"Light, Liars and Lawyers"

Luke 11:33-54  Verse #33  No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

These events occurred probably about mid-afternoon on Tuesday of Passion Week. The place was probably in the court of the temple. G. Campbell Morgan notes an interesting comparison between “BLESSED” in Matthew 5; and ‘WOE” in Luke 11:33-54

This chapter sets froth the FRIGHTENING FASHION of the WRATH OF GOD AGAINST SIN. It teaches the COMPASSION OF GOD for the sinner. Here is seen the HYPOCRISY of the Scribes and Pharisees, the most CONDEMNED of all sins. I think we could conclude that the THEME OF THIS PART OF THE BOOK OF LUKE IS “THE JUDGMENT OF GOD AGAINST SIN”

i. THE SHINING Light.

Luke 11:33. No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

(A). THE PLACE OF THE LIGHT.

Luke 11:33  No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

“No man is an island.” ANDREW MURRAY lived an exceptionally holy life. Among those on whom HIS INFLUENCE WAS, THE GREATEST were his children and grandchildren. FIVE of his SIX SONS became ministers of the gospel and FOUR of HIS DAUGHTERS became minister's wives. TEN GRANDSONS became ministers and THIRTEEN GRANDCHILDREN became missionaries. (Rom 14:7. For none of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself.) (This little light of mine I’m going to
(B). THE PLAN OF THE LIGHT.

Luke 11:34-35 The light of the body is the eye: = (Your eye is the lamp of your body”) therefore when thine eye is single, = (your conscience is sound and fulfilling its office) thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the LIGHT, which is in thee, be not darkness. (Don’t let the LIGHT that is in YOU be DARKNESS)

(B). THE PURPOSE OF THE LIGHT.

Luke 11:36 If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

John 11:9-10. Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.

John 12:46. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Phil 2:15. That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

II. THE SCORNING Liars.

Luke 11:37 -44. And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.

The FRIGHTENING series of DENUNCIATIONS resemble THUNDER CLAPS during an INTENSE STORM. “THE ROLLING THUNDER OF GOD’S WRATH.”
(A). THE PERVERSION OF A LIAR.

Luke 11:39-41. And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Phari\(\text{see}s\) make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness. Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also?

Prov 30:12. There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

Matt 12:33-34. Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Luke 16:15. And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

(B). THE PRIORITIES OF A LIAR.

Luke 11:42. But woe unto you, Phari\(\text{see}s\)! For ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Luke 18:10-14. Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Phari\(\text{see}\), and the other a publican. The Phari\(\text{see}\) stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

(C). THE PRIDE OF A LIAR.

Luke 11:43-44. Woe unto you, Phari\(\text{see}s\)! For ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets. Woe unto you, scribes and Phari\(\text{see}s\), hypocrites! = (An Actor “One who played a part”) for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them.

Ps 5:9. For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.
Acts 23:2-3. And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth. Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law?

III. THE snobby Lawyers.

Luke 11:45-54. Then answered one of the lawyers, and said unto him, Master, thus saying thou reproachest us also.

(A). THE PURPOSE OF THE LAWYERS.

Luke 11:46. And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.

JESUS SAID; John 7:7. The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.

(B). THE PARTICIPATION OF THE LAWYERS.

Luke 11:47-51 Woe unto you! For ye build the sepulchers of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. Truly, ye bear witness that ye allow the deeds of your fathers: for they indeed killed them, and ye build their sepulchres. Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute: That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

PAUL SAID; 1 Thess 2:14-16 For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews: Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men. Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved,
to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

(C). THE PURSUITS OF THE LAWYERS.

Luke 11:52-54. Woe unto you, lawyers! For ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered. And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to urge him vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things: Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him.

THE LAST WORD FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: Mal 2:7-8. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

Jesus cursed the scribes and Pharisees for their elimination of men from the kingdom of heaven. The chief evil of every false religion is that it shuts people out of God’s kingdom. A false system of religion or thinking may have, its ultimate accomplishment is to shut off the kingdom of heaven from men. It may feed their body, stimulate their minds, and calm their emotions, but it will certainly damn their souls.