

The Gospel According to Luke

WHOSE SON IS THE CHRIST?

PART 11

Are we looking to Him?

READ: LUKE 20:27-47

INTRODUCTION

In this passage, Jesus is confronted by two groups: the Sadducees, who deny the resurrection, and the scribes, who seek to test Him. The Sadducees attempt to trap Jesus with a question about marriage in the afterlife, but He responds by revealing the true nature of resurrection life—one that is far greater than earthly relationships. He then turns the conversation to the identity of the Messiah, challenging their limited understanding of who He truly is.

Jesus exposes the hypocrisy of the religious leaders, warning against their pride and desire for status. He calls His followers to see beyond mere religion and recognize the authority of Christ. This passage invites us to examine our own hearts—do we seek status and recognition, or are we humbly submitted to the Lordship of Christ? Jesus' answer to the Sadducees is powerful because it not only refutes their disbelief in the resurrection but also provides a deeper revelation of the nature of eternal life. He explains that in the resurrection, people will no longer marry because they will be like angels—fully devoted to God. This underscores the truth that eternal life is not simply an extension of earthly existence but a transformation into something far greater. Jesus then shifts the conversation to the nature of the Messiah, pointing out that David himself calls the Messiah "Lord." This was a direct challenge to the limited view the religious leaders had of the Christ, as they expected a merely human political ruler rather than the divine Son of God.

Following this, Jesus warns the people about the scribes, who love public recognition and the best seats in the synagogue while exploiting the vulnerable. Their external show of piety hides their corrupt hearts, and Jesus makes it clear that they will face severe judgment. This passage warns us against pride, hypocrisy, and a superficial faith that seeks personal gain rather than true devotion to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why did the Sadducees ask Jesus about marriage in the resurrection? What does their question reveal about their beliefs?
2. How does Jesus' response about the resurrection challenge our understanding of eternal life? What does it mean to be like the angels?
3. Jesus points out that David calls the Messiah "Lord." Why is this significant? How does this reveal Jesus' true identity? In what ways do people today seek status and recognition in religious settings? How can we guard our hearts against pride?
4. Jesus condemns the scribes for their hypocrisy and self-serving actions. How can we ensure that our faith is genuine and not just for show?
5. What does this passage teach us about humility and true devotion to Christ? How can we live with an eternal perspective, focusing more on God's kingdom than on earthly concerns?

WRAP UP

Jesus' teaching in this passage reminds us of the eternal perspective we must have. The resurrection is real, and our understanding of Christ must go beyond human expectations. Are we living with the hope of eternity, or are we caught up in the temporary things of this world? Let's seek to live with humility, recognizing the true authority of Christ and setting our hearts on what is eternal. Additionally, Jesus' warning against hypocrisy calls us to examine our own hearts—do we serve God out of love and devotion, or do we seek recognition and approval from others? True faith is marked by humility, sincerity, and a focus on the things that matter in eternity.