



## Life Church Sermon Sheet:

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Date: Sunday, June 16, 2024 Rev. M. Dixon

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**Title: Luke 6: The Trial of the Centuries**

God wants us to be aware of the Judgement Phase- to motivate us to look to him!

### **Week 3: The Reaping the Fruit- Judgement Phase of the Trial**

**Scriptures: Luke 6:27-45**

### **Love will help me know My Name**

**Recap: week 1&2- Introducing the Trial and the Players, Rebellion & Woes**

**Week 3- Father's Day Bearing Good Fruit naturally, and intentionally**

**We are delivered from judgement, not by Works Lest any Man should Boast Eph 2:8-9. (Paraphrase)**



Question for Christians- Am I bearing Fruit as a disciple? We Reap what we sow... but in Jesus that is NOT quite the case, We Bleed Green as Celtics Fans... We Root for our team because of the transformation we have made by growing up here, or coming here, or connecting with the team, etc. I was a Bulls fan growing up and I am now a Celtics fan.... That transformation took time!

### **Revisiting The Trial....**

- 1. Loving Enemies... If God does this he will love even those who would rebel.**
- 2. We Can't JUDGE!**
- 3. Judgement is to sentence for the Fruit we bear... Rebellion or Following ?**

We often focus on Sin, but Sin is like Speeding- It has a fine that can be paid, Rebellion and Intentional Murder have much stricter consequences. Jesus died on the Cross for our Sin ( which we inherited from Adam), not for our rebellion. Nothing can cover Rebellion... When we evangelize, we should not emphasize people's sins, but their rebellion. God says the only way to his kingdom is through His son- to deny this is to deny Treatment for our Cancer- rebellion. Kingdoms have sides! Fans pick teams... Lucifer was on God's Team until he CHOSE not to. In the culture wars people focus on sins, and not rebellion, not realizing that they are making idols of their rules or their freedoms and as a result miss God and actually rebel against Him. So with this in Mind we have to see the Traitors for what they are!

God is Calling us to be image bearers who Learn from our Father and take on His characteristics.

1. Love your Teenagers... I mean Enemies... Those who would rebel against you! They Killed the real prophets who told people what they needed to hear not just what they wanted to hear. Be there for them... They are children of a fallen image bearer just like you. We are all made clean by Jesus. They just need to accept that and unconditional Love is the invitation. Prayer, patience, persistence are all characteristics of Love. An Example is Daniel's Love for Nebuchadnezzar. The very Enemy who took him from his Home, He Prayed for, encouraged, etc. Notice his words when he recovered from his consequences.... Daniel 2 <sup>46</sup> Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. <sup>47</sup> The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."<sup>48</sup> Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and lavished many gifts on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all

its wise men. <sup>49</sup> Moreover, at Daniel's request the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego administrators over the province of Babylon, while Daniel himself remained at the royal court. Daniel 3: <sup>28</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Daniel 4:37 Now I, **Nebuchadnezzar**, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

2. **Don't Judge people- Let God do that... You CAN judge actions and give consequences... but unlike the angels... We have time, opportunity and consequences and pain to help us change... while our bodies are alive. Understand Satan is accusing you, and if you accuse others, then he can accuse you again, and God's had will be forced to judge you!!! Vengeance is mine sayeth the Lord... Romans 12:19... Understand the issue with Kings... They are influenced by the Principalities in their areas... The Prince of Persia was an angel in the Bible influencing Persian area kings. Do you sense influencing in our Country...? As a result we should not judge those who are tempted and influenced, but stand against such influence, as Jesus did against the Pharisees. Do not allow yourself to be abused under this command... Jesus said turn the other cheek, but when someone hit him, he did ask, why!... He forgave him, but wasn't a pushover, and judging an ungodly act- a hurtful act is not only acceptable but part of our stewardship!**
  
