

Jesus Magnified

Luke 16 and 17

Lesson 14

FIRST DAY: Read Luke 16 and 17

Jesus' communication transcends all time and culture. The eternal Jesus speaks to men right where they are. His Word is comprehensive, universal, eternal, and essential for everyone, everywhere, at anytime! His Word is as applicable, necessary, and imperative today as it was when He first spoke it two thousand years ago.

In Luke 16 and 17, Jesus employed examples and illustrations that His audience was well acquainted with. In these chapters Jesus used rich men, servants, millstones, sheep, and lepers to help His hearers grasp the meaning of what He said. He wanted them to understand such spiritual priorities as fidelity, faith, offenses, forgiveness, thanksgiving, and the end times.

Jesus' Word still continues to speak to all men everywhere right where they are living.

*Ask God to cause His Word to minister to you
right where you are today.*

SECOND DAY: Read Luke 16:1-18

1. In Luke 16:1-8 Jesus spoke another parable *to His disciples* about a *steward*, or property manager. From this parable summarize:
 - a. The *accusation* against the *steward* and the consequences (verses 1-2)
 - b. The steward's reasoning (verses 3-4)
 - c. The steward's plan and actions (verses 5-7)
 - d. The master's reaction (verse 8a)
2. Although this *steward* was dishonest, Jesus used him to illustrate a point. In Luke 16:8 Jesus contrasted the *sons of this world* with *the sons of light*. The priority of *the sons of this world* is self-preservation and self-enrichment. By contrast, what is the priority of *the sons of light*? See Matthew 6:19-21.

- a. From Luke 16:9 cite the lesson Jesus was communicating about *unrighteous mammon* (money).

3. In Luke 16:10–13 Jesus continued to address our relationship to earthly resources. Use these verses to comment on what Jesus said concerning:
 - a. Faithfulness in stewardship (verses 10–12)

 - b. Faithfulness to God (verse 13)
 - (1) Why are these issues critical for believers? See also 1 Corinthians 4:2.

4. From Luke 16:14 remark on:
 - a. The Pharisees' attitude

 - b. The Pharisees' actions

5. According to Luke 16:15, what was at the root of their problem?
 - a. List a few of the things *highly esteemed* by our present culture that are an *abomination* to God.

6. Although the Pharisees themselves were hypocrites, the *law* of God remained true. Luke 16:16–17 (NLT) says, *Until John the Baptist, the law of Moses and the messages of the prophets were your guides. But now the Good News of the Kingdom of God is preached, and everyone is eager to get in. But that doesn't mean that the law has lost its force. It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the smallest point of God's law to be overturned.* What was Jesus affirming about the *law*? See Matthew 5:17–19.

4. From Luke 17:17-19 comment on:
 - a. Jesus' questions

 - b. Jesus' response to the healed man

5. What is the greatest lesson you received from your study today?

SIXTH DAY: Read Luke 17:20-37

1. When the Pharisees asked Jesus *when the kingdom of God would come*, what was His answer? Luke 17:20-21a

2. The Pharisees were demanding a sign. They wanted Jesus to fulfill their agenda (Matthew 16:4). Instead in Luke 17:21b (NLT), Jesus said, *The kingdom of God is already among you*, referring to His presence. What do you find significant about this answer?

3. Jesus then spoke *to His disciples* about *the days of the Son of Man*, or His Second Coming. Use Luke 17:22-36 to describe and comment on:
 - a. Their *desire* and deception (verses 22-23)

 - b. The characteristics of His Second Coming (verse 24)

 - c. What must happen before His Second Coming (verse 25)

- d. The circumstances surrounding His Second Coming (verses 26–30)
 - e. Response to *that day* (verses 31–32)
 - f. Phenomena *in that night* (verses 34–36)
4. Print the essential lesson of Luke 17:33.
- a. Link this with Matthew 16:25–26. Considering the context, why was this statement significant?
5. When the disciples asked *where* these events would take place, Jesus said, *Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together* (Luke 17:37). According to commentators, this was a common proverb indicating that something would happen when the necessary conditions were fulfilled. How does this speak to you concerning our world today?
6. In light of your study today, how are you inspired to live your life?
7. How was Jesus magnified through your study this week?