

2/8/15

SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR  
HAS COME, WEEK 60

TITLE: LISTEN UP!

TEXT: LUKE 8:16-21

INTRODUCTION: (1) IN PROVERBS 18:13 IT SAYS:  
(QUOTE IT)

\* NOW IN THIS VERSE, THE TRUTH IS POOR LISTENERS BRING FOLLY AND SHAME TO THEMSELVES BY GIVING AN ANSWER TO SOMETHING WITHOUT FULLY LISTENING TO THE QUESTION.

\*\* AND SOMETIMES THAT HAPPENS, WE TALK BEFORE WE LISTEN, WE TALK AND INTERRUPT WITHOUT LETTING SOMEONE MAKE THEIR POINT AND SOMETIMES WE COME TO WRONG CONCLUSIONS BECAUSE WE ARE NOT **LISTENING. (SADLY, I'VE DONE THAT.)**

\*\*\* AND THE POINT I WANT TO MAKE IS LISTENING IS VERY IMPORTANT, AN IMPORTANT AND OFTEN NEGLECTED SKILL.

\*\*\*\* FOR GOOD LISTENERS ARE GOOD COUNSELORS, GOOD FRIENDS AND GOOD TEACHERS.

(2) CONVERSELY, POOR LISTENER ARE BAD COUNSELORS, SOMETIMES BAD FRIENDS, AND CERTAINLY ARE NOT GOOD IN GIVING GOOD ANSWERS AND ARE NOT GOOD STUDENTS.

\* IN FACT, POOR LISTENERS SOMETIMES AS THEIR ROOT PROBLEM ONLY WANT TO HEAR THEMSELVES TALK, AND EVEN APPEAR TO BE LISTENING WHEN THEY ARE OFTEN ONLY PLANNING ON WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO SAY **NEXT. (REGRETFULLY, I'VE DONE THAT TOO.)**

\*\* HOWEVER, AS IMPORTANT LISTENING SKILLS ARE IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS AND LEARNING, LISTENING TO OUR LORD HAS ETERNAL SIGNIFICANCE.

\*\*\* AND IT IS ACTUALLY A REPEATED THEME IN SCRIPTURE TO LISTEN UP, AND THOSE WHO DO NOT LISTEN AND OBEY ARE REBELLIOUS.

\*\*\*\* **FOR EXAMPLE THE PHRASE "HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD" IS USED 29 TIMES IN MY BIBLE.**

(3) IN PSALM 81:11-13 THE LORD LAMENTS:

V. 11 - **"BUT MY PEOPLE DID NOT LISTEN TO MY VOICE, AND ISRAEL DID NOT OBEY ME.**

V. 12 - **"SO I GAVE THEM OVER TO THE STUBBORNNESS OF THEIR HEART, TO WALK IN THEIR OWN DEVICES.**

V. 13 - **"OH THAT MY PEOPLE WOULD LISTEN TO ME, THAT ISRAEL WOULD WALK IN MY WAYS!"**

\* IN ISAIAH 30:9 THE LORD GOD SAYS THIS -

**"FOR THIS IS A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE, FALSE SONS, SONS WHO REFUSE TO LISTEN TO THE INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD."**

\*\* AND THEN IN JEREMIAH 13:10 GOD INDICTS ISRAEL BY SAYING - "THIS WICKED PEOPLE, WHO REFUSE TO LISTEN TO MY WORDS, WHO WALK IN THE STUBBORNNESS OF THEIR HEARTS AND HAVE GONE AFTER OTHER GODS TO SERVE THEM AND TO BOW DOWN TO THEM, LET THEM BE JUST LIKE THIS WAISTBAND WHICH IS TOTALLY WORTHLESS."

\*\*\* NOW MOVING TO THE NEW TESTAMENT JESUS TAKES LISTENING AND CONNECTS IT TO ACTION, TO OBEDIENCE. QUOTE MATTHEW 7:24.

\*\*\*\* **AND HEARING JESUS' VOICE IDENTIFIES A TRUE BELIEVER, A SHEEP** IN JOHN 10:27 WHERE JESUS SAID: (QUOTE IT)

\*\*\*\* AND BEYOND THOSE TEXTS AS WE COME TO OUR TEXT TODAY IN LUKE 8, SEE THIS TRUTH WITH ME OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HEARING AND LISTENING.

