

Adult Sunday School
February 21, 2021
Matthew 11:16-30; Modules 31-32

Outline

- Opposition to the Messiah Emerges (Matthew 11:1-12:50).
- Jesus, John the Baptist, and ministry in Galilee (Matthew 11)

Module 31 - Matthew 11:16-24

Theme- *Unreasonableness of unbelievers exposed- danger of not using the light.*

Scope and Purpose - These sayings were the result of the state of the Jews when Jesus was on earth. They speak to us as well. They throw light on natural man's character, they teach us the perilous state of many immortal souls in the present day.

Prominent Points

1. Unreasonableness of many unconverted men in the things of the faith.
 - a. The Jews found fault in all of God's teachers.
 - i. John the Baptist, who preached repentance, was austere and withdrew himself from society. The Jews said he was demon-possessed.
 - ii. Jesus the Son of God - preaching the gospel, living as other men. They called him a glutton and wine-lover, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.
 - b. In short, they were as hard to please as wayward children.
 - c. Application -
 - i. There are many Christians just as unreasonable as the Jews. Whatever we teach and preach they find fault.
 - ii. Do we tell them of justification by faith and they call us antinomians?
 - iii. Do we tell them to live holy lives and they call us legalists?
 - iv. Are we cheerful, are we grave, do we dress normally, etc. etc.?
They have names for all these things.
 - v. We have piped unto you, and you have not danced: we have mourned unto you, and you have not lamented.
 - vi. Quesnel- Whatever measures good men take, they will never escape the censures of the world. The best way is not to be concerned at them. "The carnal mind is enmity against God; the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God (Romans 8:7; 1 Corinthians 2:14)."
2. The exceeding wickedness of willful impenitence. It shall be more tolerable for Sodom, Tyre, Sidon, on the Day of Judgment, than for those who heard Jesus' sermons, seen his miracles, but had not repented.
 - a. Stop and think- think of the morality of Sodom. Idolatrous, immoral, wicked. Picture Lot's last night in Sodom. ¹

¹ Genesis 19: 1-14; 2 Peter 2:7-8 did the Sodom have the opportunity to repent, yes, based on righteous Lot. See also Matthew 12:38-41 on repentance of Nineveh.

- b. Then think of these average Jewish cities, Chorazin, Capernaum. These folks will be in the lowest part of hell. They heard the gospel and did not repent. They had all the religious advantages!
- c. Application
 - i. Surely this ought to tingle in the ears of those who hear but do not repent.
 - ii. He has spiritual light and neglects it, he has a gospel and does not obey it, and his heart remains hard.
 - iii. His guilt will be found greater than theirs at the last day.
 - iv. English bishop- "Among all the aggregations of our sins, there is no more heinous than the frequent hearing of our duty."
 - v. We must never be content with merely hearing and liking the gospel. We must repent and be converted. We must lay hold on Christ, and become one with him; till then we are in awful danger.
 - vi. Are you saved? Do you know the salvation in Christ our Savior?
 - vii. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit (1 Peter 3:18). If you don't believe this you go to hell, right?
 - viii. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. (1 John 4:16)
 - ix. Are you willing to forsake all for Christ, to give up the world, its pleasures, companionships, etc.

Module 32 - Matthew 11:25-30

Theme - *Greatness of Christ- fullness of gospel invitations.*

Scope and Purpose - There are so many precious truths in this passage. Let's dive in.

Prominent Points

1. Let us learn the excellence of a teachable frame of mind. Those from whom the gospel is hidden are wise in their own eyes. These whom the gospel has been revealed are humble and willing to learn. "he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. (Luke 1:53)
2. Let us watch against pride in intellect, wealth, goodness. So long as we think we are something we will never be saved. Let us pray to cultivate humility. He that humbles himself will be exalted.
3. Let us learn the greatness and majesty of our Lord Jesus Christ. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him (vs 27). We see the perfect union between the first and second Persons of the Trinity.
4. Let us learn that all power that concerns our soul's interest is in our Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Door, Shepherd, Physician, Bread of Life, Light, and Fountain. If we have Christ, we have all these things.
5. Let us learn the breadth and fullness of the invitations of Christ's gospel.

- a. We see in this Christ's heart.
- b. Come to me, all 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (vs. 28-30)
- c. Note:
 - i. Who they are Jesus invites - all who feel a load of remorse are invited to come to Christ.
 - ii. This is a gracious offer. Jesus will give us rest for our souls. Unrest is the characteristic of the world- hurry, vexation, failure, disappointment. In Christ there is rest of conscience, rest of heart, rest built on pardon of all sin, rest flowing from peace with God.
 - iii. Note the request Jesus makes. Come unto me, take my yoke upon you, and learn of me. Go to him just as you are.
 - iv. Note Jesus' heart. He is meek and lowly of heart. This is the only place in Scripture where his heart is mentioned.
 - v. Note the account Jesus gives of his service. Christ's service in the highest sense is easy and light. His commandments are not grievous, his ways are ways of pleasantness, and all his paths are peace.

Have we accepted this invitation? This is the key to true happiness; here is the secret of having a light heart. ALL hinges on an acceptance of this offer. Let us also come to him for fresh supplies of grace every day. Let us cleave more closely. If you have not come, then COME! To him who comes, Jesus will not cast out (see John 6:37).²



² See Brownlow North, Tract, by Geoffrey Thomas p. 22 and 25