



Week 14: Readiness for The Coming Crisis and Judgment

Introduction:

As Jesus continues on His journey to Jerusalem, His followers are increasing, but so is His fierce opposition. This results in a crowd of thousands of people who are either hungry for His teaching or eager to catch Him making a mistake. This single piece of continuous discourse in Luke 12:1-13:9 contains an abundance of teachings from Jesus, including instructions, warnings, and expectations regarding the Lord's coming judgment. This judgment has been a recurring theme in the Gospel of Luke so far and will continue to be as Jesus not only prepares their expectations for it, but also instructs them how to live in the crisis that comes in these final days leading up to it.

Note: As you discuss questions in your groups or reflect on them by yourself, keep in mind that the goal is not to get all the answers right. Many of us will not know the answers, and that is okay! The goal is to interact with God's Word and give genuine thought to it. If you struggle to even guess a possible answer, that is okay too! The pastors will provide the answers after your discussion so you can know and record them on your study guide.

Questions:

Read Luke 12:1-12

1. As the opposition to Jesus and His followers is rising, He prepares them to fear God more than “those who can only kill the body”. What does Jesus mean by this and when should they keep it in mind? How does fearing God become an oxymoron in these verses?

Answer:

Read Luke 12:13-21

2. According to Jesus’ parable, what should the brother have learned? How should he proceed? Why was his whole approach flawed from the start?

Answer:

Read Luke 12:22-34

3. What should the brother do instead of trying to secure a greater inheritance? At least and at most? How does Jesus' reminder of God's character allow someone to live in this way?

Answer:

Read Luke 12:35-48

4. In Jesus' time, the head of the household with multiple slaves would appoint a manager, who was entrusted with managing, feeding, and caring for the rest of the slaves. What two expectations does the master have for the manager in this parable? What has God entrusted you with? What does God expect from you?

Answer:

Read Luke 12:49-53

5. Throughout the Gospel, we see Jesus proclaimed as one who would bring peace. This teaching seems to be out of character and it can be very uncomfortable to read. Why would a peace-bringing savior look forward to the coming judgment? How should we feel about the coming judgment?

Answer:

Read Luke 12:54-59

6. Jesus extends a warning regarding the judgment that is coming to those hypocrites who are found guilty. What practical advice does He have for us in preparation for the approaching judgment?

Answer:

Read Luke 13:1–9

7. How do Jesus' examples of those in Galilee and Jerusalem shake up jewish people's religious understanding at the time? What is their problem in relation to the coming judgment? What is Jesus' solution to their problem?

Answer:

8. Jesus is eager to judge the world, and we should be just as eager to await it. However, what does the parable of the fig tree tell us a lot about Christ's greater plan and timing?

Answer:

Closing Thought:

Christ is the perfect judge of all creation. When the day of His return and judgment comes, may we be prepared, ready, and rejoicing that the Kingdom of God has fully come to us also. In the meantime, we seek God's help and His gifts as He moves us to spread the Gospel with those in darkness and live out His will. He desires all to be saved and come to Him, which is why the Gospel work he has preordained for us is so important.