(4) LUKE 8:8B SAYS - **"HE WHO HAS EARS TO HEAR LET HIM HEAR."**

\* LUKE 8:10B SAYS - **"SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND."**

\*\* LUKE 8:12 SAYS - "THOSE BESIDE THE ROAD ARE THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD; THEN THE DEVIL COMES AND TAKES AWAY THE WORD FROM THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE AND BE SAVED."

\*\*\* LUKE 8:13 SAYS - "THOSE ON THE ROCKY SOIL ARE THOSE WHO, WHEN THEY HEAR, RECEIVE THE WORD WITH JOY; AND THESE HAVE NO FIRM ROOT; THEY BELIEVE FOR A WHILE, AND IN TIME OF TEMPTATION FALL AWAY."

\*\*\*\* LUKE 8:14 SAYS - "THE SEED WHICH FELL AMONG THE THORNS, THESE ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE HEARD, AND AS THEY GO ON THEIR WAY THEY ARE CHOKED WITH WORRIES AND RICHES AND PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE, AND BRING NO FRUIT TO MATURITY."

(5) LUKE 8:15 SAYS - "BUT THE SEED IN THE GOOD SOIL, THESE ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE HEARD THE WORD IN AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART, AND HOLD IT FAST, AND BEAR FRUIT WITH PERSEVERANCE."

\* LUKE 8:18 SAYS - "SO TAKE CARE HOW YOU LISTEN; FOR WHOEVER HAS, TO HIM MORE SHALL BE GIVEN; AND WHOEVER DOES NOT HAVE, EVEN WHAT HE THINKS HE HAS SHALL BE **TAKEN AWAY FROM HIM.**"

\*\* AND THEN LUKE 8:21 SAYS - BUT HE ANSWERED AND SAID TO THEM, "**MY MOTHER** AND MY BROTHERS ARE THESE WHO HEAR THE **WORD OF GOD AND DO IT.**"

\*\*\* NOW CLEARLY IN LUKE 8, THE THEME OF LISTENING UP, TO HEAR AND TO HEED, TO HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD IS REPETITIOUS.

\*\*\* AND RATHER THAN THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS BEING DISCONNECTED FROM THE PARABLE OF THE LAMP IN LUKE 8:16-18 AND THE ILLUSTRATION OF CHRIST'S **TRUE** BRETHREN, THEY ARE CONNECTED.

\*\*\*\* THEY EMPHASIZE HOW LISTENERS ARE TO HEAR THE SEED OF THE WORD OF GOD.

(6) GOOD SOIL WHICH REPRESENTS THE RESPONSE OF A CONVERTED HEART HEARS THE WORD OF GOD AND FRUIT FOLLOWS.

\* AND IN VERSE 18 IN THE PARABLE OF THE LAMP, TRUE DISCIPLES, THOSE WHO ARE OF THE GOOD SOIL TAKE CARE OF HOW THEY LISTEN **AND JESUS' REAL FAMILY ARE THOSE WHO** HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND DO IT, ION LUKE 8:21.

\*\* SO JESUS CHALLENGES THOSE WHO IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS DISCIPLES, AS GOOD SOIL, WHOM WERE GATHERED AROUND HIM AT THIS TIME, TO TAKE CARE HOW THEY LISTEN AND THEY WILL SHOW FRUITS OF OBEDIENCE IF THEY ARE OF THE GOOD SOIL.

\*\*\* AND TO BE TRANSPARENT, I NEVER SAW THIS CONNECTION UNTIL THIS WEEK IN MY STUDY.

\*\*\*\* THUS IN LIGHT OF **THAT THEME, I'VE TITLED** OUR SERMON FOR TODAY, LISTEN UP! EXCLAMATION POINT.

**(7) AND UNDER THAT THEME WE'LL LOOK AT** JUST TWO POINTS. NO. 1 THE FRUIT OF GOOD SOIL, VV. 16-18; AND NO. 2 THE FAMILY OF JESUS WHICH IS IDENTIFIED AS THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND DO IT, VV. 19-21.



\* AND WITH THAT SHORT OUTLINE AS OUR ROAD MAP TODAY, LOOK AT V. 16 PLEASE WHERE **WE'LL START TO LOOK AT OUR FIRST POINT, THE FRUIT.**

I. THE FRUIT, (READ V. 16)

A. NOW KEEPING IN MIND THAT VERSES 15&16 ARE CONNECTED, THAT THERE REALLY IS NO BREAK IN THIS NARRATIVE, VV. 16-18 MUST BE INTERPRETED IN LIGHT OF WHAT PRECEDES, WHAT HAS COME BEFORE IT.