3. **Bear Fruit naturally... How do we become like God... Matt 5:44-48** <sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, **love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,** <sup>45</sup> **that you may be children of your Father in heaven.** He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? <sup>48</sup> **Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.** What does it mean to be your Father's Child... When the kids act a little off- Crystal is quick to say he is your Child (That's if I don't beat her to it). To be Like God is to be unaccusable... He is not saying don't sin, but in this context he is saying don't be like Satan! A rebel, an accuser, a hater, especially for self gain... Sin is not our enemy- it has been defeated, Death is not our enemy it has been defeated, Satan is not our biggest enemy, He can only accuse us... Our biggest enemy is God- He is the one who can execute judgement on us, and our way to force his hand in this not love our enemies. You know a tree by it's Fruit. Love his Character. Divorcing people's actions from their identity is tough... Sin is often thought of as a debt that is owed. In this light, all image bearers are related to Bill Gates to pick a billionaire. When the sin, they owe you money... You must cut them slack because you know you will get paid back in the end. You can keep allowing them borrow money, if they never pay it back, but the hope is they will ask their father, and all you are owed will be paid back in full, but they have to choose. We want to love them so they eventually will choose to ask the father for help, Jesus paid the debt. Paul, is an example of someone who owed a lot, but his slate was made clean. Others like Nebuchadnezzar came around, but we don't know where they stand... we were just called to love! Once you know the Finances, you can love naturally. God has your back! Loving is no longer a debt you have to bear, but one that has been paid for you!

## **Faith is Not enough for Salvation! Faith in the goodness of a Dad who would die for you is!**

- Faith that God lives- Many Religions have that, Everyone who is not an Atheist has that ! We must have a Faith and acknowledge his Name! The Word Good comes from God... We must believe he is Good, as seen through the gift of his son, taking our place for our sin and appeasing the WRATH of God... Like any Father, He has a special Skills and Love to take care of his own!



### **Devine Love- Help; us to Know our Name**

From Love's Devine by Seal

- Through the rainstorm came sanctuary  
And I felt my spirit fly  
I had found all of my reality  
I realize what it takes

[Chorus]

'Cause I need love, love's divine  
Please forgive me, now I see that I've been blind  
Give me love, love is what I need to help me know my name

- **The fruit of believing Faith that God is Good is Love, the Fruit of Unbelief or disdain for God (He is not Good) is God's Wrath and Eternal Separation.**
- **Who we love, and How we Love Decides our Name. Lucifer Fell in Love with himself- He became known as the NON-God Loving angel- Hence his New Name- Adversary. We get a fresh start with time to make mistakes, repent, redeem ourselves, harden our hearts, get them softened-By Love (Like Paul-Saul), reharden them- Like King Saul. Love help; us to know our hidden potential to know our full Names... Abram was a Father, Abraham was the Father of Many- with a Barren wife.**

### Group Questions

1. Abram had his name Changed, Lucifer had his name changed. How does Loving as God on his terms or not, change our name? What name would you like to have? Loving Father, A sharer of the faith, one who stands up for what is right, etc.?
2. What is the difference between judging people and judging their actions (that cause harm)?
3. Love covers a multitude of sins (I Pet 4:8), but it doesn't cover rebellion. Ex. Bronze Serpent... People sinned and were judged, but all they had to do is look, but some could have chosen not to... What does a rebellious Spirit look like? What should you do in this regard? Is the Prodigal son an example of this?
4. Some people have tough relationships with their fathers or father figures, instead of protecting caused harm. How can God's Call to love your enemy be applied to this or others that are hard to love?
5. The more we know God, the more it is more natural to love as He does? What are some things that get in the way of us knowing God? Have you seen someone's heart get hardened? How Can you help soften it? What are some Limits to what you can do?

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# Life Church Sermon Sheet:

Date: Sunday, June 9, 2024 Rev. M. Dixon

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**Title: Luke 6: The Trial of the Centurion;**

**Week 2: Traitor Woe;**

Scriptures: **Luke 6:12-26 Jesus, Apostles & Woes**

**Recap: week 1- Introducing the Trial and the Players**

**Week 2- Understanding the nature of Rebellion- Being a Traitor.**

**The Trial for Man was given a preview in Job... Satan tried to test a man who was Righteous, but lost everything But did not Curse God! The Apostles are named, and even in Jesus' Group was one who would curse God- rebel against Jesus' Ministry and Kingdom- a Traitor... Jesus needed to have one in his midst to show that even with Jesus, man's heart has some problems... but the First traitor was Lucifer... The beautiful, the Wise, the "rich" in his gifts and talents.**

Question for Christians- Am I follower of Christ, am I a disciple? Do I have alternative viewpoint pushing me away from God's View/Kingdom. If Angels can fall, so can we... am I a Zealot, Thief, Tending to violence (Peter), etc.

**Now comes the Beatitudes... Blessings and Woes... THIS IS THE SHARING OF THE UPSIDE DOWN, NUANCED GOSPEL that Satan didn't see coming... He was rich, People said good things about him**

<sup>24</sup> "But **woe to you who are rich,** ( Think the Rich man and Lazarus Luke 16: 31)

for you have already received your comfort.

