

**Theme:** Unless “hearing” results in “doing” it is worse than never hearing the truth at all. But hearing that leads to *obedience* opens the heart to the mysteries of God and brings us into the household of Christ.

**Background and Introduction:**

- Both passages continue theme of “How we hear”
- Having “explained” it - he now “applies” the parable.

**I. Hear and “See” (16-18)**

A. The challenge - See what God is doing. (16)

1. Don’t hide the truth - demands a response – must use it!.

a. Heard/have the Truth – what will you do with it?

1. Surely you don’t cover it up!

2. Let *others* see the light!!

b. Live by it – or be judged by it.

2. There *is* no hiding *from* the truth (17)

a. Nothing is hidden that won’t be revealed!

- Points to final judgment (Ecclesiastes 12:14; 2 Peter 3:10)

b. Nothing is secret that won’t come to light.

3. Ready to give an account? (18)

B. Great blessing in Light!

- More will be given
- All the riches of the heavenly realm

C. Or great danger!

- What you have will be taken away.

D. Not just in the future

## II. Hear and “Do” (19-21)

A. The challenge - “Hearing” demands a response

1. Jesus has a Real Family.

a. Jesus is a real person with real mother, brothers, sisters (Mark 6:3)

b. They weren’t a “perfect” family. (Mark 3:21)

2. Jesus has a *True* Family.

- Those who *Hear & Do!*

B. The blessing! “Hearing” has its rewards.

1. “Blood is thicker than water?”

- Not if that water is the sign and seal of our “sonship”  
(John 1:12; Ephesians 1:5; Galatians 4:6,7)

- Those who hear the Word and do it.

2. His children are rewarded (Luke 18:29)

NOTE: Pre-eminence of the Church in the NT is clear.

- Christ loves the church. (Ephesians 1:22; 5:25ff)

- Do we?

3. Our true family? (2Corinthians 6:18)

C. “Hearing” and “doing” has its dangers (Luke 6:22; Mark 13:12)

## III. Hear and Share

A. Share in the great blessings of Christ that accompany hearing and doing

B. Share the good news, shining the light of Christ into the world.