

Hypocrisy Never Solves A Problem (1)

Luke 12:1-12

Intro. **A.** We have been taught from our earliest years to respect and follow authoritative figures.

1. Honor thy Father and thy Mother.
2. Teachers, Preachers, Police, Military.

B. We have also learned to conform to the behaviour of the majority.

1. We have a great desire to be accepted by a group.
2. When authorities and a groups are in harmony there is generally rigid obedience.
3. This is especially true when one fears for one's life.

C. All of these factors and more were present in the time that these scriptures were written.

1. Parental authority was strong.
2. The religious leaders were revered.
3. Conformity was strongly urged.
4. Any serious deviation could bring death.

D. These conditions often cause hypocrisy.

1. One learned to suppress and deny what one was thinking and feeling.
2. Jesus warned His disciples of practicing vs. 1 hypocrisy. "Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy".

(a) "beware" = $\pi\pi\sigma\sigma\epsilon\chi\omega$ = "to turn one's mind, thoughts attention to a thing, with pronoun, to give heed to one's self".

(b) "leaven" = Metaphor "influence"

(c) "Pharisees" = Majority religious group in Israel.

(d) "hypocrisy" = "transliteration" = "the playing of a part", "acting on a stage". "To pretend"

II. God Values Them And Will Not Forget Them.

- A. If they are martyred, they will be offerings.
- Vs. 6
1. Sparrows were sold at the temple.
 2. If God sees sparrows as a sacrifice, how much more a human?
 3. God will not forget.

- B. God is conscience of their value.
- Vs. 7
1. "...the very hairs of your head are all numbered"
 2. "Fear not therefore".
 3. "Value" = διαφέρω = "to bear or carry through", "to bear apart", "to be different from".
 4. Paraphrase, "you are totally different from a sparrow and therefore of far greater value".

III. These Disciples Should Confess Him.

- A. Confession is a reciprocal act.
- Vs. 8
1. "confess" = ὁμολογέω = "to speak or say the same together with another", "to say the same things", "agree with", "to concede", "admit." Here, to profess or to acknowledge Him as Christos
 2. This is not a salvation issue.

- B. The opposite of "confess" is "deny".
- Vs. 9
1. "deny"^① = ἀρνέομαι = "to disown", "refuse", "to decline".
 2. "deny"^② = ἀπαρνέομαι = "to utterly deny" with "ἀπό" = "from".

C. Those who blaspheme against the Holy Spirit are in a different circumstance.

- Vs. 10
1. To say that Jesus does miracles by the power of Beelzebub.