<sup>25</sup> Woe to you who are well fed now,

for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,

for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> Woe to you when everyone **speaks well of you,**(Think Lucifer!)

for **that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.**

Now for the Blessings-

"**Blessed are you who are poor,** (think Job!)

for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> Blessed are you who hunger now,

for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> Blessed are you when people hate you,

when they exclude you and insult you

and reject your name as evil,

**because of the Son of Man.**

<sup>23</sup> "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For **that is how their**

**ancestors treated the prophets.**

God wants us to bear  
fruit of His kingdom,  
not rebellion.



**Who was the OG Traitor/ Rebel by Choice?-** Lucifer- the Rich! Disciple- Judas- the one with the Money and his own plan for what the Son of Man should look like.

We often focus on Sin, but Sin is like Speeding- It has a fine that can be paid, Rebellion and Intentional Murder have much stricter consequences. Jesus died on the Cross for our Sin ( which we inherited from Adam), not for our rebellion. Nothing can cover Rebellion... When we evangelize, we should not emphasize people's sins, but their rebellion. God says the only way to his kingdom is through His son- to deny this is to deny Treatment for our Cancer- rebellion. Kingdoms have sides! Fans pick teams... Lucifer was on God's Team until he CHOSE not to. In the culture wars people focus on sins, and not rebellion, not realizing that they are making idols of their rules or their freedoms and as a result miss God and actually rebel against Him. So with this in Mind we have to see the Traitors for what they are!

**Angel Characteristics:**

The difference between Us and Angels is important.. as we Look to Rebellion and Consequences..

Angels	Fallen Angels	Man
Created Perfect Spiritual (Non-corporal- tangible in the Physical world, but with the power to become Corporeal if needed) Beings- with free will		Original Man Created With a Perfect <b>Body</b> and <b>Spirit</b> , BUT <b>his seed would have sin as part of his Flesh DNA. This is why we can't walk after the flesh, and that no good thing dwells in the flesh...</b>
Had Animal Features, Especially Serpent/Dragon like features		Has God- Like Features.
Generally didn't have wings unless stated		Red Bull gives us wings.. JK.....
Have Free Will, Cannot be tempted	Have limited Free will- They cannot undo their Rebellion	Have Free Will , Can be tempted
Cannot be forgiven for Rebellion		Have been forgiven of everything except not choosing to Follow Jesus (Rebellion). That is our Tree of the knowledge of Good and evil. Our one Choice... Our one Rebellion. We have Freedom, but if we keep sinning intentionally- and acting unloving, this can be rebellion... or become it.
Cannot Die	Cannot Die- so Must have a home outside of Heaven and Earth- Hell- Lake of fire was prepared for fallen angels.	Bodies can Die but are resurrected (Death was defeated for all not just Christians), Spirits Can Die, Soul- Debatable. Death has agony connected to it independent of Hell. DEATH of man BEGINS in the Garden.
Cannot Reproduce	Can Reproduce with Human Help	Can Reproduce and have families. Will be like Angels after we die- not given to Marriage. Those who do not die... like Enoch/ Elijah?
Can Change Appearance Not Physical Beings but can interact with the Physical realm	Can Overtake and Possess Humans	Physical AND Spiritual Beings, our bodies will ALL (Believers and non-Believers) be resurrected. (Acts 24:15)
Created "Perfect" initially- but with free will. 2/3 Have not rebelled against God.	Fallen angels loss their free will and are only Rebels now.	Created "Perfect image bearer" initially- but with free will, so after Adam all are sinful.
Will be servants of God and address the Rebellion of their fellow angels.	Will be Judged for their Rebellion	Will be conformed into the image of Christ (Romans 8:29) and therefore above angels, and will judge them

1. **What is the difference between having dirty garments vs a Dirty Heart? Rebellion... What are Blessings vs Woes and where does choice come in?**



**People make the same mistakes Satan does...**

God's Kingdom is UPSIDE Down and Hard to see Correctly! We have a connection to Adam's Sin, We can be Tempted, but most importantly, we too can Rebel! People have Challenges with Jesus and therefore God... They focus on the Rules (Conservative framework) and not the Purpose of the Rules... To serve... We often focus on Freedoms versus being under a King we must Follow and Sacrifice for (Liberal). We Find Idols in those things that separate us from God!. An example.. from last week.. The Sabbath was made for man, not the other way around... Sabbath was supposed to give rest. If someone breaks the Sabbath, God is not waiting with a thunderbolt to smite someone, but they miss the rest it was supposed to give them. The Metric Week also didn't work. People had the freedom to make a 10 day week, but Man was not designed for working Like that... A policeman is supposed to help a speeder get their pregnant friend to the hospital or deliver a baby or give an escort so no one gets hurt.

