

LUKE 13 vs 1

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In this chapter, Dr. Luke tells us about those people who hurry to tell us all the bad news. No... not the nightly news! They tell bad news every day; that's their business! But those we know... who always hurry to tell bad news; who thought some must have been more sinful than others. And Jesus corrected their faulty thinking.

¹ There were present at that time of the year, some who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

And can you imagine? Going up to some great feast; all the joy and anticipation; some great festival... bringing your lamb for sacrifice, and you end up being brutally slaughtered with the lamb! And they wanted to know, was it due to **sin** in their lives. They wanted to make the connection.

² And Jesus answered / sizing up the situation and asked them,

Do you suppose that because these Galileans were greater sinners than all the Galileans, since they suffered such things?

³ I tell you, NO! / now, Jesus did not deny there might be a connection... they could have been innocent; they could have been insurrectionists. What does it matter? But He does deny that man has the power to make that connection.

but, except you change your mind you will likewise perish / except you reconsider; they had a **metanoia moment** to change their thinking, to think correctly.

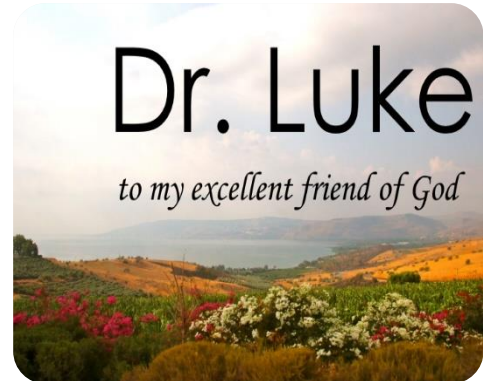
And then Jesus adds... because He knows what is going on; and He brings it closer to home...

⁴ Or those eighteen, on whom the tower in Siloam fell, and killed them!

Do you think they were greater sinners than all the men who live in Jerusalem? / worse than all those self-righteous people in Jerusalem? Jesus asks, Is that what you think?

⁵ I tell you, NO! but, except you change your faulty thinking you will likewise perish / except you reconsider; clearly you busybodies don't worry about everybody else's sorry ass.

Jesus says, We're no different. There's the Lord of glory -- the holy GOD; there's His holy angels above and the saints gone on to glory... made perfect by the blood of the Lamb; and then, all the rest of us sorry asses still here on earth. Right?!



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6 Jesus also spoke this parable:

A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard / surrounded by grapevines, now that is a strange place for a fig tree to be, but trees were permitted to grow wherever they could find good soil. And it doesn't seem the owner was bothered; and it sort of reminds me of the stranger in our midst. Doesn't it? That odd-man out. You know the one who doesn't quite fit everybody else's expectations.

A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit on it and he found none / I mean, a fig tree is for producing figs. Right? And do you think he came and sought apples? ... or pears? ... or bananas? No, he came to find out how the figs were doing.

7 Then he said to the caretaker of his vineyard, pay attention, for three years I came seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none / three years... so he's not bothered the tree is there. He's actually quite hopeful. I mean that certain man... certainly sounded patient. Right? But I guess he changed his mind. He can change his mind, can't he? Everyone else does!

So being the owner, he said...

cut it down; why burden the ground? / Archbishop Trench says, Why **mischief** the ground? I guess the word really has an evil intent. In other words, the fig tree was harassing the ground; not just producing dead works... but evil works also. Not permitting other things to grow and be productive.

And the caretaker...

8 he answering, said to him Lord, let it alone this year also, till I dig about it and dung it / to this gentleman of an owner; the caretaker says; give me one more year working with it; maybe it needs more water. Does the caretaker want to fling some crap on it? Oh, that's right! He's going to shovel some manure on it.

9 And if it bears fruit, good; and if not, you can cut it down / if after all that effort it produces fruit; good; but if not, you can chop it down... and at least make it fuel for the fire.

And Dr. Luke adds...

10 And He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath / in one of the worship centers.

Healing the daughter of Abraham,



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¹¹ And, behold, there was a woman who had been disabled by a spirit for 18 years, and was bent over, and could not straighten up herself.

¹² And when Jesus saw her, He called out to her, **Woman, you are free of your disability.**

¹³ Then He laid His hands on her: and instantly she was restored, and glorified God.

¹⁴ And the leader of the synagogue sized up the situation with outrage, telling the crowd who gathered, because Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, There are six days when men ought to work: so on those days come and be healed, but not on the sabbath day.

¹⁵ Then the Lord answered him, and said, You hypocrite, doesn't each one of you untie his ox or his ass from the feeding trough on the sabbath, and lead it to water?

¹⁶ Now Satan has bound this woman, a daughter of Abraham, for 18 years, **shouldn't she be untied from this bondage on the sabbath day?**

¹⁷ And when He had said these things, all His adversaries were humiliated: but the whole crowd rejoiced for all the glorious things He was doing.

Parables of the kingdom of God,

¹⁸ Then He asked, What is the kingdom of God like? and what can I compare it to?

¹⁹ It is like a tiny mustard seed, that a man took, and sowed in his garden. It grew, and became a great tree; and the birds of the air nested in its branches.

²⁰ Again He said, What can I compare to the kingdom of God?

²¹ It is like yeast, that a woman took and mixed in 50 pounds of flour, till it was all leavened.

The narrowing way,

²² And He went through one town and village after another, teaching as He went to Jerusalem.

²³ And someone asked Him, Lord, are there few being saved? And He said to them,

²⁴ **Make every effort to enter through the narrowing gate: because I tell you, many will try to enter, and will not be able.**

²⁵ Once the head of the house gets up, and shuts the door, then you will stand outside and begin to pound on the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open up for us! And He will answer you, **I do not know who you are or where you are from:**

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26 then you will say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.

27 But He will say, I tell you, I do not know you or where you are from. Go away from Me, all you workers of injustice.

28 There will be weeping and grinding of teeth in that place, when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, but yourselves thrown out.

29 They will come from east and west, from north and south, and recline at the table in the kingdom of God.

30 And pay attention, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.

Jesus and Herod Antipas,

31 The same day, certain fake news Pharisees came to Him, saying, Go! Get out of here: for Herod wants to kill You / but was Jesus scared, or even the least worried? No!

32 And He said to them, You go, and tell that wily fox, Pay attention, I'm exorcising demons, and healing today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will be finished / in other words His calendar was too full to worry about some puny, half-insane political leader; and addressing hypocrites who came to cause Him fear, it's as if Jesus looks at His calendar and continues to dismiss them; saying,

33 Yet I must walk today, tomorrow and the next day: for a prophet does not perish outside of Jerusalem.

34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets, and stones those who are sent to you; how often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

35 Pay attention, your house is left to you abandoned: Amen, I say to you, You will not see Me, until the time comes when you say, **Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

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