



The Gospel According to Luke
Wk. 99 “The Son’s Warning of False Teachers”
By Pastor Jody May

Luke 20:41-47 ESV

Whose Son Is the Christ?

⁴¹ But he said to them, “How can they say that the Christ is David's son? ⁴² For David himself says in the Book of Psalms,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
⁴³ until I make your enemies your footstool.””

⁴⁴ David thus calls him Lord, so how is he his son?”

Beware of the Scribes

⁴⁵ And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, ⁴⁶ “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁷ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

Introduction:

This is the last time Jesus will speak to His enemies. He has addressed all those that have opposed Him. But this is His week and He is going to get the last Word. Luke 20:4- **“For they no longer dared to ask Him any question.”** So here, His last statement is a quote from the OT and then He follows it with a question.

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“*So how is he, the Lord, David’s son?* Meaning how is the Messiah, also sovereign over David, his *descendent*, how can he be God!?”

Let’s first look at where Jesus is pulling this from? It comes from **Psalm 110** which is the most quoted OT passage in the NT.

Psalm 110:1-7 ESV

The **Lord** says to my **Lord**:
“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

We have in vs. 1 the name of God combined with the chief title of God. “*Yehovah says to Adonay*”. David is using God’s **Proper Name** for God and God’s **Ruling Title** but he(David) is having them talking to each other marking them as two separate people.

Earlier in the Psalms (8:1) David writes the same thing just to show you it is in purpose and it is not a mistake:
“Oh Lord, O Lord how majestic is your name in all the earth.”

He had combined the name of God “Yahweh” with the chief title “Adonai”. Oh Yawweh. Oh Adonay – *Oh, sovereign one, Oh, supreme Ruler*. This title of Adonay, in the OT, has always been preserved for God, and that’s why this conversation can be confusing.

What do we see when David is watching God “Yahweh” speak to another person “Adonay” using a term only reserved for God? David sees the Messiah as God personified, a separate person, outside his lineage, for David well knows he himself is not divine.

That means there is a weight here to this passage that is meant to show the Scribes, Sadducees, and Pharisees why they can’t speak anymore, they were not just outsmarted and outplayed by a man, even a descendant of David, **but by God Himself**. Now, just to celebrate who Jesus is then let’s read Psalm 110 fully



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together, because **you might need a little of this comfort this week** when it comes to **Super Tuesday**.

Psalm 110:1-7 ESV

The Lord (Jehovah) says to my Lord (Adonay):

"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool."

²The Lord (Jehovah) sends forth from Zion
your mighty scepter.

Rule in the midst of your enemies!

The Father made the plan, He set it in motion, with the Advent of Jesus, He caused a commotion!

The Messiah to Rule, His respect He will gain, it is Jesus who will conquer, It is Jesus who will reign!

³Your people will offer themselves freely

on the day of your power,
in holy garments;

from the womb of the morning, (the east)

the dew of your youth will be yours.

The work of your youth, Jesus just 33 years old, your law abiding, your teaching, your Glory unfolds!

Your covenant fulfilling life, given for a people to display, that now wear Holy garments to show the world day by day.

⁴The Lord has sworn

and will not change his mind,

"You are a priest forever

after the order of Melchizedek."

Now you also see the Messiah is not just a king, but the Father made Him a **High Priest**, to give eternal offering.

He is always at work, He is always on task, so that we can have rest, even when our government is lack.

⁵The Lord (Adonay) is at your right hand;

he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

⁶He will execute judgment among the nations,

filling them with corpses;

he will shatter chiefs

over the wide earth.



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And for those that do not accept His terms for surrender, His life for theirs, the rejection is damnable forever!

⁷ He will drink from the brook by the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

When it’s time for a drink and the work is all done, He will lift His head in victory, and we will all shout “Behold the Son!”

Paul explains this Himself in the NT in one of my favorite NT passages of all times, I think I quote some part of Philippians 2 at least once a month. Because in it you see the perfect humility of Jesus as He submits to His Father’s will which has always been the example for us:

Philippians 2:5b-11 ESV

...Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

It seems like Paul helps explain Psalm 110 as He reflects on the work of Jesus, as a converted Jew:

Jesus, before His birth, as the second person in the trinity, chose not to grasp His right to be equal with God, but humbled Himself and allowed Himself to be sent into time as a person, as Jesus of Nazareth.