2. **Job is part of the Trial... God asks Satan if he has tried Job**

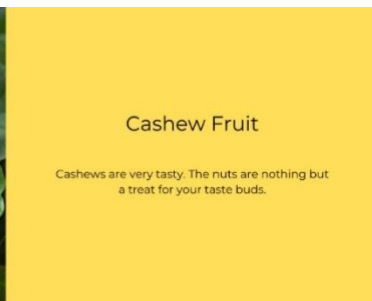
**A) For non Christians: This answers the Age old Question- Why do bad things happen to Good People?**

**B) God kills a lot of people in the Bible- we should not shy away from this..**

- i. Evidence of God's Destruction- The Flood, The Judgement of the "gods" of Egypt, (10 plagues), The people being attacked by poisonous snakes, the death of Korah and much of his family (Swallowed by the earth), God's Judgement of Moses- He could not see the Promised land, The capture of Caanan- including the death of children, Israel's destruction, Job's loss of his family, Plagues under David, Judah's Banishment, The fall of Judah to the Romans, etc. etc.
- ii. God was executing Judgement... and that is part of his limitation as a follow of His own Word.
- iii. His mercy is seen in unexpected places- like Psalms where many of the sons of Korah were used of God in a Mighty way...

Group Questions

- 1. How do angels and their choices similar and different from the choices we can make?
- 2. Why is it that we cannot be saved by good works? Eph 2:8-9?
- 3. From the Video if the High priest has filthy clothes, what does that mean for us?
- 4. What Does Rebellion look like in Today's Culture? Why should we emphasize rebellion -to not accept the new clothes Christ offers more than just sin? Christ is a Doctor.. Sin is an inherited disease that Kills us, not just choices we make. Rebellion is a choice... Accepting Pardon is a choice... What things often get in the way of people accepting Christ's Pardon and healing?
- 5. What is the fruit of Healthy Choices we and others make for the kingdom?



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## Life Church Sermon Sheet:

Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 Rev. M. Dixon

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**Title: Luke 6: The Trial of the Centuries**

**Week 1: The Balance between Justice and Love.**

**Scriptures: Luke 6:1-12 Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath**

God wants us to understand the balance of God's Justice and Love.

### **Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath**

**6 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and his disciples began to pick some heads of grain, rub them in their hands and eat the kernels. <sup>2</sup> Some of the Pharisees asked, "Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? <sup>4</sup> He entered the house of God, and taking the consecrated bread, he ate what is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."<sup>6</sup> On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. <sup>7</sup> The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. <sup>8</sup> But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up and stand in front of everyone." So he got up and stood there.<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?"<sup>10</sup> He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was completely restored. <sup>11</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.**

### **3. What is a Trial- THE TRIAL?**

- a. A formal examination of evidence before a judge, and typically before a jury, in order to decide guilt in a case of criminal or civil proceedings. (Google)
- b. **Lucifer- The Bright one- Accuses God... This is important because we have to defend God against Accusers to this day...**
- c. **TO accuse God, the Adversary also accuses us, of being inferior- meaning as image bearers, God is inferior too, or at the very least He has to destroy us!**
- d. **Can God make a Rock so Big that He cannot pick it up? YES- His Word, His Justice, His Character...**
- e. **Remember God is Love- That balances his need for Justice:** Satan was found with wickedness... Not seeing God Rightly, but exalting himself above God. When you want something you focus on the rules to get what you want, not the purpose of the rules to begin with. **The Law is designed to protect and serve.** Satan could be fulfilled serving God, but his pride made serving God untenable.

**People make the same mistakes Satan does...** People have Challenges with Jesus and therefore God... They focus on the Rules and not the Purpose of the Rules... To serve... The Sabbath was made for man, not the other way around... Sabbath was supposed to give rest. If someone breaks the Sabbath, God is not waiting with a thunderbolt to smite someone, but they miss the rest it was supposed to give them. A policeman is supposed to help a speeder get their pregnant friend to the hospital, or deliver a baby or give an escort so no one gets hurt.

