

Luke 6:39-49  
Righteousness, Fruit, and Wisdom

**We must have appropriate sensitivity to sin, including our own—6:39-42**

- <sup>39</sup> *And He spoke a parable to them:* (1<sup>st</sup> parable recorded in Luke)
- 1) Be careful who you follow, because you will become like your teacher—6:39-40
  - a) Danger
    - i) Anticipated No answer—*“Someone who is blind is not able to lead a blind person, is he?”*
    - ii) Anticipated Yes answer—*Will they not both fall into a pit/cistern/well?*
  - b) Discipleship—<sup>40</sup> *A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone, after he has been fully trained [pf. pass. ptc. καταρτίζω], will be like his teacher.*
- 2) Address sin carefully—6:41-42
  - a) Questions—6:41
    - i) <sup>41</sup> *And why do you observe the speck [κάρφος] in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the (roof) beam that is in your own eye?*
    - ii) <sup>42</sup> *Or how are you able to say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the beam that is in your own eye?*
  - b) Command—6:42
    - i) *Hypocrite, ...*
    - ii) Address your own sin first—*first remove the beam out of your eye,*
    - iii) Address your brother’s sin second, but still address it—*and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother’s eye.*
      - (1) Those who have learned to deal with their own sins Biblically are ready to help others with their sins.

**What you DO reflects what you ARE—6:43-45 We must have a transformed heart**

- 1) Parables concerning fruit—6:43-44 (play of words with sounds of καρπός and κάρφος) (Jesus uses 2 of the most common agricultural products of Israel)
  - a) Quality fruit—<sup>43</sup> *For there is no good tree that produces bad fruit [καρπός], nor again does a bad tree produce good fruit.*
  - b) Distinctive fruit—<sup>44</sup> *For each tree is recognized by its own fruit. For they do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they harvest grapes from a bramble bush.*
  - c) Fruit reveals the essence of the plant.
- 2) Parable concerning treasure—6:45
  - a) Good treasure—<sup>45</sup> *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart produces good;*
  - b) Evil treasure—*and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart produces evil.*
  - c) Principle—*For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.*
- 3) Principles
  - a) Words reveal the essence of your heart.
  - b) We are culpable for following our dominant motive.

**We must be characteristically obedient to Word—6:46-49**

- 1) Penetrating question—6:46 <sup>46</sup> *But why do you<sup>pl</sup> call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things I say?*
  - a) Treating Jesus respectfully but not obediently is fruitless.
- 2) Comparison of responses to Jesus—6:47-49
  - a) A life of obedience
    - i) Three characteristics
      - (1) <sup>47</sup> *Whoever comes* [pres. dep. ptc.] *to Me,*
      - (2) *and listens* [pres. act. ptc.] *to My words,*
      - (3) *and does* [pres. act. ptc.] *them,*
    - ii) Similes—*I will demonstrate what he is like:* <sup>48</sup> *He is like a man ...*
      - (1) Preparation—*who is building a house,*
        - (a) *who has dug*
        - (b) *and dug deep,*
        - (c) *and laid a foundation on the rock.*
      - (2) Time of difficulty—*And when the (flash) flood arose, the river burst against that house,*
      - (3) Results—*and was not able to shake it,*
        - (a) *Why? because it was founded on the rock.*
  - b) A life of disobedience
    - i) Two characteristics
      - (1) *But the person who heard* [aor. act. ptc.]
      - (2) *and did* [aor. act. ptc.] *nothing*
    - ii) Simile—*is like a man ...*
      - (1) Preparation—*who built a house*
        - (a) *on the ground* (he is satisfied with packed sand)
        - (b) *without a foundation,*
      - (2) Time of difficulty—*against which the river burst and immediately it collapsed,*
      - (3) Results—*and the destruction of that house was great.*
  - c) Parallel to Ezekiel 33:30-33.

**Take-home truth:** There really are only 2 different responses to Jesus' teaching: obedience or disobedience. Which one do you demonstrate?