



## “Different”

**Luke 6:24-31**

March 27, 2022

### **Luke 6:24-31**

**24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.**

25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.

30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.

31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

## **Jesus wants us to be different.**

**24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.**

• Last Sunday we looked at 4 ways you are blessed by being:

1. Poor
2. Hungry
3. Sad
4. Hated

• Totally opposite of how the world would define blessing.

• Now Jesus flips it around and wants to tell us who is cursed.

• So here is the contrast . . .

BLESSINGS Luke 6:20-22	WOES Luke 6:24-26
Lk 6:20 Poor	Lk 6:24 Rich
Lk 6:21 Hunger	Lk 6:25 Well-fed
Lk 6:21 Weep	Lk 6:25 Laugh
Lk 6:22 Hatred	Lk 6:26 Praise

**24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.**

**"woe"** - "impending judgment, pain, grief, horror, lamentation, a state of intense hardship and distress."

**"rich"** – rich without God. A few in the Bible were wealthy - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Daniel, David, Job and Lydia.

- The people whom Jesus called happy or blessed, the world would call pitiful; and the people Jesus called pitiful, the world would call happy.
- Money never made anyone rich.
- People who are truly rich are rich in grace, in mercy, in forgiveness, in peace, in eternal life, in joy, in love, in goodness, in kindness, in gentleness, in patience, in self-control, in a future in heaven.

**Rev 2:9 (Smyrna)**

9 I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich)

**Heb 11:24-26**

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

26 considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.

**"I value all things only by the price they shall gain in eternity."**

- John Wesley

**24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.**

- If your treasure is this world and the comforts it affords you, then you better enjoy it now because where you are going there will be no comfort.
- We need to see the world that way.

**Ps 73:3,4,12,16,17,25**

3 For I was envious of the arrogant

As I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

4 For there are no pains in their death,

And their body is fat.

12 Behold, these are the wicked;

And always at ease, they have increased in wealth.

16 When I pondered to understand this,

It was troublesome in my sight

17 Until I came into the sanctuary of God;

Then I perceived their end.

25 Whom have I in heaven but You?

And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.

## **Ecc1 5:15**

15 As he had come naked from his mother's womb, so will he return as he came. He will take nothing from the fruit of his labor that he can carry in his hand.

## **Job 1:21**

21 He said,

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,

And naked I shall return there.

"People who live their whole lives aimed at making more money are going to leave this life with nothing."

J.D. Rockefeller left how much?

## **Luke 6:24-31**

24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.

**25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.**

26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.

30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.

31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

**"If Christ were not in heaven, I would not want to go there."**

- Puritan

<b>BLESSINGS</b> Luke 6:20-22	<b>WOES</b> Luke 6:24-26
Lk 6:20 Poor	Lk 6:24 Rich
Lk 6:21 Hunger	Lk 6:25 Well-fed
Lk 6:21 Weep	Lk 6:25 Laugh
Lk 6:22 Hatred	Lk 6:26 Praise

### Luke 6:24-31

- 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
- 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.
- 27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
- 29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.
- 30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.
- 31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

### 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

- "all men speak well of you"** – this is the world speaking of you.
- Do you want to align yourself with false prophets who were praised for their message which was filled with lies but it was what the people wanted to hear.
- False prophets say they look into the future and see that -**
- "You are going to get married; you are going to have children; you are going to recover from this illness; the famine is going to end; Jerusalem is not going to be besieged; our armies are going to be triumphant; our boys are going to come back safe and sound from the battle with wagons full of plunder."**
- So the people say, "What wonderful prophets! The best in the world!" All men spoke well of them, but the trouble was that all it, was lies."
- The false prophets brought a positive message, they were politically correct, didn't want to step on any toes, inclusive, pluralistic, non-offensive, popular.

### 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

- "well-fed"** – satisfied with what you have, with what you have accumulated. Content with your religion.
- But in the future they will be "hungry", they will crave for something to satisfy them and there will never ever be anything. They will crave peace, relationships, meaning, to be pain-free, light, and comfort.
- "laugh now"** – life is for the feel-good times. Nothing serious. No thinking about eternity and your sin and what needs to be done about it.
- But in the future you will mourn and weep. Hell will be an existence of "weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth." It will be forever.
- Ecc1 7:3-4**
- 3 Sorrow is better than laughter,  
For when a face is sad a heart may be happy.
- 4 The mind of the wise is in the house of mourning,  
While the mind of fools is in the house of pleasure.

<b>BLESSINGS</b> Luke 6:20-22	<b>WOES</b> Luke 6:24-26
Lk 6:20 Poor	Lk 6:24 Rich
Lk 6:21 Hunger	Lk 6:25 Well-fed
Lk 6:21 Weep	Lk 6:25 Laugh
Lk 6:22 Hatred	Lk 6:26 Praise

### Luke 6:24-31

- 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
- 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.
- 27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
- 29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.
- 30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.
- 31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

**27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,**

**28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.**

- How do you treat those who hate you?

**4 things:**

1. **Love them.** Not with feelings, but unconditionally. Opposite of Pharisees.
2. **Do good for them.** Do what is just and right toward them. Seek their best interest.
3. **Bless them.** Your speech is to be kind and good about them.
4. **Pray for them.** For their salvation and sanctification. That God will be merciful and gracious toward them.

**Note:** Take the initiative.

**Luke 6:24-31**

- 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
- 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.
- 27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
- 29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.**
- 30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.**
- 31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

**Job 31:29-30**

29 "Have I rejoiced at the extinction of my enemy,  
Or exulted when evil befell him?

30 "No, I have not allowed my mouth to sin

By asking for his life in a curse.

**Prov 25:21**

1 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat;  
And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

**29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.**

**30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.**

**4 illustrations of what it looks like to love your enemies:**

1. When physically struck, do not fight back.
2. If they take your coat and also ask for your shirt, give it to them. Don't fight back.
3. Give to anyone that asks something from you. Your graciousness shows your detachment from materialism.
4. If something is yours and taken from you, don't demand that it be given back. Let them keep it.

**This demonstrates 2 things in the life of the believer:**

1. Self-denial.
2. Grace.

**Luke 6:24-31**

- 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
- 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.
- 27 "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
- 29 "Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.
- 30 "Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.
- 31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.**

**31 "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.**

- Typically the "golden rule" is stated in the negative:  
"Don't do to others what you don't want back."
- But here it is neither positive or negative.
- It is just as much positive as it is negative.

“We should no more build our theology on the golden rule, than we should build our astronomy on Twinkle, Twinkle, little Star!”

- Warren Wiersbe

#### Summary:

1. This entire passage oozes with the believer being “different” living in the world. Are you different from the world?
  - Do you march to the beat of a different drummer?
  - Do you follow a different master?
  - Is your life all about money, pleasure, entertainment, and popularity?
  - Are you a slave of this world’s values or are you a slave of Christ?
  - Do you treasure Christ above anything else in the world or is there something in this world that you treasure above Christ?
2. The tragedy of this passage are the people who live for the things of this world apart from Christ and suffer an eternity in hell.
3. The blessing of this passage are the people who have detached themselves from this world and live a transformed, “different” lifestyle that identifies them, not with the temporary nature of this world, but with Christ and eternity.
4. Their transformed life of love then, will demonstrate to the world a radical departure from the values and beliefs of this world, and will call the unbeliever to put their faith in Christ.