- f. **Satan is allowed access to God's Throne (Until Rev. 12) , and is allowed to accuse His creation. God Lose this Trial! ALL of mankind must be destroyed... But GOD had Mercy but showed how his mercy balances his justice. The day you eat of the tree you will surely die... God established substitutional sacrifice as a filler until the perfect sacrifice could be born.**

**This is the hidden part of God's Law. His pride got in the way. If someone sinless volunteers to take the place of mankind- the son of Man, Death was the ONLY way...**

**4. Job is part of the Trial... God asks Satan if he has tried Job**

**C) For non Christians; This answers the Age old Question- Why do bad things happen to Good People?**

**D) God kills a lot of people in the Bible- we should not shy away from this..**

- i. Evidence of God's Destruction- The Flood, The Judgement of the "gods" of Egypt, (10 plagues), The people being attacked by poisonous snakes, the death of Korah and much of his family (Swallowed by the earth), God's Judgement of Moses- He could not see the Promised land, The capture of Caanan- including the death of children, Israel's destruction, Job's loss of his family, Plagues under David, Judah's Banishment, The fall of Judah to the Romans, etc. etc.
- ii. God was executing Judgement... and that is part of his limitation as a follow of His own Word.
- iii. His mercy is seen in unexpected places- like Psalms where many of the sons of Korah were used of God in a Mighty way...

**E) For Christians- the Question we have – if God lost the Trial- and Jesus had to die for ALL sins, does that mean I can do whatever I want to do since the sin is covered?- The answer is not really... Sin is covered but Nuance is the nature of good and evil.. We can't even do things that are not sins if it causes someone to stumble... because love is paramount, not being right...**

**5. War in Heaven and the Purpose of Hell.**

- a. Rev 12 Talks about War in Heaven.. Satan no longer had access to Heaven once Jesus was sacrificed.. The Trial was over and sentencing occurred, and Death defeated. The Day The Son of man Rises, no one needs fear death who have accepted his commuting of our sentences!
- b. The Purpose of Hell... Designed for sentencing of Satan and his angels... Our mindset is not to get people to avoid Hell, but to take on Heaven and the commuting of our sentence- the Good news- God's Kingdom and our call to fulfillment is our focus.

Group Questions

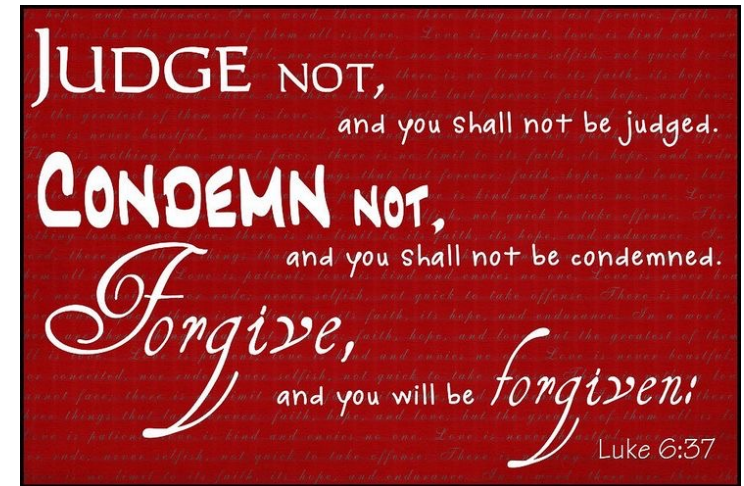
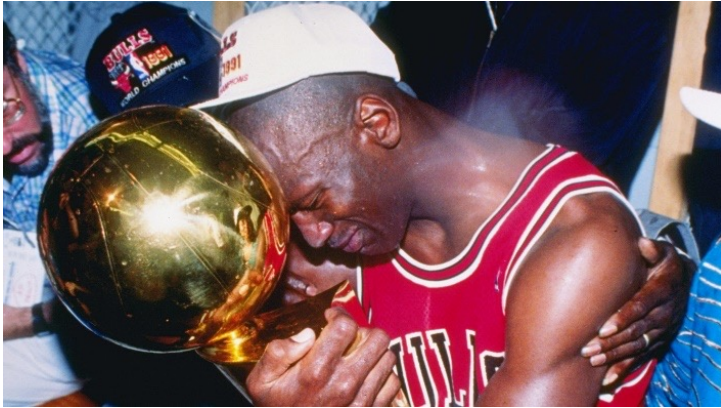
1. What is the Purpose of a Trial to you?
6. From the Video on Satan's Story, what sticks out?
7. God's Justice is balanced and part of His Love and Mercy... What does this look like in practice?
8. A Friend says they cannot trust a God who allows or even causes bad things to happen to innocent people- What do you say to them?
9. Bonus Question... Why did God Create Hell? We don't focus on trying to get people to avoid Hell, but to join God's Kingdom, but what do you share with someone with Questions about Hell?



