

Luke 10:38-42 One Necessary Good

The one necessity for human life is the good portion of the people of God—God Himself.

1) Total love for God is the good life (10:25-28, 42).

- a) Eternal life—life with God (v. 25)
- b) Total love for God (v. 27)
- c) Love for God is necessary for life (42a)
- d) God Himself is the good portion (42b)
 - i) Joy and Beauty: Psalm 16:5-6 “The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed I have a beautiful inheritance.”
 - ii) Unfailing: Psalm 73:26 “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.” Luke 10:42c “. . . which will not be taken away from her.”
 - iii) Enjoyed through His Word: Psalm 119:57 “The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep Your words.”

2) Communion with God in Christ is through His Word (10:39).

- a) Mary “sat at the Lord’s feet”—she assumed her post
- b) The heart is nourished through the ear.—she “listened to His teaching”
 - i) Love and learning go hand in hand. The more we learn of God the more we love Him and the more we want to learn of Him.
 - ii) Rabbis did not see theology as an appropriate pursuit for women, certainly not a necessity. Luke’s emphasis on female disciples reminds us that we all need good theology—knowledge of God from God.

3) When service is not driven by love it is sin (10:40-41).

- a) Martha’s hospitality was not inherently sinful or wrong. Hospitality is a gift of the Holy Spirit for the building up of the Church.
- b) Martha’s sin was the selfish attitude behind her service. Service is sinful when:
 - i) it is a distraction from God, rather than an expression of love for God;
 - ii) it is self-pitying, rather than selfless;
 - iii) it is resentful, rather than joyful;
 - iv) it complains against God, rather than grateful to God;
 - v) it is anxious and troubled, rather than trusting.
- c) With Martha, we need to repent of our sin-laden service, and be controlled by total love for God.

Doxology: Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. **Eph. 3:20-21**