


Only Those Who Hear and Obey are Blessed

Luke 11:27-36


Presented by Bob DeWaay
June 22, 2008



Status is determined by one's response to the Word.

- **Luke 11:27, 28**

And it came about while He said these things, one of the women in the crowd raised her voice, and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts at which You nursed." But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it."



Jesus is the "blessed" fruit of the womb; Mary is blessed by faith

- **Luke 1:42, 45**

And she cried out with a loud voice, and said, "Blessed among women are you, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! . . . And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."



Only those who hear and obey are blessed

■ **Luke 11:27, 28**

And it came about while He said these things, one of the women in the crowd raised her voice, and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts at which You nursed." But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it."



To see what God has done in Christ and NOT believe is spiritual wickedness

■ **Luke 11:29, 30**

And as the crowds were increasing, He began to say, "This generation is a wicked generation; it seeks for a sign, and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah. For just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so shall the Son of Man be to this generation."



Signs do not convert people who refuse to believe the Scriptures

■ **Luke 16:30, 31**

But he said, "No, Father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!" But he said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead."



A gentile woman believed God

■ **Luke 11:31**

The Queen of the South shall rise up with the men of this generation at the judgment and condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.



The gentile queen confesses that
"Yahweh loved Israel forever"

■ **1Kings 10:8, 9**

"How blessed are your men, how blessed are these your servants who stand before you continually and hear your wisdom. Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness."



Ninevites will be vindicated and
"this generation" judged

■ **Luke 11:32**

The men of Nineveh shall stand up with this generation at the judgment and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.



Those who enter see the light

■ **Luke 11:33**

No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar, nor under a peck-measure, but on the lampstand, in order that those who enter may see the light.



Those hear and obey have light

■ **Luke 8:16, 18**

Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed; but he puts it on a lampstand, in order that those who come in may see the light. . . . Therefore take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him shall more be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him.



All will be characterized by either light or darkness

■ **Luke 11:34**

The lamp of your body is your eye; when your eye is clear, your whole body also is full of light; but when it is bad, your body also is full of darkness.

Anything less than Christ in one's life is darkness

■ **Luke 11:35, 36**

Then watch out that the light in you may not be darkness. If therefore your whole body is full of light, with no dark part in it, it shall be wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays.

Applications

- 1) Do not let religious traditions keep you from hearing the word of God
- 2) The resurrection of Christ is the definitive sign which makes all accountable
- 3) We are confronted with a choice between light and darkness

- 1) Do not let religious traditions keep you from hearing the word of God

■ **Mark 7:7, 8**

“But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.”
Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.

1) Do not let religious traditions keep you from hearing the word of God

■ **Colossians 2:8** (NRSV)

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ

2) The resurrection of Christ is the definitive sign which makes all accountable

■ **Acts 17:30, 31**

Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.

2) The resurrection of Christ is the definitive sign which makes all accountable

■ **Matthew 12:39, 40**

But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

3) We are confronted with a choice between light and darkness

Jesus' Commission of Paul

■ **Acts 26:18**

“to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.”

3) We are confronted with a choice between light and darkness

■ **John 3:19**

This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.

■ **John 8:12**

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”