\* AND IN THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS, THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND THERE IS ONLY ONE SOIL THAT HEARS THE WORD AND PRODUCES FRUIT AND THAT IS THE GOOD SOIL.

\*\* NOW THOSE WHO HAVE LISTENED AND HEARD THE WORD IN AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART, ARE THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST UP TO THIS TIME, INCLUDING THE 12 THAT ARE APART OF THE LARGE CROWD THAT HAVE COME TOGETHER TO HEAR JESUS ACCORDING TO LUKE 8:4.

\*\*\* NOW WHAT WILL BE A PART OF THE FRUIT OF THEIR LIVES, WHAT WILL BE A NORMAL NATURAL RESPONSE OF THE GOOD SOIL PEOPLE?

\*\*\*\* IT IS TO LET THEIR LIGHTS SHINE.

1. THE TRUTH THAT OUR LORD COMMUNICATED IN THIS PARABLE OR ILLUSTRATION IS GENUINE DISCIPLES DO NOT HIDE THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL.

\* GOOD SOIL, TRUE CHRISTIANS RESPOND TO **THE REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD AND THEN** PROCLAIM IT TO OTHERS.

\*\* TRUE CONVERSION RESULTS IN A DESIRE FOR TELLING THE GOSPEL STORY. GENUINE DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE TRUTH EVANGELISTICALLY; THAT IS, THEY NOT ONLY TAKE IT IN AS THE LORD HAS ENABLED THEM TO AS GOOD SOIL BY OPENING THEIR HEARTS, SO THEY TAKE IT IN, BUT THEY ALSO GIVE IT OUT.

\*\*\* FOR THE PARABLE IS SELF-EVIDENT, IT CONSISTS OF A COMMON HAPPENING IN EVERYDAY LIFE WHETHER IT BE AN OIL LAMP IN THAT DAY OR AN ELECTRIC LAMP IN OUR DAY.

\*\*\*\* THE PURPOSE OF A LAMP IS TO GIVE WHAT? LIGHT!

2. LAMPS ARE PLACED ON LAMPSTANDS SO THAT YOU CAN SEE.

\* I MEAN NO ONE TURNS ON A LIGHT OR TURNS ON AN OIL LAMP THEN COVERS IT, OR PUTS IN UNDER A BED, FOR THIS WOULD HIDE THE LIGHT, IT WOULD DEFEAT THE PURPOSE IN LIGHTING THE LAMP, FOR YOU LIGHT IT SO YOU CAN SEE.

\*\* SO WHAT DO GOOD SOIL PEOPLE DO? THEY LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE, SO THAT PEOPLE CAN SEE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

\*\*\* THE FRUIT OF GENUINE SALVATION IS THE PEOPLE OF GOD ARE LIGHTS IN A DARK WORLD BY LIFE AND LIP, WE SHINE BY DEED AND WORDS, OUR LIVES AND LIVING THEM DIFFERENTLY IN A HOLY WAY ARE A PLATFORM AND AN OPEN DOOR TO SPEAK THE TRUTH AND SOW THE SEED OF THE GOSPEL, QUOTE MATTHEW 5:14-16 (JESUS SPEAKING TO THE DISCIPLES)

\*\*\*\* I PETER 2:9 SAYS - "BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR **GOD'S** OWN POSSESSION, SO THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO HAS CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT."

3. ALSO QUOTE PHILIPPIANS 2:14&15&16A, EPHESIANS 5:8 AND COLOSSIANS 4:5&6.

\* NOW, BELOVED WHEN THE SEED FALLS ON GOOD SOIL, FRUIT FOLLOWS, AND FRUIT OF A TRUE BELIEVER IS A DESIRE TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY AND COMMUNICATE THE GOSPEL.

\*\* NOW MOST OF US ALLOW SIN AT TIMES TO GET IN THE WAY OF BEING THE LIGHTS WE NEED TO, LIKE THE FEAR OF MAN AND PRIDE AND TAKING THE TIME, BUT WE HAVE THE DESIRE FOR OTHERS TO HEAR, TO SOW THE SEED.