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# Welcome to Life Church Boston





**THE TRIAL OF THE CENTURIES  
LUKE 6 WEEK 3  
LOVE WILL HELP ME KNOW MY NAME  
-FATHER'S DAY SERMON**

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**By Rev. Michael D. Dixon  
Life Church Boston  
Jun-24**

# Recap!!! What Rebellion Looks like - We are OK



Serena Masonde

- The Trial of the Centuries is the Trial of God- By Satan...
- We know a Tree by it's Fruit... Look how weak this image bearer is... Not worthy to Judge Angels... God Agreed, but Showed man Mercy... and in doing so, Showed Satan's Heart! Man was Judged on A Cross, Satan will be judged For His Rebellion...
- Man will take part in the Judgement of Angels, For those who Follow and those who Rebel.
- Now: Who are the Rebels? Not always what you think... Jesus came to the sick, who is everyone... but who thinks they are sick? Usually those in pain and suffering... THAT is the point of the Beattitudes... but the Challenge for the "RICH" and "Healthy"... The Bronze serpent only works if you look at it... That was Satan's Problem... which he infects to us.
- In the best sense of the word [Jesus] was a radical. . . . His religion has so long been identified with conservatism — often with conservatism of the obstinate and unyielding sort — that it is almost startling for us sometimes to remember that all the conservatism of His own times was against Him, that it was the young, free, restless, sanguine, progressive part of the people who flocked to Him.
- —Phillips Brooks

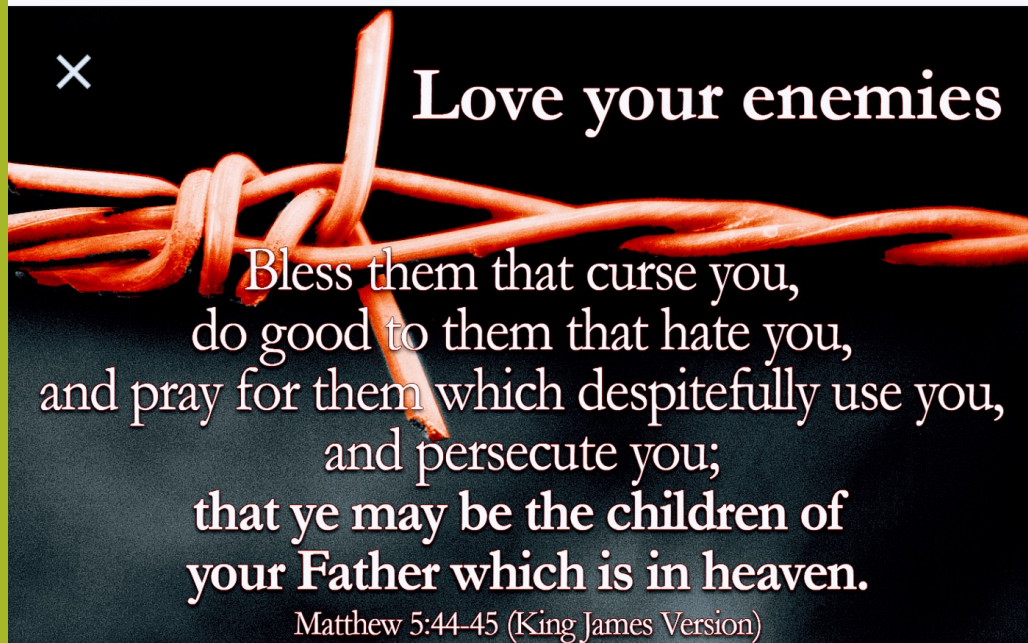


## RELATIONSHIP AND FOLLOWING VERSUS REBELLION... OUR CHOICE! LETTING HIM DO OUR LAUNDRY!

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There are no Short Cuts to our Choice...  
First seeing we have dirty Clothes, A need  
for Cleansings, and not focusing on our  
pride that leads to rebellion. God Turns  
everything Upside Down Which requires  
allowing him to perfect us!

