

Don't Be Afraid

Luke 12:32-40

Christ's Kingdom is RIGHT NOW and NOT YET; HERE, and YONDER THERE; HAPPENING and TO COME. It is the reign of Christ in my life, and the reign of Christ over the universe. The King of Kings is bringing all things under Him for the consummate glory of His name and the ultimate good of His reign (Heb. 10:13).

Notice how we are described in this text: "little flock" – lit. "very little flock." We are sheep. The victory in my life is not dependent on me; but on a faithful Shepherd. "Fear not..." He has this under His control. We are servants of the Highest. We're soldiers; but He's our King. We fight; but He has won the victory.

I. My fear is due to a lack of knowledge - *"My Father has been pleased to give me the Kingdom."*

There's nothing that comes into my life that is not designed for a Kingdom purpose in me. Nothing.

So, "fear not!" Some might respond, "But you don't know what it is I'm going through right now!"

- A. The Kingdom promise is that your needs will be met ("my God shall supply all your needs")
- B. The Kingdom promise is that your life will count in the Kingdom ("not one hour added")
- C. The Kingdom promise is that your King is sovereign (He is "King of Kings" and works all for good)
- D. The Kingdom promise is that no problem; no person; no trouble, no trial; no setback is outside it.

II. Relax and invest your life in people – *"where no thief comes near and no moth destroys."*

The relationships you build with people for Kingdom purposes are the very things you take with you.

Sell your possessions and give to those in need. "You will always have the poor among you" (Jn 12:28).

Relationships are what it is all about. There is a very cool principle Jesus gives to us four chapters later.

"I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings" (Luke 16:9). You have no other purpose than to build His Kingdom.

III. "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also" – Jesus' ways are opposite of the worlds'.

The world tells you, "Wherever your heart is, go build your treasure." Nope. Where your treasure is, that's where your heart will be also. What is your "treasure" in this life? What is it that has value?

"But we have this treasure (God's grace in Christ) in earthen vessels (jars of clay), that the excellency of the power (of this life I live) might be of God and not myself" II Corinthians 4:7). It's the Kingdom!

IV. Christ comes to take us into eternity at an hour we least expect – *"The Son of Man will come..."*

Jesus uses a couple of illustrations of His coming for us in our death or in His "glorious appearing."

He uses the illustration of a Master at a marriage supper (which could last for days or even months),

He also uses the illustration of a thief who comes into someone's home in order to take things away.

- A. **Be watchful** – "have your loins girded...and your lamps ready"
- B. **Be working** – "keep doing what the Master had you assigned to do."
- C. **Be warned** – when God's people become Kingdom minded, the "prince of the power of this air" attacks. The enemy looks for those who wish to advance the Kingdom to knock out first.

There are always two Lions fighting for control of the universe. One has the Kingdom; the other wants what's not rightfully his. The Lion of the Tribe of Judah is Leader of the team you are on. The "roaring lion" who prowls about seeking whom he may devour (Ephesians 6:12) has in reality – no biting teeth.