\*\*\* WE WANT PEOPLE TO SEE THE LIGHT WHICH LEADS US TO V. 17. LOOK AT V. 17 PLEASE, THEY ARE CONNECTED.

B. READ V. 17. NOW VERSE 17 IS VERY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND AND SCHOLARS OFFER DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS. BUT THE KEY IN ATTEMPTING TO UNDERSTAND VERSE 17 IS CONTEXT, FLOW, SCRIPTURE INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE.

\* AND CONTEXTUALLY, V. 17 IS COMMENTARY ON V. 16. FOR V. 17 IS ASSOCIATED WITH V. 16 BY SIMILAR CONTRASTS.

\*\* CONTRASTS OF LIGHT/DARKNESS, DISCLOSED/HIDDEN, BROUGHT OUT IN THE OPEN/CONCEALED.

\*\*\* FOR AS THE GOOD SOIL PEOPLE WITNESS, LET THEIR LIGHT **SHINE, THE SECRETS OF GOD'S** KINGDOM WHICH ARE NATURALLY BY SIN HIDDEN TO UNSAVED PEOPLE, WILL BECOME KNOWN AND UNDERSTOOD AS SEED IS SOWN IN THE GOOD SOIL.

\*\*\*\* FOR EARLIER IN LUKE 8:10, JESUS SAID: **"TO** YOU IT HAS BEEN GRANTED TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, BUT TO THE REST IT IS IN PARABLES, SO THAT SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND."

1. NOW TO WHOM HAS BEEN GRANTED TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD? THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE HEARTS THAT ARE IN THE CATEGORY OF THE GOOD SOIL, THOSE CHOSEN BY THE LORD TO SAVE AND THEIR EYES ARE OPEN TO SEE THE LIGHT.

\* THEY WERE BLIND BY DEPRAVITY AND SIN, BUT NOW THROUGH AMAZING SOVEREIGN GRACE THEY SEE.

\*\* THE MYSTERIES, THE SECRETS, HIDDEN TO THE LOST, ARE BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY GOD'S GRACE AND THE GOOD SOIL BRINGS FORTH TRUTH WITH PERSEVERANCE, AND IT GROWS, AND THOSE WHOM HAVE BEEN ENLIGHTENED **BY GOD'S GRACE SEE AND DO NOT HIDE THEIR** LIGHT, THEY DO NOT PUT IT UNDER A BUSHEL OR A BED, BUT LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE, THEY DO NOT HIDE IT AS THE NORM.

\*\*\* AND OTHERS INTERPRET THIS AS A REFERENCE TO THE JUDGMENT DAY, OTHERS AS A REFERENCE TO HYPOCRISY AND DEEDS BEING REVEALED, BUT IT APPEARS TO ME TO TALK ABOUT GOOD SOIL PEOPLE THAT LET THEIR LIGHTS SHINE AS THE NORM AND DO NOT HIDE THE LIGHT AND ARE NOT SECRET AGENTS FOR **THE LORD, AND THAT 'S WHAT IT APPEARS TO** SAY IN CONTEXT.

\*\*\*\* **AND I'M NOT GOING TO THE WALL FOR THIS** INTERPRETATION, BUT CONTEXT AND FLOW CONSIDERED, APPEARS TO SAY. WITH THAT SAID LOOK AT V. 18 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 18. NOW HERE IN V. 18, WE RETURN TO A COMMON THEME IN LUKE 8 THAT CONNECTS THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS, THE PARABLE OF THE LAMP AND BECOMING A PART **OF JESUS' FAMILY.**

\* AND THAT THEME THAT I ATTEMPTED TO ESTABLISH IN OUR INTRODUCTION THIS **MORNING IS "TAKE CARE HOW YOU LISTEN" OR** LISTEN UP, THE BEGINNING OF V. 18.

\*\* AND THE CONNECTION APPEARS TO BE, POSITIVELY, WHOEVER IS OF THE GOOD SOIL, A **TRUE DISCIPLE AND HAS ETERNAL LIFE, "TO HIM MORE SHALL BE GIVEN."**

\*\*\* IT IS TO SAY, THE GOOD SOIL IS MARKED BY VARYING LEVELS OF PRODUCTIVITY, SOME THIRTYFOLD, SOME SIXTYFOLD AND SOME HUNDREDFOLD AS WE SAW LAST WEEK.



