Sons of the Most High God

Tony Mauck · Luke 6:20–38

INTRODUCTION

- How many of the words of Jesus would we recognize? Again, if we're claiming to be Christians, we should be familiar, should we not, with the words that Jesus spake.
- The words that Jesus speaks during his ministry, they appeal to the spirit of man, they pertain to the spirit of man, and they are life-giving.
- The teaching of Jesus continually challenged would be disciples to live above the ordinary plane of human existence.

1 The Virtues of Poverty, Hunger, and Weeping

Luke 6:20–26

- Jesus is encouraging here an attitude, a state of mind that is often more consistent with people who are experiencing poverty, who are hungry, who weep.
- The attitude that the disciple must cultivate is one of utter helplessness that places dependence beyond ourselves.
- The one who feels he has everything and needs nothing has no room in his heart for God.
- People are not going to sign on to this kingdom until they recognize I have a need.
- If we would be sons of the Most High, we must recognize our need.

2 Abnormal Advice for Dealing with Adversaries

Luke 6:27–30; Romans 12:20–21; Proverbs 25:21

- Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you. That's not the knee-jerk response to that.
- Thank God that he doesn't give us what we deserve. God is kind to evil men. He is kind to ungrateful men.
- If we're going to be Christ-like, then we've got to become merciful people.
- Do not be overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.
- Certainly these qualities apply across the board. And so we must be one who deals out mercy.

3 Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due

Luke 6:31–35

- However you want people to treat you treat them in the same way.
- If I were them, how would I want to be treated? That's why you don't give what they deserve.
- Jesus is challenging us to rise above the norm. And that's why he keeps saying, what credit is that to you?
- Give and don't expect anything in return.
- We're learning to be givers. Because that's who God is.

- You give. And you give without expecting in return. And that makes us like our Father.

4 Be Merciful Just as Your Father Is Merciful

Luke 6:36–38; Matthew 7:1; 1 Corinthians 5

- Be merciful just as your father is merciful. And do not judge, and you will not be judged.
- He's not forbidding all kinds of judgment and determinations that we make of the conduct of others.
- We're givers. We want to be lavish in our giving toward others.
- It is speaking to a spirit of generosity and fairness in dealing with other people, just like you want God to deal with you.
- We need to be that generous with our forgiveness toward others.
- Whatever standards you use, that's the standard that will be used on you.

THE CHALLENGE

Am I responding as a son of the Most High God? Am I giving people what they deserve? Or am I showing mercy and compassion? Am I displaying a generous spirit?

MY NOTES