

Lesson 14: Further Activities in Jerusalem and Judea

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

April 28, 2021

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

The Rejoicing and Pride of the Disciples upon Return and Jesus' Response (10:17-24)

- Luke 10:17, "And the seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the demons are subject unto us in thy name."
 - We do not know where this meeting was or specifically where the 70 had been
- They returned "with joy" (*charas*) after completing their mission.
- "The demons are subject unto us"
 - The 70 seem surprised. They were instructed to heal the sick (verse 9). The 12 had been given this promise when they were sent out earlier (9:1; Matthew 10:8).
- "In thy name"

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- "In thy name" – The 70 recognized His authority.
- "Used for everything which the name covers, everything the thought or feeling of which is roused in the mind by mentioning, hearing, remembering, the name, Matt 10:41
 - a. by the command and authority of Christ:
 - b. in the use of the name of Christ Mark 9:38
 - c. through the power of Christ's name, Mark 16:17
 - d. in acknowledging, embracing, professing, the name of Christ: Acts 4:12
 - e. relying or resting on the name of Christ, rooted (so to speak) in his name, i. e. mindful of Christ: Col 3:17
 - f. for the name of Christ 1 Peter 4:14" (Thayer)

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The Rejoicing and Pride of the Disciples upon Return and Jesus' Response (10:17-24)

- Luke 10:18, "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan fallen as lightning from heaven."
- "I beheld" – The verb, *theōreō*, means to "be a spectator, look at, observe, perceive" (Arndt and Gingrich, page 360).
- NOTE: Jesus foresaw His victory over Satan. The verse does not say that Satan fell from heaven, but it says that Jesus saw Satan fallen "as lightning from heaven."
 - Because the demons were subject to the 70 in Christ's name, Jesus could see the defeat of Satan.

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Luke 10:18, "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan fallen as lightning from heaven."

- Because the demons were subject to the 70 in Christ's name, Jesus could see the defeat of Satan.
- It would be "as lightning from heaven" – sudden and fast (see Hebrews 2:14).
 - If Satan had been cast out of heaven at some time in the past, this verse does not teach it.
 - Jesus was referring to the future and He was not relating to the past.
- Revelation 12:7-9; cf. 1:18

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Luke 10:18, "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan fallen as lightning from heaven."

NOTE: Before He could establish His kingdom (the kingdom of God), He had to invade the territory of the enemy, conquer it, and render the enemy (Satan) helpless and weak. cf. Matthew 12:29

- This He did by preaching the gospel and visibly demonstrating its power.
- The healing miracles, and especially the casting out of demons, were not random acts of kindness; they were instead direct assaults on the kingdom of Satan. cf. John 12:31-32
- Through the gospel man no longer needed to be the slave of Satan and of sin. cf. Romans 6:16-18

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NOTE:

- *Spiritual beings, like human beings, have freedom of will.*
- *Jude describes the punishment of rebellious angels in verse 6 of his epistle, and Peter speaks of angels sinning in 2 Peter 2:4.*
- *Hence Satan stands opposed to God because he chooses to do so.*
- *God certainly did not create him for evil or as an evil being, for the Bible tells us plainly that there is no evil associated with God (James 1:13; 1 John 1:5).*
- *It seems that the most we could say about Satan's origin is that he is a created, but spiritual, being who has chosen to oppose God, and he recruits other spiritual beings and human beings in his efforts.*
- *Much more than this is only speculation.*

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Luke 10:19, "Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall in any wise hurt you." (cf. Psalms 91:9-14; see Genesis 3:15).

- *This goes beyond some literal ability to withstand bites and stings (Mark 16:18; Acts 28:3-5; see Deuteronomy 8:15).*
- *It is representative of the competence Christ provides to overcome dangerous assailants in the spiritual realm. (cf. Ephesians 2:1ff; 6:10ff; 2 Corinthians 10:3ff)*
- *The devil, himself, is sometimes identified as a serpent (Genesis 3:1-24; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 12:9,14-15; 20:2).*
- *The 12 and the 70 had been sent out like an army to invade Satan's territory and to wage war.*

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

Luke 10:20, "Nevertheless in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." cf. 2 Timothy 2:19

- *God's book is identified as "the book of the living" (Psalms 69:28) or "the book of life" (Philippians 4:3; Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27).*

Does God Keep Such a Record?

- *If He does ...*
- *I want my name to be there!*
- *Do YOU?*
- *If He does not ... This lesson is needless and pointless!*
- *What does the Bible teach?*

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

Luke 10:20, "Nevertheless in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

- *The saints of God from all ages will be written there.*
- *This is a specially qualified group of people washed white in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 1:5; 5:9; 7:13-17).*
- *Their names are written in the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 20:12,15; 21:27; cf. Philippians 4:3).*
- **One's name can be blotted out.**
 - *"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels" – Revelation 3:5; 22:18-19*

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Luke 10:20, "Nevertheless in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

- *Those whose names will NOT be written there ...*
 - *The devil and his angels will not be there (2 Peter 2:4).*
 - *The unrighteous will not be there (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).*
 - *Those not led by the Spirit will not be there (Galatians 5:19-21).*
 - *The dogs, the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying will not be there (Revelation 22:15).*
 - *All those who do not know God and who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, "away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power" (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).*

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cf. Mt. 11:25

Luke 10:21-22, "In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou didst hide these things from the wise and understanding, and did reveal them unto babes: yea, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in thy sight. All things have been delivered unto me of my Father: and no one knoweth who the Son is, save the Father; and who the Father is, save the Son, and he to whomever the Son willet to reveal (him)."

- *agalliao – "to rejoice, to glory to exult, rejoice exceedingly" (Thayer)*
- *John 8:56, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad."*
- *1 Peter 1:6, "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations"*
- *1 Peter 1:8, "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory"*

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Luke 10:21, *"In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou didst **hide** these things from the wise and understanding, and did **reveal** them unto **babes**; yea, Father, for so it was **well-pleasing** in thy sight."*

- It is earthly wisdom which often rejects knowledge from God (see 1 Corinthians 1:18-31).
- God's word is **revealed** – (1 Corinthians 1:10ff; Ephesians 3:1-13).
- God's **"good pleasure"** is the basis for all essential elements of His eternal plan for human redemption (see Rom. 9:14-16; **Ephesians 1:5, 9; Philipians 2:13**; 2 Thessalonians 1:11; 2 Peter 1:17).