

The Gospel of Luke

Lesson 36: Luke 19:45- 20:47

Knowing the Truth and accepting the Truth are entirely different. The man who simply *knows* the Truth can observe the evidence and attest to its validity, while simultaneously refusing to trust what he has seen. The man who *accepts* the Truth witnesses the same evidence, but allows what he has observed to change the course of his life.

Many heard Christ's teachings, they witnessed the same miracles, and yet, they refused to accept what was plainly evident: all authority in heaven and on earth had been granted to Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18). But as long as accepting the Truth meant submitting to Christ's authority, they would reject His teachings and His miracles.

Matthew Henry has said, "Those that are governed by reputation and secular interest imprison the plainest truths, and smother and stifle the strongest convictions."ⁱ

Read Luke 19:45-48.

1. What was the purpose of the temple?
2. How had the religious leaders, merchants, etc., perverted its purpose?
3. How did Christ confront the issue?
4. Do His actions challenge your notions of Him? Why or why not?

Keep reading in Luke 20, verses 1-8.

5. How did the chief priests, scribes and elders challenge Christ?

6. What did their answer reveal?

7. Why didn't Christ answer them directly?

Read Luke 20: 9-19.

8. Who is the owner? Who does the vineyard represent? (See Isaiah 5:1-7.) Who are its vinedressers? For what are they responsible?

9. Who do the servants represent? For what reason were the servants sent (v.10)?

10. How were the servants treated? (vv.10-12) Read Matthew 23:29-39. Why?

11. Return to Luke 20. Reflecting on their inquiry (v.2), why didn't it matter to the religious leaders who granted Christ's authority? What did they seek?

12. What would happen to the vinedressers if their stewardship was taken from them? What actions were they willing to take in order to keep it?

13. What would result on account of their actions? Think back to verses 43-44 of Luke 19.

14. What is a chief cornerstone? (Isaiah 28:16) What will occur if a structure is erected without it?

What was implied by Christ's statement?

15. Explain Christ's words in verse 18.

Continue reading: Luke 20:20-26.

16. For what reason did they question Christ?

17. In spite of their feelings, what was their duty as long as they were under Caesar's rule? Why? (See Romans 13:1-7 and 1 Peter 2:13-17.)

18. Ultimately, why was Israel under Roman authority?

19. In what ways did they fail to render to God the things that were due Him?

Read Luke 20:27-40.

20. The Sadducees, a sect of Jewish religious leaders, did not believe in the spiritual world or the resurrection, but in the cessation of the soul with the body. How would this belief dictate the way they lived?

21. What is the purpose of marriage? (See Genesis 2:18, 24, 1:28; Malachi 2:15.)

22. Return to Luke 20. For what purpose was this woman given in marriage to each brother? Why is this practice no longer necessary in heaven?

23. How will the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs that marriage fulfills, be satisfied in God's presence?

24. How did Jesus address their false beliefs regarding angels and eternity in verses 36-38?

Keep reading: Luke 20:41-47.

25. Why does Jesus question what they know about the Messiah? (Consider Revelation 22:16.)

26. Describe the scribes' ambitions per Jesus' description. (vv.46-47)

*"They are covetous and oppressive, and make their religion a cloak and cover for crime."*ⁱⁱ

27. Contrast this with Matthew 20:25-28, Luke 22:26-27, and John 13:3-5, 12-16.

28. Back to Luke 20. Why will the scribes receive greater condemnation? Think on Luke 12:48, then Ezekiel 34:1-31.

"I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd" (v.23).

¹Henry, M. (1994). [Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole Bible: complete and unabridged in one volume](#) (p. 1896). Peabody: Hendrickson.

²Henry, M.