

## **The Gospel of Luke – The Acts of the Apostles**

### **Luke's Theme of Separation from Family and Wealth**

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#### *Separate Yourself from Home and Family*

<sup>9:51</sup> When the days were approaching for his ascension, he was determined to go to Jerusalem; <sup>52</sup> and he sent messengers on ahead of him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for him. <sup>53</sup> But they did not receive him, because he was traveling toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them, [and said, 'You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; <sup>56</sup> for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.'] And they went on to another village. <sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, 'The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' <sup>59</sup> And he said to another, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father.' <sup>60</sup> But he said to him, 'Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God.' <sup>61</sup> Another also said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home.' <sup>62</sup> But Jesus said to him, 'No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.'

#### *Disinheritance for the Purpose of Mission and Giving*

<sup>12:13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, 'Man, who appointed me a judge or arbitrator over you?' <sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, 'Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.' <sup>16</sup> And he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man was very productive. <sup>17</sup> And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' <sup>21</sup> So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.' <sup>22</sup> And he said to his disciples, 'For this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap; they have no storeroom nor barn, and yet God feeds them; how much more valuable you are than the birds! <sup>25</sup> And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life's span? <sup>26</sup> If then you cannot do even a very little thing, why do you worry about other matters? <sup>27</sup> Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. <sup>28</sup> But if God so clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? You men of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not seek what you will eat and what you will drink, and do not keep worrying. <sup>30</sup> For all these things the nations of the world eagerly seek; but your Father knows that you need these things. <sup>31</sup> But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. <sup>32</sup> Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves money belts which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near nor moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

#### *Hospitality and Hosting Beyond Your Family and Friends*

<sup>14:12</sup> And he also went on to say to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and that will be your repayment. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

### *Separation from Family and Wealth*

<sup>14:25</sup> Now large crowds were going along with him; and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> 'If anyone comes to me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup> Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> Or else, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So then, none of you can be my disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

### *Giving Up Wealth to Enter a New Family*

<sup>16:9</sup> And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the wealth of unrighteousness, so that when it fails, they will receive you into the eternal dwellings. <sup>10</sup> He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. <sup>11</sup> Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

### *Entering the Kingdom Family*

<sup>18:15</sup> And they were bringing even their babies to him so that he would touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they began rebuking them. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus called for them, saying, 'Permit the children to come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup> Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all.' <sup>18</sup> A ruler questioned him, saying, 'Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments, 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not bear false witness, honor your father and mother.' ' <sup>21</sup> And he said, 'All these things I have kept from my youth.' <sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, 'One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.' <sup>23</sup> But when he had heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. <sup>24</sup> And Jesus looked at him and said, 'How hard it is for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' <sup>26</sup> They who heard it said, 'Then who can be saved?' <sup>27</sup> But he said, 'The things that are impossible with people are possible with God.' <sup>28</sup> Peter said, 'Behold, we have left our own homes and followed you.' <sup>29</sup> And he said to them, 'Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life.'