christ as the Only Way to Heaven, when we uphold the moral laws of God, when we teach godly principles of life, we too will be hated and rejected by men.

Conclusion:

Even Though Jesus Was Hated by Many...
He is the Key to a Right Heart
That Bears His Light Through
Good Works