

JESUS IS LORD OF ALL (LUKE 6)

This past summer we went over Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" from **Matthew 5-7**. Today we'll look at Luke's recording of that in **Luke 6**, which has an abridged version, so to speak, of Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount", a mere excerpt, if you will, of that famous sermon, compared to Matthew's account. Both **Matthew 5** and **Luke 6** have recorded for us what is referred to as the Beatitudes, which means "supreme blessedness", although the Matthew account has a bit more of the Beatitudes and a lot more of Jesus' sermon. That "supreme blessedness" for us is in not only acknowledging that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, but also that He is also Lord of all and then it is up to us to respond accordingly, as a child of God, as we are led by the Holy Spirit.

To begin, we are being called into God's eternal kingdom, to be a child of God. We are being led to believe on Jesus as being the Christ, meaning the Anointed One of God, that He is the only begotten Son of God (**John 3:16**), who then, after a short ministry of 3-3-1/2 years, was crucified and died on a cross for our sins, taking our sins against God, upon Himself, yet then He arose from the dead on the third day, conquering death, sin, and evil, making a way for us too to overcome that sting of death and have everlasting life in Christ and in God's eternal kingdom. We are led to believe on Jesus being the Christ, as being God's way for our salvation, and then to repent of our sins, (metanoeo-recognizing a need for change, His righteousness, and heeding to that change, receiving His righteousness and then living in and according to His righteousness). In other words, we are turning to God, our Creator, for the forgiveness of our sins against Him, and then we are to receive the Holy Spirit into their heart, who is also referred to as the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God (**Romans 8:9**). In Him we are then "born-again" as Jesus said we must be, just as the Apostle John put it, "But as many as received Him [Christ Jesus], to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God". After all that, we are then to live the remainder of our lives, in our present lifetime in the flesh, according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. As the Apostle Paul tells us, "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." (**Romans 8:1-2**) He goes on to say, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." (**Romans 8:14-15**) As we went over the book of James a couple weeks ago, James referred to us as living according to the law of liberty. He tells us, "But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer

of the work, **this one will be blessed in what he does.**" (James 1:25) What is that work that James speaks of? Jesus tells us, saying "**I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**" (John 14:6) Jesus is Lord of all! It is then in Christ Jesus, through His teachings and leading of the Holy Spirit, to which we are then guided and must obey. Our relationship with God and Christ Jesus is much more personal than what that may sound like.

As was mentioned last week, after Jesus had been crucified on the cross, died and then was put in a burial tomb, He first appeared to some of disciples and then we are told this, "And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas [doubting Thomas] with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "**Peace to you!**" [Once again, that word peace in the Greek is "eirene" (ay-ray-nay), from eirō, "to join, tie together into a whole") - properly meaning, wholeness, which can mean individually as well as collectively.] Then He said to Thomas, "**Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.**" And Thomas answered and said to Him, "**My Lord and my God!**" Jesus said to him, "**Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**" (John 20:26-29) It can also now be said, blessed are those of whom Jesus knows, as He knew Thomas and spoke to him by his name, and blessed are those who know Him as their Lord and their God AND their Savior!

We looked at **1 John 1-3** last week, and the Apostle John began his epistle or letter by saying "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the **Word of life**— the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have **fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.** And these things we write to you that **your joy may be full.**" (1 John 1:1-4) That is NOT a joy that the world can give you! Similarly, the Apostle John opened his gospel narrative of Christ Jesus in the book of John saying, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." (John 1:1-3) Then we can add to that, **Colossians 1:16**, "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and **for Him**". That is, so that we may have fellowship with our Heavenly Father, our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus, and with one another and that we may have His peace (wholeness) and that our joy may be full! That we may all proclaim together that Christ Jesus IS indeed Lord of all!

