

#235 "Where there's great need, there's passion"

1 Let's open our Bibles this evening to the Book of Luke and we will read from the beginning.

2 Luke 12:1 In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. 2 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. 3 Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.

3 Now, look, if the governments fear a little website like "Wikileaks" so much what about the day when the secrets of the heart shall be made know unto all men. For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. 3 Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And one of these days you will have to give account of all your idle words.

4 That is exactly what Jesus said in Matthew 12:36 where Jesus said, But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

5 4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

6 Now, surely there is only one who has power over life and death of the soul and that is God, so fear God. Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

7 Now, in getting back to Luke 12 let's continue with our reading. 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? 7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

8 And is not that what God said about his saints? Psalms 116: 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. As we mentioned a couple weeks ago, this word precious was translated from a Hebrew word "Yaqra" pronounced yaw-Kawr and it means costly, highly valued, valuable. So we see that our Lord considers it very costly to Him when one of His saints dies. Costly in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. And Jesus said, not one of them is forgotten before God? 7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

9 Now verse 8 Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: Now, we know this word confess was translated from the Greek word homologeo which was made up of two Greek words, homo which means the same and logeo which is the Word. So Jesus is saying, Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall say the same Word about me before men, him shall the Son of man also say the same Word before the angels of God:

10 9But he that denieth me (he that says no to me, he that will not speak of me) before men shall be denied (disowned) before the angels of God. 10And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. 11And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: 12For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

11 Now, Jesus is talking about our confession here and the importance of that confession and that walk before God and man, and yet the people listening to him were not even listening to what he was talking about. You can see that very plainly in the kind of questions that they asked of him immediately after speaking of them about the importance of our confession and taking our stand. Notice the very next verse...

12 13And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. Now, how well did that question align itself with what he was just talking about?

13 That is the thing I have noticed over the years when I travel, is what kind of questions the people or even the ministers ask. You can tell those who are fixed on the doctrine of Christ and the importance of understanding the doctrine for the hour. Their questions are not trivial, and they are not about the ABC's, but rather they are questions that delve deeper into the relationship that God had with His son, that they might better understand what it is that God is doing in this hour, so they might be a part of what God is doing.

14 But this guys question was not on wanting to know in order to please the Father in a greater way, but rather what can I get out of this for myself? Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

15 And that is what that Laodicean spirit is all about. What can I get for myself? Not knowing that they only think they are rich and have need of nothing, but in reality they are naked, miserable creatures and don't even know it. Let's continue with Luke 12 and then we will see the spirit on man in this hour.

16 14And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? 15And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

17 But to those in Laodicea you could not tell them this for that is what their whole life is all about, seeing how much they can accrue while in this life, even though they know they can't take it with them. That is the spirit of this Laodicean age.

18 Revelations 3:13He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. 14And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15I know thy works, (or lack of them, and I know) that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would that you were either cold or hot, because at least there would be some evidence of life there.

19 16So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

20 Oh, if the church only knew where it stood in this hour, and if she only knew how wretched, and miserable, and poor and blind that she was then perhaps she would stand a chance. For you see where there is a great need, there is passion.

21 When you have not eaten for a great while and you are starving, you will have great passion for food, any

food. And when you have not had anything to drink for a few days, and your body is dehydrating, and your lips are parched and your tongue is stiff, and your mouth feels like sand, oh, you talk about a passion for water.

22 And that is the condition of the church in this hour, but because she is blind, and ignorant to her own condition, she thinks she has need of nothing, and she has no passion for the Word of God.

23 This is the hour that the Apostle Paul prophesied that the of the condition of the church would be as we see in 2 Timothy 3: 5Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: and that is exactly where she is tonight. Having a form...just a form, not knowing the difference between the Church spirit and the Holy spirit, and Paul warned us and said, from such turn away...

24 Oh, but the Apostle Paul also said that as far as intellectual understanding goes? He said they would be 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

25 The apostle Paul further said in Romans 9:6Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

26 And again in Romans 2:28 Paul said, For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

27 That is why Jesus said to the church at Laodicea, 18I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

28 21To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

29 In each of the seven church ages God has promises abundance to them that would just overcome the pulls of their age that they live in and overcome themselves.

30 To him that overcometh I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

31 To him that overcometh I will give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receives it. (That's to the overcomer of the church age.)

32 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcome, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

33 And in his message How can I overcome 63-0825M P:50 brother Branham said, in Noahs day there were only Eight overcomers... In the days of Daniel's time there was four overcomers that could stand the test of fire and lions. Now, we're expected to be tested. That's a good lesson for my brother back there also. He that cometh to God must first be tested. Tested what? With the Word. That's God's test. Do you believe it? He that cometh to God must be tested. That only shows a true child (See, see?): be tested. And when the test comes on, you can't overcome 'less there's a test give to you. And when a test is given, it's to see whether you can overcome or not. And Jesus said, "To him that overcometh," the test. The test is the greatest thing that ever happened to you. And I

believe it's written in the Scripture, Peter said that our trials are worth more to us than precious gold. It's a testing time; it's... And one good evidence to us that God is with us, when we're tested, for all children of God are tested and tried.

34 Luke 12:16And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:17And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. 20But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

35 Notice, he did not say that it was wrong to lay up treasure for yourself, He said it is wrong to do so if you are not rich towards God. In other words there had better be a laying up treasure in heaven where moth doesn't eat not rust corrupts. Because where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

36 Abraham was a wealthy man, but the wealth in itself meant nothing to him. It is not what you have that counts. It is what you do with what you have. "for where your treasure is there your heart will be also." So where is your heart tonight, my brothers and sisters?

37 22And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

38 In other words get your priorities right. When I see the abundance of food and clothing going to waste in this Country and then as I travel overseas and see the desolate condition of your brothers and sisters in those countries, and then see the lack of desire on the part of the Western church to give of what they have to help those less fortunate, it shames me.

39 Sisters even in this Message with dozens of pairs of shoes over here and yet in Africa, some have no shoes for their feet. I will never forget an email I received from a brother in Uganda when we began to help over there, he said, my brother what you and your church have done for us you will never know. We were the laughing stock of all the Pentecostal churches here because we had no shoes to cover our feet, and no church clothes to wear to church, and our children walked to school barefoot, and came home to little if any food, but now we can hold our heads high, because our Father has provided his little ones shoes for our feet, clothes for our back, food for our tables, and roofs to keep the rain off our heads.

40 Things that we take for granted, yet our brothers and sisters in the same family of God have not the things you throw out in the garbage. The Scripture teaches us, "where much is given, much will be required"

41 Then Jesus continues, 24Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? 25And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? 29And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. 31But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. 32Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

42 33Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approaches, neither moth corrupts. 34For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 35Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning;

43 Do you have that burning passion for the Light that you are walking in? Are you so aware of God's presence that you fall to your knees several times a day to pray and to worship Him. How is it that the Muslim who serves a false god can have so much passion in him to worship his God and yet in this message we who are aware that God Himself, the very creator of the heavens and earth, and yet we can count on one hand the times we fall to our knees in thanksgiving and prayer. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves.

44 When are we going to begin to be conformed to the Image of the first born son who many times a day slipped away to pray to his heavenly father.

45 36And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. 37Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. 38And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. 39And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. 40Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not. 41Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? 42And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? 43Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 44Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. 45But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; 46The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. 47And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 48But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more. 49I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?