\*\*\*\* FRUIT ALWAYS FOLLOWS FAITH. NO FRUIT, NO FAITH. AND WHOEVER LISTENS, THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD, THE SEED, THE GOOD SOIL, VARYING AMOUNTS OF FRUIT FOLLOW.

\*\*\*\* AND CAREFUL HEARING RESULTS IN BEING GIVEN MORE, MORE UNDERSTANDING OF THE SEED, MORE FRUIT, BECAUSE IMPLIED IN CAREFUL LISTENING IS OBEDIENCE, ABIDING IN CHRIST, HEARING IS A VERB HERE. QUOTE JOHN 15:5&8.

1. AND IT APPEARS TO ME, REAL HEARING, ACTIVELY HEARING, RESULTS IN ACTIVE HEEDING, WHICH PRODUCES MORE FRUIT.

\* BUT NOTICE IN CONTRAST IN THE LAST PART OF V. 18, CARELESS LISTENING, WHICH IS NOT TAKING HEED TO THE WORD, THE SEED REJECTED SHOWS FALSE DISCIPLES AND **CHRIST'S** WARNING TO FALSE DISCIPLES, ROCKY AND WEEDY SOIL IN THIS CONTEXT RESULTS IN **CHRIST'S WARNING TO FALSE DISCIPLES, THAT "WHOEVER DOES NOT HAVE, EVEN WHAT HE THINKS HE HAS SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM HIM."**

\*\* THE POINT BEING, A FALSE DISCIPLE SOMETIMES THINKS **HE'S A BELIEVER, BUT IN** THE END, THE REALITY WILL BE THE FALSE DISCIPLE LOSES EVERYTHING.

\*\*\* ALL THEIR SELF-RIGHTEOUS WORKS THAT THEY THOUGHT BROUGHT THEM SALVATION WILL TURN OUT TO BE NOTHING BUT RUBBISH, VAIN THINGS THAT CANNOT SAVE.

\*\*\*\* ONE DAY THEY WILL LOSE IT ALL. THEY WERE ROCKY OR WEEDY SOIL, THERE WAS NO FAITH WITH WHICH THEY LISTENED TO THE SEED, NO SALVATION, AND OF COURSE NO LASTING PERSEVERING FRUIT, WHICH FOLLOWS SEED SOWN IN GOOD SOIL.

2. SO THE THEMES ARE FRUIT AND OBEDIENCE AND HEAR AND HEED. AND THIS CONTINUES IN **WHAT FOLLOWS, JESUS' FAMILY COMING TO HIM**, OUR SECOND POINT TODAY, THE FAMILY. LOOK AT V. 19 PLEASE.

II. THE FAMILY, (READ V. 19)

**A. NOW IT'S INTERESTING TO ME, THAT BOTH MATTHEW AND MARK ARE INSPIRED TO PLACE THIS EVENT ABOUT JESUS' MOTHER AND BROTHER COMING TO HIM EARLIER IN HIS MINISTRY, BEFORE THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS.**

\* HOWEVER LUKE IS INSPIRED TO PLACE IT HERE BECAUSE IT FITS THE THEME OF THIS SECTION OF THE GOSPEL, THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPERLY HEARING THE WORD.

\*\* LUKE SOMETIMES IS MORE THEMATIC RATHER THAN CHRONOLOGICAL TO GET ACROSS THE TRUTH THAT JESUS THE SON OF MAN THE SAVIOR HAS COME.

**\*\*\* NOW JESUS' MOTHER, MARY AND HIS BROTHERS, TECHNICALLY HALF BROTHERS, BORN AFTER HIS VIRGIN BIRTH IN JOSEPH AND MARY COMING TOGETHER AFTER THEIR FIRSTBORN SON JESUS.**

**\*\*\*\* FOR MATTHEW 1:25 SAYS: "BUT KEPT HER A VIRGIN UNTIL SHE GAVE BIRTH TO A SON; AND HE CALLED HIS NAME JESUS."**

1. NOW THESE BROTHERS AS THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TEACHES, ARE NOT THE CHILDREN OF JOSEPH FROM A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE BEFORE MARY, BUT THE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND MARY.

\* AND SADLY, THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ANOTHER ONE OF THEIR FALSE DOCTRINES IN **WORSHIP OF MARY TEACH MARY'S PERPETUAL VIRGINITY**, THAT SHE REMAINED A VIRGIN AND NEVER HAD ANY OTHER CHILDREN.

