

Luke Seventeen

Luke 17:1-4

And He said to His disciples, “It is inevitable that stumbling blocks should come, but woe to him through whom they come! “It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should cause one of these little ones to stumble. “Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. “And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ forgive him.”

- Stumbling block=skandala=a bait stick in a trap—that which triggers entrapment
- This addresses offenses and forgiveness
- This is not just about children—but those who are easily dismissed or overlooked
- Millstone is not the woe—it is a way of escaping the woe
- Must forgive from the heart—Eph 4:32
- Go to offender---rebuke—Matt 18:15
- Take 2-3 witnesses—Matt 18:16
- Tell Church—Matt 18:17
- Woe=a lament rather than proclaiming judgment
- Faith addressed as forgiveness is explained

Luke 17:5-6

And the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be planted in the sea’; and it would obey you.

- Takes faith to walk by the Spirit—and contrary to our feelings
- If there is real faith—will produce this effect.

Luke 17:7-10

“But which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come immediately and sit down to eat’? “But will he not say to him, ‘Prepare something for me to eat, and properly clothe yourself and serve me until I have eaten and drunk; and afterward you will eat and drink’? “He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded, does he? “So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.’”

- What the role of service looks like
- Luke 12:35-38
- This is description of the life of a bondservant

Luke 17:11-19

And it came about while He was on the way to Jerusalem, that He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a certain village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him; and they raised their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” And when He saw them, He said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And it came about that as they were going, they were cleansed. Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? “Was no one found who turned back to give glory to God, except this foreigner?” And He said to him, “Rise, and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

- Lepers stood at a distance due to their affliction
- Jews and Samaritans have nothing to do with each other—but together here—due to common affliction
- In Luke 5:13—Jesus stretches His hand to heal—in this case, He sends them to the priests.

- Lev 13-14---law concerning leprosy—priests are to pronounce cleansing—bear witness
- 9 cleansed from leprosy—1 cleansed from sin

Luke 17:20-21

Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.”

- Speaks to Pharisees about His first coming
- Israel anticipated an earthly kingdom overthrow
- All had a mistaken understanding of the Kingdom
- Among you=entos=in the midst of a group—not an individual
- To be observed=3907=parateresis=watching with sinister intent; to observe a person insidiously. It means His enemies wont see Him coming.
- While Christ rules by His Spirit—it will not be confined or localized

Luke 17:22-25

And He said to the disciples, “The days shall come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. “And they will say to you, ‘Look there! Look here!’ Do not go away, and do not run after them. “For just as the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day. “But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

- Describes time between His first and second coming
- His return will be clearly marked/seen with the natural eye

Luke 17:26-32

“And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. “It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. “It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed. “On that day, let not the one who is on the housetop and whose goods are in the house go down to take them away; and likewise let not the one who is in the field turn back. “Remember Lot’s wife.

- Until the Son of Man comes—life proceeds normally in the natural—on earth. People will be so taken up with their daily lives—they will not notice. Others will become alert.
- Both times mentioned are those just prior to judgment outpoured
- Noah and Lot were both aware of imminent judgment prior to catastrophe
- Self-centered lives miss opportunities to repent.
- Lot's wife taken by force from the city—but her heart remained with the city

Luke 17:33-37

“Whoever seeks to keep his life shall lose it, and whoever loses his life shall preserve it. “I tell you, on that night there will be two men in one bed; one will be taken, and the other will be left. “There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken, and the other will be left. [“Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.”] And answering they said to Him, “Where, Lord?” And He said to them, “Where the body is, there also will the vultures be gathered.”

- Physical proximity will not save another
- Indication that judgment would come upon every form of unbelief, wickedness, rebellion—wherever it was found.

Luke Chapter Seventeen Workbook

Key Words:

Harmonize:

Read Luke 17:22-37 and Matthew 24:3-31. Have any of these prophecies been fulfilled?

Dig:

- 1) By reading verses 1-5, how do you discover what a stumbling block is?

- 2) What prompted the disciples to respond to Jesus with, "Increase our faith"?

- 3) What route did Jesus take to Jerusalem?

- 4) How were the lepers healed in chapter 17? How does this occasion compare to previous healings?

- 5) What did the leper who gave thanks receive that the others did not?

- 6) What are three things you learn about faith from this chapter?

- 7) What do you learn about the Kingdom of God from verses 20-21?

- 8) What do the stories of "in the days of Noah" and "in the days of Lot" have in common?
- 9) In verses 22-36, which verse is set apart from the sequence of the other verses?
- 10) Pharisees ask in verse 20, when is the Kingdom of God coming? How does Jesus specifically answer this?
- 11) Verse 30 speaks of a day when the Son of Man is revealed. What does this mean?
- 12) What will NOT be a sign of His coming?

Discuss:

- 1) What is the difference between a disciple and an apostle? (vs 1 and 5)
- 2) How do adults cause children to 'stumble'?
- 3) What is the lesson Jesus is teaching in Luke 17:7-10? How does this apply to your life?
- 4) What lessons do you learn from Lot's wife?
- 5) What are your reactions to prophecies about His second coming?

Point of Prayer:

Consider gifts you have received from the Lord this week. Give thanks.

Integrate:

What other scriptures come to mind as you read this chapter?

Application:

- 1) When have you struggled the most to forgive someone?

- 2) What emotions do you have to deal with when someone has sinned against/offended you? What emotions do you deal with when you have to confront someone—or—rebuke someone?

- 3) What happens to your heart when you experience repeated offenses from someone? Does this change if it is a child?

- 4) When have you faced a situation that exposed the littleness of your faith?

- 5) When you read the description of the second coming (vs 22-37)—what emotions accompany this description?

- 6) Where have you gained most of your understanding about the second coming of Christ?

- 7) Does the Church address this topic too much or too little?

- 8) Why is it helpful to know/understand signs of His coming? Why do we have a tendency to misinterpret these signs?