# Loving your Enemy- Identify with who you worship! How we become Children of our Father!



- Satan Never Understood God's Mercy- even for his Enemies... But this is the Nature of Who God is... He worshipped God, He served God but until you get under the authority of your Boss- trust them, then you are on your own, missing the point. Satan Worshipped God, but didn't know him. He had Wisdom, but not relationship... He didn't see God as a Loving Father, but as an entity to be jealous of and lesser... than him... TO BE A CHILD of Love We Too Must Love those who are tough to Love!
- **Luke 6: <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.**

Who are Tough to Love- the Rebellious?  
Teenagers Epitomize this because they have to find their  
Identities for themselves- but need time and mercy.  
Some Father's Day Humor



# Don't Judge...

*Everyone sees what you appear to be...*



*...few really know what you are.  
-Niccolò Machiavelli*

- We Cannot know Man's Heart, As God Proved to Satan with Job... We can test people- challenges and Pain are often the point of Contact with God's mercy... Those who are rich Often miss out on the Pain and the blessings it brings, Like the Prodigal son... To be comfortable and self sufficient is to be like the prodigal Son's Brother who may have never come into the party... Satan Judged Man (and therefore God- but by doing so, he was sealing his Fate!

## • Judging Others- Giving Generously..

- <sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

# THE GOSPEL and The BAD NEWS

- **The Good News leads to a righteousness by Faith that Leads to good works and Loving those who are fallen, Enemies, etc.**
  - Romans 1: 16- 17. <sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last,<sup>[e]</sup> just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”
  - – It is a righteousness by Faith (not by Works)... That Faith picks a side and is not rebellious... They Bear the fruit of LIFE! Those who reject God's Love and Gift will have his wrath on them, and he gives them over to sin, like he did with Pharoah. It is a dangerous place to be...
- **The BAD News is that Once we Reject the Good News God may harden our hearts which leads us to follow after the flesh (Adam's Nature) and sin! BAD FRUIT!!! And the Garbage Heap... Gehenna..**
  - **Romans 1:** <sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, (MDD- and False witness)
  - **Romans 1: 21-25** <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.<sup>24</sup> Therefore **God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts** to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> **They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—** who is forever praised. Amen.
  - **Acts 7: 39** “But our ancestors refused to obey him. Instead, they rejected him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt. <sup>40</sup> They told Aaron, ‘Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who led us out of Egypt—we don’t know what has happened to him!’<sup>[i]</sup> **41 That was the time they made an idol in the form of a calf. They brought sacrifices to it and reveled in what their own hands had made.** <sup>42</sup> But God turned away from them **and gave them over to the worship of the sun, moon and stars.**

WHAT IS **HELL** LIKE?



**HELL & REBELLION (NEXT WEEK)**

## Luke 6: 27-45



- \* Love your Enemies (to become Children)
  - \* Don't Judge/Accuse,
  - \* As Children you will bear fruit naturally.

1. They shall know we are Christians by our Love!  
2. Woe to those Who are Rich- Talented, self-sufficient- Like Lucifer- They tend to Judge those "lesser" than them... Don't Judge or Accuse- Let God do that.

3. Once we choose God's team, we Bleed Green – (Go Celtics for 18!) We bleed Christ Naturally! We can't rebel because we have picked our TEAM!

- **Luke 6: 23-45 Love, Don't Judge, Fruit is from inside...**

- **Love for Enemies**

- **27** “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **28** bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. **29** If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. **30** Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. **31** Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- **32** “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. **33** And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. **34** And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. **35** But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. **36** Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

- **Judging Others**

- **37** “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **38** Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

- **39** He also told them this parable: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit? **40** The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.

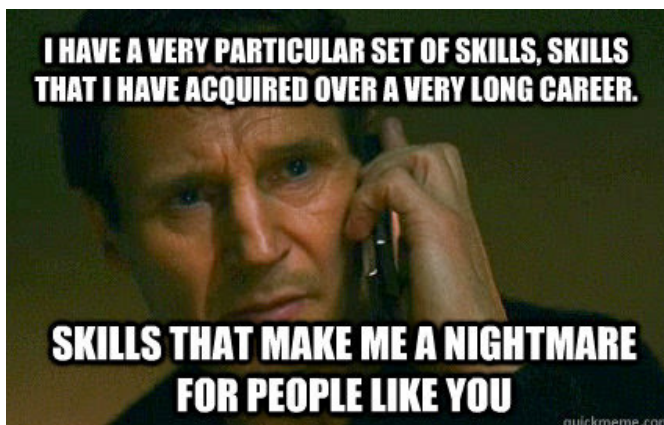
- **41** “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? **42** How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