\*\* YET THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS FOUR OF **JESUS' BROTHERS ARE NAMED IN MATTHEW 13:55** AND IN MATTHEW 13:56, JESUS HAD SISTERS, BUT THEY ARE NOT NAMED.

\*\*\* **AND THEN JESUS' BROTHERS ARE** MENTIONED IN JOHN 2:12, AND THEN IN ACTS 1:14 MARY IS MENTIONED ALONG WITH HER **SONS, JESUS' BROTHERS WHOM AT THIS TIME** ARE BELIEVERS, THEY HAD TURNED TO THEIR HALF BROTHER FOR SALVATION FOR IN JOHN 7:5 THEY DID NOT YET BELIEVE IN HIM, THEY DID AFTER HIS RESURRECTION.

2. AND ONE MORE REFERENCE, THE BROTHERS OF JESUS ARE ALSO NAMED IN MARK 6:3 AND THEIR NAMES ARE JAMES, JOSES, JUDAS AND SIMON, COMMON JEWISH NAMES.

\* NOW WITH ALL OF THAT IN MIND, HAVING ARRIVED AT THE PLACE WHERE JESUS WAS TEACHING, MARY AND HIS BROTHERS WERE UNABLE TO GET CLOSE TO HIM BECAUSE OF THE CROWD.

\*\* THERE ARE THAT MANY PEOPLE FOLLOWING JESUS AROUND AT THIS TIME, HIS FAMILY COULD NOT GET NEAR HIM. NOW THEY MAKE A REQUEST TO SEE JESUS ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 12:46, THE PARALLEL TEXT. LOOK AT V. 20 PLEASE.

B. READ V. 20. NOW IT GETS BACK TO JESUS THAT HIS FAMILY WANTS TO SEE HIM.

\* AND ACCORDING TO MARK 3:20&21, IT **APPEARS THAT JESUS' FAMILY WERE** CONCERNED ABOUT THE MASSIVE CROWDS THAT FOLLOWED JESUS AND WERE FEARFUL OF THE RISING HATRED AND HOSTILITY OF THE JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS.

\*\* AND IT APPEARS FROM THAT TEXT THAT MARY AND HIS BROTHERS HAD COME TO RESCUE HIM. AND THAT JOSEPH DID NOT ACCOMPANY THEM SUGGEST THAT HE WAS DEAD BY THIS TIME.

\*\*\* SO IT MAY HAVE BEEN THAT MARY IN HER MOTHERLY CONCERN CAME AGAIN TO WARN JESUS BRINGING HIS BROTHERS WITH HER TO WARN HIM.

\*\*\*\* WELL, FOR WHATEVER REASON THEY CAME **TO JESUS, JESUS' RESPONSE TO THEIR REQUEST** IS GIVEN IN V. 21. LOOK AT V. 21 PLEASE.

C. READ V. 21. **NOW CHRIST'S RESPONSE TO** THE PEOPLE THAT ARE LETTING HIM KNOW THAT HIS FAMILY WANTS TO SEE HIM, APPEARS KIND OF COLD AND INDIFFERENT.

\* **HOWEVER, CHRIST'S POINT THAT HE WILL** MAKE IS THAT RELATIONSHIPS TO HIM ARE NOT DEFINED IN HUMAN TERMS, BY PHYSICAL OR FAMILY TIES.

\*\* AS JOHN MACARTHUR SAID AT THIS POINT IN HIS COMMENTARY ON LUKE 6-10 AND I QUOTE: **"WHILE JESUS WAS NOT INDIFFERENT TO HIS FAMILY, NEITHER WAS HE SUBSERVIENT TO THEM. THOSE WHO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM ARE THE ONES WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND DO IT."** (END QUOTE)

\*\*\* AND BELOVED, JESUS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANT TO BELONG TO THE MOST IMPORTANT FAMILY OF ALL, THE FAMILY OF GOD, THE FAMILY OF FAMILIES.

\*\*\*\* JESUS TOOK THE REQUEST THAT HIS FAMILY MADE AND USED IT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANT TO BE A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD.

1. THUS HIS COMMENT WAS NOT SO MUCH DIRECTED AT HIS OWN FAMILY AS IT WAS TO THE PEOPLE WHO WERE LISTENING TO HIM SPEAK.



\* I MEAN HIS REMARK WAS NOT A PUT DOWN OF THE FAMILY, A REPUDIATION OF THE FAMILY, AS MUCH AS IT IS AN ENDORSEMENT AND EXHORTATION FOR PEOPLE TO BE RECEPTIVE TO THE WORD OF GOD, THE SEED.