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Luke 6:1-5 (Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath)

Now it happened on the second Sabbath after the first that He [Jesus] went through the grainfields. And His disciples plucked the heads of grain and ate them, rubbing them in their hands. And some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?" But Jesus answering them said, "**Have you not even read this, what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he went into the house of God, took and ate the showbread, and also gave some to those with him, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat?**" And He said to them, "**The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.**"

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The Sabbath was established by God as He rested on the 7th day, after He had finished His six days of creation. He therefore gave that law through Moses for His people to rest on the Sabbath. **Hebrews 4** speaks of that rest, giving us an understanding of the rest that we have in Christ Jesus, and that the promise of that rest that we have in Christ, yet in its finality, or the fulfillment of God's rest for His people, still remains, as it is in a sense incomplete. As recorded for us in **Revelation 21:4-7**, we are told, through the recording of the Apostle John, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away. Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." And He said to me, "**It is done!** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. **He who overcomes** shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son." Nevertheless, we can now find that rest each and every day---in Christ Jesus. As I mentioned **Hebrews 4**, we are told, "Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." (**Hebrews 4:11-13**) You see the connection between God's rest and the Word of God? Jesus gives us this promise, "**All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**" (**Matthew 11:27-29**)

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Luke 6:6-19 Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was

withered. So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him. But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "**Arise and stand here.**" And he arose and stood. Then Jesus said to them, "**I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?**" And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, "**Stretch out your hand.**" And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other. But they were filled with rage, and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

[The Twelve Apostles]

Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. [Spiritual rest vs. physical rest] And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: [Greek-apostolos: messenger, to send forth, commissioned by Christ Jesus] Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

[Jesus Heals a Great Multitude]

And He [Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for **power went out from Him and healed them all.**

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We all certainly do not have the "gift of healing" as the Apostle Paul pointed out in **1 Corinthians 12**. We can though all operate in the greatest gift of all, the love of God that we have through Christ Jesus which includes then our praying for one another. That leads us to consider once again what the Apostle James said, "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will **save the sick**, and the Lord will **raise him up**. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (**James 5:13-16**) James ends his letter then saying, "Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins." (**James 5:19**) While there is a time and place for all of us to have a physical healing, as God promises that He will make "all things new", what is of the utmost importance is that we all made whole spiritually in Christ Jesus as, in the words of the Apostle

Paul, "He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying [building up] of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13)

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Luke 6:20-23 (The Beatitudes)

Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets."

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Missing from Luke's account in comparing it to **Matthew 5** is: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Meek=praus:same root as in the gentleness that is a part of the fruit of the Spirit. Also missing in Luke's account is "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." (**Matthew 5:7-9**)

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Luke 6:24-36 Jesus Pronounces Woes

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full, for you shall hunger. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for so did their fathers to the false prophets."

[Love Your Enemies]

"But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful."

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Our turning the other cheek, giving to those in need, is all according to the love and mercies of God as He is presently building His eternal kingdom. "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy". As the Apostle Peter put it, God "is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9) As much as is possible, we don't want to give anyone a reason to not turn to God in repentance. When Jesus sent out His disciples He said, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues." (Matthew 10:16-17) We are reminded that it is in Christ that we have wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption from God. (1 Corinthians 1:30) We must therefore rely upon His wisdom. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." The enemy of our souls, that is "the thief" is out to "steal, kill, and destroy." (John 10:10) We are not supposed to just foolishly give away all that we are entrusted with, our time, energy, and resources, of what God has provided for us. We are though intended to live according to the leading of the Holy Spirit in the love and mercies of God through Christ, helping others as best as we can, providing for others as much as we can. There are always those around us who will try and take advantage of our kindness and goodness that we have in Christ. We therefore have to rely upon the wisdom that we have in Christ.

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Do Not Judge

"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

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There we have Jesus' own words on the topic of giving. We are not fulfilling a requirement of the law by our giving but out of the love and goodness of God that flows through our hearts, as we'll read shortly, Jesus saying exactly that.

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Luke 6:39-49 And He spoke a parable to them: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher [that's Jesus]. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the plank that is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye."

[A Tree Is Known by Its Fruit]

"For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. **A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil.** For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks [and gives]."

[Build on the Rock]

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

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We are then not just acknowledging Jesus as Lord with our mouths but in ALL that we say and do. We are being led by the Spirit of God to love Him with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind and loving others as ourselves. "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Cor. 13:4-7) JESUS IS LORD OF ALL, He is My Lord, my God, and My Savior!