

Sermon Handout
“The Wisdom of God”
Matthew 11:20-30

- I.** The structure of the subsection
- A** The punishment of those who unwisely reject Jesus’ work vv. 20-24
 - B** The wisdom of God’s revelation through Jesus vv. 25-27
 - A¹** The rest given those who wisely accept Jesus’ work vv. 28-30
- II.** Judgment falls on those who hear and reject Jesus vv. 20-24
Follows the reference to a wicked generation in v. 16 (*cf.* 3:7; 12:39)
- Directed toward Capernaum, Chorazin and Bethsaida
Capernaum – residence of Jesus Mt 4:13 (*cf.* v. 17)
Chorazin and Bethsaida – in proximity to Capernaum
See Lk 10:10-16 (*cf.* Mt 10:12-15)
- Fate compared to Tyre & Sidon and to Sodom
Tyre & Sidon – see Is 23; Eze 28; Jer 47; 25:22, 27
Sodom – Gen 19:24-25
- III.** Rest is offered to those who hear and receive Jesus vv. 28-30
Closely linked to the closing phrase of v. 27.
- “Come to me” v. 28 *cf.* Mt 9:9; Jn 1:44
- “Yoke yourselves to me” v. 29a [**note use of the plural**]
- “Find rest” vv. 29b-30 (labor of v. 28 offset by Jesus’ yoke)
- Consider the paradoxical tension with Mt 10:38.
- IV.** Jesus prays to the Father regarding the wisdom of the gospel vv. 25-27
- Addresses God as “Father,” who determines what is good. vv. 25-26
- Mutual recognition resides eternally in the Godhead. v. 27a; 27b
- God’s mercy communicated to man exclusively through the Son.
vv. 25, 27c (*cf.* John 1:17-18)