

## THE KINDNESS OF GOD MOST HIGH - Lk 6:35

122720A

### INTRODUCTION

1. Lk 6:35 Review of *sons of Most High* - position of authority. Evidenced ironically - inversion of blessing & woes.
2. New section of Jesus' sermon - instructs how to exercise judgment.
  - i. v36 - judgment characterized by Godlike mercy
  - ii. v37 - according to Golden Rule of v31
  - iii. v38 - your exercise of judgment affects how you are judged.
3. v36-38 specifies how we sons are to imitate our Father [v35] *who is kind to ungrateful & evil men* - as His sons. We turn to men as Father turns to us: Exo 34:6-7a *The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate & gracious, slow to anger, & abounding in lovingkindness & truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression & sin* [Exo 34:6-7a].

### 1st: God's Disposition of Kindness

1. Inexplicably, Adam doubted the kindness of God. How much more are we susceptible to cynical skepticism & deception [1T 4:1ff].
2. God sustains creation - good & righteous [Ps 145:9, 17].
3. Common grace goodness: indiscriminate, universal, constant: kindness.

### 2nd: God's Demonstration of Kindness

1. God withholds wrath & delays Final Judgment - Rm 2:4.
2. Mat 5:44-45 - shown to *evil men* [Lk 6:35 & Mt 5:45] - how? *sun & rain*:
  - i. A 14:15-17 gospel is preached on platform of common grace.
  - ii. A 17:24-25 repent of idolatry & turn to Creator - v27 He is near in gospel [v18 *Paul was preaching Jesus & the resurrection*]

### 3rd: God's Declaration of Kindness

1. What is the kindest thing that could be done for rebellious men? Rm 2:4 - kindness of God leads to repentance called for by gospel - gospel kindness: forgiveness of sin - Ps 86:5 & v8-9 & v15-16 [Isa 45:21-22; Ps 25:8]
2. Epitome of God's common grace is the indiscriminate summons of gospel. God is ready to forgive repentant sinners. Isa 45:23-34 - Phil 2:10-11
3. Now, today is the day of salvation! The revelation of God in Exo 34:6-7a is now given to all men in Jesus.
  - i. Tit 2:11 appearance of the grace of God
  - ii. Tit 3:4 God's manifest kindness & philanthropy - incarnate love

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4. What about Exo 34:7b - threat of punishment? In kindness, we must explain the significance of the cross against background of hell where there is no kindness, no goodness, no good news of the gospel.

#### 4th: The Rejection of God's Kindness

1. Lk 6:35 *ungrateful & evil men.*
2. *ungrateful*: a play on *credit* (v32-34). Culture in wh/ you return favors, God shows "favor" but men do not return gratitude. Rm 1:20-21
3. *evil men* - morally bad people [term used of Satan]
4. Lk 6:35 Observe your Father: *He Himself is kind to ungrateful & evil men*

#### Applic #1: Adjust Your Expectations

1. *Ungrateful* - Lk 17:11-19. 10 healed, 1 thankful.
2. More than courtesy - thanks to God is worship: *one of them when he saw that he has been healed, turned back glorifying God w/ a loud voice & fell at Jesus' feet giving thanks to Him* [Lk 17:15-16].
3. Expect "nothing" from ungrateful men & your reward will be great.

#### Applic #2: Replicate Your Father's Kindness to Others

1. Study God's kindness to you in Jesus - *surely goodness & lovingkindness will pursue me all the days of my life* [Ps 23:6].
2. Think of how Father is treated - treat others as He treats us.