

Book of Luke NKJV

17 - 20

Chapter 17

Jesus Warns of Offenses

¹ Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe *to him* through whom they do come!

² 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 offend one of these little ones.

³ Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

⁴ And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."

Faith and Duty

⁵ And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

⁶ So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷ And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'?

⁸ But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?

⁹ Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not.

¹⁰ So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.'"

Ten Lepers Cleansed

¹¹ Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

¹² Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off.

¹³ And they lifted up *their* voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

¹⁴ So when He saw *them*, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God,

¹⁶ and fell down on *his* face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where *are* the nine?"

¹⁸ Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"

¹⁹ And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

The Coming of the Kingdom

²⁰ Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;

²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

²² Then He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see *it*.

²³ And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after *them* or follow *them*.

²⁴ For as the lightning that flashes out of one *part* under heaven shines to the other *part* under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day.

²⁵ But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

²⁶ And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

²⁷ They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

²⁸ Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

²⁹ but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed *them* all.

³⁰ Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

³¹ “In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods *are* in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back.

³² Remember Lot’s wife.

³³ Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

³⁴ I tell you, in that night there will be two *men* in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left.

³⁵ Two *women* will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left.

³⁶ Two *men* will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left.”

³⁷ And they answered and said to Him, “Where, Lord?” So He said to them, “Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.”

Chapter 18

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

¹ Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

² saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.

³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’

⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, “Though I do not fear God nor regard man,

⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.”

⁶ Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said.

⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?

⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

⁹ Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

¹³ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’

¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Jesus Blesses Little Children

¹⁵ Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw *it*, they rebuked them.

¹⁶ But Jesus called them to *Him* and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

¹⁷ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”

Jesus Counsels the Rich Young Ruler

¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God.

²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ ”

²¹ And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”

²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

With God All Things Are Possible

²⁴ And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!

²⁵ 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.”

²⁶ And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

²⁸ Then Peter said, “See, we have left all and followed You.”

²⁹ So He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,

³⁰ who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.”

Jesus a Third Time Predicts His Death and Resurrection

³¹ Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished.

³² For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon.

³³ They will scourge *Him* and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.”

³⁴ But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.

A Blind Man Receives His Sight

³⁵ Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging.

³⁶ And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant.

³⁷ So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

³⁸ And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

³⁹ Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰ So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him,

⁴¹ saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."

⁴² Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."

⁴³ And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw *it*, gave praise to God.

Chapter 19

Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House

¹ Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho.

² Now behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.

³ And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature.

⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way.

⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

⁶ So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully.

⁷ But when they saw *it*, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

⁸ Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham;

¹⁰ for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

The Parable of the Minas

¹¹ Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.

¹² Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.

¹³ So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'

¹⁴ But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this *man* to reign over us.'

¹⁵ "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

¹⁶ Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'

¹⁷ And he said to him, 'Well *done*, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'

¹⁸ And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'

¹⁹ Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

²⁰ "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.

21 For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'

22 And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow.

23 Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'

24 "And he said to those who stood by, "Take the mina from him, and give *it* to him who has ten minas.'

25 (But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.')

26 'For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

27 But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.'"

The Triumphal Entry

28 When He had said this, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

29 And it came to pass, when He drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, *that* He sent two of His disciples,

30 saying, "Go into the village opposite *you*, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring *it here*.

31 And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you loosing *it*?' thus you shall say to him, 'Because the Lord has need of it.'"

32 So those who were sent went their way and found *it* just as He had said to them.

33 But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you loosing the colt?"

34 And they said, "The Lord has need of him."

35 Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him.

36 And as He went, *many* spread their clothes on the road.

37 Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen,

38 saying: " 'Blessed *is* the King who comes in the name of the LORD!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

39 And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples."

40 But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem

41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,

42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things *that make* for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,

44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

- ⁴⁵ Then He went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it,
⁴⁶ saying to them, "It is written, 'My house is a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"
⁴⁷ And He was teaching daily in the temple. But the chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people sought to destroy Him,
⁴⁸ and were unable to do anything; for all the people were very attentive to hear Him.

Chapter 20

Jesus' Authority Questioned

- ¹ Now it happened on one of those days, as He taught the people in the temple and preached the gospel, *that* the chief priests and the scribes, together with the elders, confronted *Him*
² and spoke to Him, saying, "Tell us, by what authority are You doing these things? Or who is he who gave You this authority?"
³ But He answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, and answer Me:
⁴ The baptism of John—was it from heaven or from men?"
⁵ And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?'
⁶ But if we say, 'From men,' all the people will stone us, for they are persuaded that John was a prophet."
⁷ So they answered that they did not know where *it was* from.
⁸ And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers

- ⁹ Then He began to tell the people this parable: "A certain man planted a vineyard, leased it to vinedressers, and went into a far country for a long time.
¹⁰ Now at vintage-time he sent a servant to the vinedressers, that they might give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the vinedressers beat him and sent *him* away empty-handed.
¹¹ Again he sent another servant; and they beat him also, treated *him* shamefully, and sent *him* away empty-handed.
¹² And again he sent a third; and they wounded him also and cast *him* out.
¹³ "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. Probably they will respect *him* when they see him.'
¹⁴ But when the vinedressers saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, 'This is the heir. Come; let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.'
¹⁵ So they cast him out of the vineyard and killed *him*. Therefore what will the owner of the vineyard do to them?
¹⁶ He will come and destroy those vinedressers and give the vineyard to others." And when they heard *it* they said, "Certainly not!"
¹⁷ Then He looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone'?
¹⁸ Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."
¹⁹ And the chief priests and the scribes that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people—for they knew He had spoken this parable against them.

The Pharisees: Is It Lawful to Pay Taxes to Caesar?

²⁰ So they watched *Him*, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor.

²¹ Then they asked Him, saying, "Teacher, we know that You say and teach rightly, and You do not show personal favoritism, but teach the way of God in truth:

²² Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

²³ But He perceived their craftiness, and said to them, "Why do you test Me?

²⁴ Show Me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?" They answered and said, "Caesar's."

²⁵ And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

²⁶ But they could not catch Him in His words in the presence of the people. And they marveled at His answer and kept silent.

The Sadducees: What about the Resurrection?

²⁷ Then some of the Sadducees, who deny that there is a resurrection, came to *Him* and asked Him,

²⁸ saying: "Teacher, Moses wrote to us *that* if a man's brother dies, having a wife, and he dies without children, his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.

²⁹ Now there were seven brothers. And the first took a wife, and died without children.

³⁰ And the second took her as wife, and he died childless.

³¹ Then the third took her, and in like manner the seven also; and they left no children, and died.

³² Last of all the woman died also.

³³ Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife does she become? For all seven had her as wife."

³⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage.

³⁵ But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;

³⁶ nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

³⁷ But even Moses showed in the *burning bush passage* that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'

³⁸ For He is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him."

³⁹ Then some of the scribes answered and said, "Teacher, You have spoken well."

⁴⁰ But after that they dared not question Him anymore.

Jesus: How Can David Call His Descendant Lord?

⁴¹ And He said to them, "How can they say that the Christ is the Son of David?

⁴² Now David himself said in the Book of Psalms: "The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,

⁴³ Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

⁴⁴ Therefore David calls Him 'Lord'; how is He then his Son?"

Beware of the Scribes

⁴⁵ Then, in the hearing of all the people, He said to His disciples,

⁴⁶ "Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts,

⁴⁷ who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."