

• A Question, A Parable And A Rebuke ①

Luke 18: 8-17

Intro. A. The greatest Teacher of all-time was Jesus Christ.

1. No one has ever taught as He taught.
2. His subject matter was and is the most difficult of all disciplines, Theology.

B. In these verses we see the diverse manner of His teaching.

Vs. 6-11. 1. The retorical question.

Vs. 9-14 2. The parable

Vs. 15-17 3. The immediate, on the spot correction.

I. The Rectorical Question.

A. Jesus set forth a difficult concept.

1. Those disciples who were severely persecuted or martyred for His kingdom must wait until His return before they would be avenged or vindicated.

2. This would put His disciples to the test.

3. It would be a test of their faith, unlike Job of old Testament fame, Job was vindicated.

B. The question and the answer.

1. "... will He find "The Faith" on the earth"?

2. This is not only saving faith but the system of doctrine taught by His true church.

3. The answer. Matt. 16: 18-19 "upon this Rock..."

II. The Parable.

A. The people to whom Jesus spoke this parable.

Vs. 9 1. "trusted" = "to allow one's self to be persuaded" It is intransitive of πειθω = "to persuade".

B. The answer of Jesus.

1. "Suffer" = ἀφίημι = "to send forth or away", "to let go", "let it pass", "permit".
2. "little children" = παῖδιον = "a young child".
3. "forbid" = κωλύω = "to cut off", "to weaken", "to hinder", "prevent", "restrain".

C. "...for of such is the kingdom of God".

1. "the kingdom of God includes such as these".
2. Affirms that infants indeed are saved.

D. "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein".

1. "little child" = παῖδιον = "a little or young child".
2. "Receive" = δεῖχμαί = to take to one's self what is presented or brought by another, to accept, embrace, receive hospitably. It implies a subjective reception, showing that a decision of the will has taken place with respect to the object presented, and that the acceptance manifests it.
3. Little children have no assets, no power, no political influence, they are helpless and totally dependent.