\*\* FOR WHO MAKES UP THE GOOD SOIL? THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND DO IT, WHO OBEY IT.

\*\*\* AND THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD ARE THE GOOD SOIL, AND FRUIT ALWAYS FOLLOWS OBEDIENCE AND WHO MAKES UP **JESUS' FAMILY**? THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD AND THEN AS A FRUIT OF THAT OBEY THE WORD.

\*\*\*\* SO WHAT IS THE THEME OF OUR TEXT TODAY AND THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS? LISTEN UP!

2. AND TRUE HEARERS OF THE WORD, THE SEED OF THE WORD, THAT REPRESENT THE GOOD SOIL, ARE THOSE WHO HEAR AND HEED THE WORD OF GOD. SO TAKE CARE OF HOW YOU LISTEN.

IN WRAP UP TODAY, TWO QUICK APPLICATIONS:

(1) TO THOSE OF YOU HERE WITHOUT THE SAVIOR, LISTEN UP!

\* THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES YOUR SIN HAS SEPARATED YOU FROM YOUR CREATOR, BUT UNLESS YOU TURN TO JESUS AS YOUR RISEN SAVIOR AND RECEIVE HIM, YOU WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN OF YOUR SINS, YOU WILL BE DAMNED.

\*\* NOT EVERYONE IS A CHILD OF GOD, NOT EVERYONE IS A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD. IN FACT MOST ARE NOT. YOUR NEED TODAY IS HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND TURN TO JESUS CHRIST WHO DIED, WAS BURIED AND ROSE AGAIN, AND BOW THE KNEE TO HIM, AND IN FAITH ALONE IN HIM TURN FROM YOUR SIN, SELF, AND YOUR WAY TO FOLLOW HIM.

**\*\*\* WHO IS A PART OF JESUS' FAMILY? THOSE**  
WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND DO IT.  
WHAT FRUIT IN YOUR LIFE SHOWS THAT YOU  
HAVE GENUINE SAVING FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST?  
AGAIN, NO FRUIT, NO SAVING FAITH. IF WE ARE  
CHILDREN OF GOD, THEN WE MUST BEAR THE  
FAMILY RESEMBLANCE.

\*\*\*\* IF THE SPIRIT OF GOD HAS OPENED YOUR  
EYES AND EARS TO YOUR NEED OF JESUS  
CHRIST, REPENT AND RECEIVE HIM TODAY.

(2) NO. 2 AND LAST OF ALL IN APPLICATION.  
TO TRUE BELIEVERS, SEED THAT WAS SOWN IN  
GOOD SOIL.

**\* AND THAT IS WE MUST HEAR AND HEED GOD'S**  
WORD.

\*\* WHEN WE READ IT PRIVATELY AND HEAR IT  
PUBLICLY, WE MUST WORK ON TUNING IN,  
READING AND LISTENING DILIGENTLY. PRAYING  
WHAT THE PSALMIST PRAYED, IN PSALM 119:18  
(QUOTE IT).

\*\* AND WE NEED TO LISTEN TO LEARN, TO GROW, TO BE OBEDIENT AND BE DOERS OF THE WORD.

\*\*\* AND THERE NEEDS TO BE A RESPECT FOR THE WORD THAT MAKES US GIVE IT OUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.

\*\*\*\* THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO OPEN IT PRIVATELY OR TO HEAR IT PUBLICLY.

3. IN FACT THERE NEEDS TO BE A REVERENCE FOR IT.

\* FOR YOU ARE READING AND HEARING THE VERY WORD OF GOD, SO READ, STUDY AND HEAR IT LIKE YOU WERE LISTENING TO THE VERY VOICE OF GOD. SO THINK, BE ENGAGED AND OBEY ITS TRUTHS.

\*\* FOR BEYOND NOT LISTENING WITH ATTENTIVE OPEN HEARTS, WHEN WE HEAR WE MUST HEED AND OBEY, TO BE DOERS OF THE WORD.

\*\*\* QUOTE JAMES 1:22-25.

4. BROTHERS AND SISTERS, MAY WE LISTEN UP! AND MAY WE BE DOERS OF THE WORD.

**(LET'S PRAY)**