

KINGDOM HUNGER OR CARNAL SATISFACTION - Lk 6:21,25

053120A

INTRODUCTION

1. Reorient our perspective on Jesus' sermon in Lk 6.
 - i. Jesus' kingdom is of the coming age but present now.
 - ii. 2 kinds of people living 2 kinds of life - *blessed & woe* - understood in terms of eternity.
 - a. Jesus' disciples are alive w/ the life of the next age: *blessed*.
 - b. Challenge: the *blessed* experience tribulation, even persecution.
 - c. Insight into issues related to Final Judgment.
2. Challenge: Jesus' use of socioeconomic vocabulary.
 - i. On the one hand - the heart is at issue [Mat 5:3,6] Last study: *poor* = humble dependence on God & *rich* = prideful self-sufficiency.
 - ii. On the other hand, we cannot fail to perceive the relevance of our present material-physical life in this age.
 - iii. Self-denial involves our life socio-economically - Jms 1:27.
3. Keep v35 in focus - *Sons of Most High* given battle strategy of love.

1st: The Contrast Between the Hungry and the Well-Fed - Lk 6:21a & v25a

1. This is a contrast evident in this present age: *now*.
2. *Blessed hunger = the poor* [v20] - physical need tests the heart.
 - i. Ps 107:4-9 Israel was tested w/ hunger & thirst - Deut 8:2-3.
 - ii. Jesus - 40 days of testing in wilderness - Lk 4:1-4. Is Jesus hungrier for food than for obedience to Father? Job 23:12
 - iii. Fasting has played a role in the cultivation of piety [Lk 5:35].
3. Hunger - desire for Lord - *hunger & thirst for righteousness*. Ps 63:1-5 - soul thirst [v1] & soul satisfaction [v5], gratified in worship.
 - i. Jesus is *the bread of life* [Jn 6:35].
 - ii. Kingdom hunger - longing for Jesus' return - Tit 2:13; Rv 22:17.
4. Lk 6:25a - woefully well-fed - indulgent - Phil 3:18-19.
 - i. Ps 17:14-15 w/ a satisfied belly, no hunger for resurrection life [v15].
 - ii. Lk 12:15-21 - the *rich & well-fed* fool w/o thot of Final Judgment
 - a. v19 he speaks to his *soul* - thinks material thgs will satisfy soul
 - b. *many yrs to come*: hope bounded w/i this age: no thot of eternity

c. *take your ease* - his perverted Sabbath rest

d. *eat, drink, & be merry* - be well-fed NOW: on brink on judgment [for tomorrow we die - Isa 22:12-14].

2nd: Contrast Between Eternal Satisfaction & Eternal Hunger - 6:21a & v25a

1. Contrast concerns the age to come: *now* contrasted w/ future tense verbs
2. Eternal satisfaction of hunger - kingdom as a banquet - Lk 12:35-37
 - i. Who sits at this table? Those hungering for kingdom - v31-32
 - ii. Rv 19:7, 9 *Blessed are those invited to marriage supper of Lamb*
3. Isa 49 = prophesies Jesus [v6,8] - v10 compassion - cited in Rv 7:16
4. The eternal hunger of the cursed [woe] - Isa 65:13-16
 - i. v10 *My people seek Me* = hunger for Lord Himself; but those judged *forsake the Lord* [v11] & desire *Fortune & Destiny* [pagan gods]: v12b I spoke & you did not hear & did evil
 - ii. v13 contrasts eat & drink//hunger & thirst - those not Lord's servants are named w/ a *curse* [v15] contrasted w/ the *blessed* [3x in v16].
5. Cursed by eating forbidden fruit & blessed to eat Tree of Life [Rv 22:14].

Applic #1: A Culture of Convenience & Comfort Cannot Eternally Satisfy

1. *As sons of God Most High* [Lk 6:35] - battle strategy of love - overcome.
2. 2 threats in Rev: seduction & persecution - tempted to be *well-fed now* but be eternally hungry. *Babylon entices us* - Rv 14:8-10
 - i. Eat & drink = metaphors for nourishment of life: wh/ life?
 - ii. Citizens of Babylon are *well-fed* w/ a pantheon of belly-filling deities.
3. Those whose thirst is satisfied by wine of Babylon will drink wine of God's wrath - forever: drinking & thirsting - forever.

Applic #2: Cultivate A Hunger For Christ

1. UNBELIEVER: Jn 6:27a - v35. Jesus is our true food & drink - come! Without cost - everyone who thirsts [Isa 55:1]. Jn 6:55-57
2. XN: Ps 34:8 *O taste... how blessed* - an eternity of gratified hunger. *Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied*. AMEN