As a person He listened to His Father’s wishes, realizing it meant His death, still obeyed, even though it was not a glorious death but suffered the death of a traitor, though He was innocent.

And because of that Jehovah God exalted the Christ/Messiah by bestowing on him, v.9, a name above all names, **not Jesus but Adonay**, so at the name of Jesus



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all must bow because Jehovah reveals through the resurrection that He really was God/Adonay!

So, **at that very moment in the Temple Jesus gets the last Word**, The Father was exalting Jesus, so that at the cross 2 days later, what looked like to be His earthly defeat, would actually be his **killing blow predicted from Genesis 3:15**. The Father’s plan before time comes to fruition, He had laid out Jesus’ future where He would be set up and delivered into this position so HE would win the victory. Through His pain filled life, The Father, PUT all of Jesus’ enemies under his feet.

Now, what does that mean for us? In short while we may **not like who our future president will be**, we should by no means think that it was outside God’s will! The Father has already turned all that over to Jesus, and **if you allow an Election** to drive you to emotions of rejection, resentment, and revile then you have not bowed a knee to Jesus first.

I am not saying you accept it quietly politically, but what I am saying, it should not affect how you live to bring glory to Jesus in your everyday life. **God has been changing the world through corrupt governments and politicians, for over 2,000 years and He is going to keep doing it until His return!**

False Teachers

As Adonay, Jesus affirms His deity, in His last talk is about those that have been opposing Him, His true enemy that has been facing Him for a long time. He lets you in on a secret because He knows how they work:

⁴⁵ And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, ⁴⁶ “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁷ who devour widows’ houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

Beware of **FALSE TEACHERS**. Beware because they don’t look like a Democratic or Republican Politician, they don’t have gang tattoos, they don’t frequent places



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that you would never go, NO, they **actually look like servants of God?! Don’t get caught up in what the world worries about because we should **pay more attention to those that claim to be a part of the church!?****

We hear the warning, but does it affect what we listen to, do we question doctrine from people we have been accustomed to hearing, do we think about the songs we sing in church and look to see who wrote them? This is what Jesus warns against.

Paul specifically speaks to this, in **Ephesians 20-**

²⁹ I know after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ And from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things to draw away the disciples after them.

In 2 Cor. 11:13-15 Paul said that, “Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.”

1 Timothy 4, "The Spirit explicitly says that in later times -" these times "- some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and **doctrines of demons**, by means of the hypocrisy of liars." Demon doctrine energized by demon spirits in hypocritical false teachers who lie.

2 Peter 2:1

2 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. **2** And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. **3** And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

Jude 1:1-4 ESV

3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. **4** For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.



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This is Jesus’ last warning about those that will still be around the people, and His last words are condemnation, damnation – *“They will receive the greater condemnation”*

Describing False Teachers:

1. Disguised with Dignity

⁴⁶ “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts,

Back in Jesus’ day rabbinic teachers, scribes, and Pharisees wore tassels, on their shawls to represent the things they prayed for. Jesus would have had them as well, But He says beware of those that walk around with extra-long ones all so you can see them, pay attention to them, to be **astounded more by the wearer than by the prayers.**

It was a way to be noticed, got you the hellos in the marketplace, maybe free food, the special table at the Inn, an invite over for lunch. Maybe it got you the seat of honor in the synagogues, up close because they were viewed more holy.

Jesus was antithetical to this model, He had nowhere to lay His head, instead of the lowly feeding Him He fed the masses with bread, fish, and mana from heaven, instead of being befriended by the rich and famous He went looking for the sinners and the poor, again **He chose to humble Himself.**

Today our world is filled with people, religious leaders, that are more interested in making names for themselves than for taking care of God’s sheep. They are more about virtue signaling, teaming up with the BLM movement, and they are comfortable being involved more in politics than in their local communities. Listen, if it seems like they spend more time, as a pastor/singer/influencer, building an internet presence and marketing a brand rather than taking care of sheep then that is exactly what Jesus warns as a **False Teacher.** Jesus told Peter to care for His sheep not to self-promote!



