

## Luke, Pt. 42 | The Disruption of the Cross | January 16, 2022

- I. **INTRO:** Story about **Aisha** from Gathering - trusted JC, baptized, disowned, still follows JC today.
- A. When Jesus takes hold of someone's heart, restore them by grace, it is a massive disruption.
    - 1. Everything begins to change: way they see themselves/others, character, goals/aspirations, morality, money, your definition of truth, etc...
    - 2. Mostly, that disruption doesn't align w/ the world's expectations 4U. (Family/Friends/Boss)
  - B. Jesus = disruptive force. Best way to summarize/recap Gospel of Luke as we cont. in series.
    - 1. Luke: life/teachings of JC. JC disrupting status quo...esp. 4 Pharisees. Est. His Kingdom!
    - 2. Today, we finish up ch. 12. **Jesus has begun journey to the cross. V.50: Jesus is distressed.**
    - 3. Challenging words. Rem, Jesus = disrupter. Not conform to world. Pressing in His Kingdom.
- II. **Luke 12:49-51:** Huge crowd gathered around Jesus. (**BEGIN IPAD**) Yes, Jesus said that...
- A. V.49 - Fire: nothing more essential/destructive. Bible: judgement/purity. Same w/ Jesus!
    - 1. Jesus longs for **both** to be kindled. And reason I believe that is because of v.50...
  - B. V.50 - Baptism = plunge/initiate. What is going to kindle the fire is the cross. **Give Gospel.**
    - 1. By the cross, you will either be made pure or you will face the judgement of God.
    - 2. IOW, cross creates 2 groups. Kingdom of God and Kingdom of this World. T/F, division.
  - C. V.51 - Wait? Is that a contradiction in the Bible? What about the angels/shepherds in Lk 2:14?
    - 1. *"Glory to God in the highest, & on earth peace among those w/ whom he is pleased!"*
    - 2. Jesus came to bring peace to His people and gather as many who would trust in Him. But those who don't trust in Him will face judgement. The cross creates 2 groups of people.
- III. **Luke 12:52-53:** To understand, I need to talk to 2 groups of people. Xtians & Non-Xtians.
- A. **XTIANS.** What does this mean for me? In **v.52** - This is an inevitability, not a command.
    - 1. This is not permission from Jesus to be a jerk to those that disagree w/ us & create division.
      - a) This is an inevitability. Y? When u give ur life to JC, He wants all of u. He's ur King now.
      - b) It's a disruptive force in your life that will not align with what the world expects of you.
    - 2. When you surrender to JC, He does a work in you and things begin to change in your heart.
      - a) **Ex.** See your life differently (parents may not approve). Gossip at work. Ethics at work. Money=stewardship. Politics=homeless. Religion (Aisha). **Again, not 2B judgmental.**
    - 3. **V.53** - Grapple w/ fact that following JC = giving JC all your life, even if ppl don't approve.
      - a) When it comes to this world = there will be loss/suffering associated with following JC.
      - b) Really hard. Not insignificant. In same way not called 2B jerks, not called 2B alone either.
    - 4. **Mark 10:29-30.** The inevitability of the cross = disruption and division to your life.
      - a) B/C, your joining a Kingdom that is not of this world - but in that you get a new family.
      - b) A family that is committed/consistent and will not leave you b/c Jesus won't leave you.
      - c) This is the Bible's vision for the church. Not just a place to receive teaching. But a family.
      - d) A joyful family where what we have in common is we have given our all to Jesus.
      - e) And T/F, we've experienced some loss/division in this world - but we have each other.
    - 5. **Plug last week.** Spiritual formation = grow in knowledge of Word & love for one another.
      - a) This is a safe/secure base = care for one another, sent out, & return 2B encouraged.
  - B. **NON-Xtians.** (**STOP IPAD - READ LUKE 12:54-59**) This is a warning from Jesus.
    - 1. Don't miss this message that is right before you right now that can save your soul.
    - 2. Every single one of us have sinned against God, we have rejected His ways and Him!
      - a) We deserve judgement from God. Our sin has made this world a hard and broken place.
      - b) Image from Jesus: Walking down to the magistrate. Opportunity for RECONCILIATION!
    - 3. Why would you not, right now, take Jesus' offer of salvation while you still can.
    - 4. **Repeat Gospel.** But what Jesus wants is your life - so much that He gave His first.
      - a) If you'll give Jesus your life, you will join His Kingdom that is not of this world. Eternal.
      - b) Will you trust in Jesus today?
- IV. **COMMUNION - Xtians:** Reflect on the cross and ask yourself: Have I given Jesus my all? Despite what might happen in this world? Do I believe Jesus is better than what this world has to offer?
- 1. Communion: not a place we must arrive clean but the place that reminds us that we already are. This is a place of safe repentance and joy in what Jesus has done for us.
- B. **Non-Xtians:** Don't worry about communion. Will you pray to receive Jesus this morning?
- 1. Questions - please find me or reach out. We want to walk you through what that looks like.