- **A Tree and Its Fruit**

- **43** “No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. **44** Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. **45** A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

# Faith is Not enough for Salvation! Faith in the goodness of a Dad who would die for you is!

- Faith that God lives- Many Religions have that, Everyone who is not an Atheist has that ! We must have a Faith and acknowledge his Name! The Word Good comes from God... We must believe he is Good, as seen through the gift of his son, taking our place for our sin and appeasing the WRATH of God... Like any Father, He has a special Skills and Love to take care of his own!
- God's First Creation Angels had an issue... I'm not sure if angels feel pain, but they could not be tempted, could not really learn from mistakes and had time to do so, and to fully Embrace God and others by choice. We can- but **we have to choose him in Faith- Angels do not know Faith-** They actually See God, **We can also deny God- Fully by unbelief-** which leads to Punishment. **NOTICE THAT ADAM AND EVE DID NOT HAVE FAITH IN GOD!-** They actually Saw Him all the time! They Questioned if He is Good- denying them to be like Him with the Tree of Good and evil. Faith in Faith is not Salvation, Faith that God Exists is Not Salvation- We must have Faith IN the Goodness of a God that sent his son to Die for us! We were the Bad guys in Taken... We are now on his team!





## Fathers Protect their Children, any Bully that comes against them, they will not Tolerate!

- God's Image bearers can do some Real Good, and Real Harm. If left to walk in the flesh, we will do harm.
- If a Bully repents, God is Happy... If a Bully does not, there will be Hell to Pay. This happens in Sports But people feel that since God is love He will not strike... That is not what the Bible Teaches... Even Jesus Struck people in the Gentile Court!
- God is like a Good Parent- He is Patient. Being a Teenager will Pass, but know once you are an Adult, you have Adult Consequences. Biden Cannot undo the consequences for his son..
- If Hunter Learns his lessons, which it seems he has, Biden will not deny his son! Satan wants punishment, God Gives time and Mercy... BUT TIME RUNS OUT, and MERCY ENDS. God is not Mocked we reap what we sow, unless by faith, we Reap what Jesus Sowed.

# Naturally Fruity or Poisonous!

- Once you are Healed, You bear fruit of a Healthy Person.
- If you Choose not be healed, and Follow after the Golden Calf... if you are not careful and not humble, and focused on Truth, God will give you over to your idolatry.. And you won't know you are poisonous.
- PAIN Can bring you back... That is what the prodigal son had to go through. It humbles us, to give us another choice. If we reject that window of Choice, then we can become bitter and poisonous to others and to ourselves. We then get judged and sentenced due to those Choices we have made.



# Devine Love- Helps us to Know our Name

- From Love's Devine by Seal
- Through the rainstorm came sanctuary  
And I felt my spirit fly  
I had found all of my reality  
I realize what it takes

[Chorus]

'Cause I need love, love's divine  
Please forgive me, now I see that I've been blind  
Give me love, love is what I need to help me know my name

- The **fruit of believing Faith that God is Good is Love**, the **Fruit of Unbelief or disdain for God (He is not Good) is God's Wrath and Eternal Separation.**
- **Who we love, and How we Love Decides our Name.** Lucifer Fell in Love with himself- He became known as the NON-God Loving angel- Hence his New Name- Adversary. We get a fresh start with time to make mistakes, repent, redeem ourselves, harden our hearts, get them softened-By Love (Like Paul-Saul), reharden them- Like King Saul. Love helps us to know our hidden potential to know our full Names... Abram was a Father, Abraham was the Father of Many- with a Barren wife.



# Questions for today

## Group Questions

1. Abram had his name Changed, Lucifer had his name changed. How does Loving as God on his terms or not, change our name? What name would you like to have? Loving Father, A sharer of the faith, one who stands up for what is right, etc.?
2. What is the difference between judging people and judging their actions (that cause harm)?
3. Love covers a multitude of sins (1 Pet 4:8), but it doesn't cover rebellion. Ex. Bronze Serpent... People sinned and were judged, but all they had to do is look, but some could have chosen not to... What does a rebellious Spirit look like? What should you do in this regard? Is the Prodigal son an example of this?
4. Some people have tough relationships with their fathers or father figures, instead of protecting caused harm. How can God's Call to love your enemy be applied to this or others that are hard to love?
5. The more we know God, the more it is more natural to love as He does? What are some things that get in the way of us knowing God? Have you seen someone's heart get hardened? How Can you help soften it? What are some Limits to what you can do?