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God does the promoting of His workers and it usually comes when they have **sacrificed for the Kingdom**, when they have gone through pain like Him. Promotion of self usually comes in attempts to build one’s kingdom for oneself.

Whoever it is you listen to other than me, and **btw you should be listening to others outside of me because I can’t teach you everything**, then they should be the type of teacher that is more concerned about God’s Word and getting it right. If it seems like they are more interested in making sure you know they are getting it right, then you are probably seeing a false teacher that is trying to **disguise themselves with dignity...**

2nd Description of False Teachers:

2. Deceive with Dishonor

⁴⁷ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers.

In Jesus’ day false teachers were known to prey on Widows, because if you were a lonely widow you had no one left to protect you in that world. These women were usually desperate for protection. A False teacher instead of being a shepherd would be as wolves and would use them up. The word “devour” in the text means “wholly”, consume all up, not like a leach but like a ravenous wolf.

Then on top of that they could be seen praying in public in the synagogues long prayers as if they had done nothing wrong. You see in the Pharisaical teaching it was her fault she was alone in the first place. At least if you used her stuff it went to a good cause!?! They are hypocrites they Deceive with Dishonoring those around them!

You see in the NT that all changed, we were commanded in the church to care for the elderly, to care for the widows, to care for the orphans. God’s people are known by how they love those in need in the body, they **care less about being served and care more about serving others.**

Look we know the prosperity gospel is rampant in America but at the same time there are a lot of other types of churches that spend a lot of time and effort



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putting on a show of giving to public charities instead of trying to discover what is a need in their own body or a need of their own neighbor.

One of the purposes of us living as a community of believers is to be invested in the lives of people that need Jesus and help. **Here’s our discipleship plan for next year: make a friend, throw some money in a pot, discover the person God brought you to care for, share Jesus with them, and then ask them to join you to do it all over again.** Please let’s not let 2021 be a year of looking internally about what my government, my family, my church is NOT doing for me, but let it be a year where you ask, “Why am I not doing more?”

3rd Description of False Teachers:

3. Delivered to Damnation

⁴⁷ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the **greater condemnation.**”

Lastly let me give a warning about Liberal Theology that seems to be surfacing again. Let me read to you about what we are up against in our country for False teachers and their teaching is alive and well here in America. This little biography comes from Johnny Mac’s book [The Truth War](#).

One of the leaders of old liberalism was a man by the name of Harry Emerson Fosdick. In 1928, Fosdick said this, “Many preachers indulge habitually in what they call expository sermons. They take a passage from Scripture and proceeding on the assumption that the people attending church that morning are deeply concerned about what the passage means, they spend their half hour or more on historical exposition of the verse or chapter, ending with some appended practical application to the auditors.

“Could any procedure be more surely predestined to dullness and futility? Who seriously supposes that as a matter of fact 1 in 100 of the congregation cares to start with what Moses, Isaiah, Paul, or John meant in those special verses, or came to church deeply concerned about it? Nobody else who talks to the public



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so assumes that the vital interest of the people are located in the meaning of words spoken two thousand years ago.”

So Fosdick makes a prophecy in 1928. “The future,” he says, “belongs to a type of sermon which can best be described as an adventure in cooperative thinking.”
Conversation, an adventure in cooperative thinking, 1928.¹

2021 will not be the year of cooperative thinking for HCC, of having open conversations with people who want to add to the gospel. Instead it will be the year of speaking the Gospel very plainly, pleading with brothers not to go the way of Liberal theology for in that path Jesus has warned us is a path of Condemnation of being delivered over to damnation. And it is a greater condemnation than those that know not what they do.

My family today as we leave here together, as we eat together, let us celebrate together that we have a King, Jesus, who is our eternal God, that will always have the last Word. Let us heed His Word unto Salvation today, ready to call out False Teachers like He did, to be saved from wolves and to help save others from these same false teachers.

PRAYER

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

Go in the name of the Father, that has glorified Himself through making His enemies a footstool for Jesus’ feet.

Go in the name of the Son, Jesus, the Lord Adonay, in which all bend knee to in this life or the next.

Go in the name and the power of the HS, that will uplift your heart this week as you remember no matter what happens Jesus still reigns!

¹ <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/42-250/confronting-error-with-condemnation-not-conversation>