

Brookland Baptist Church
Bible Study
Pastor Charles B. Jackson, Sr., Facilitator

Lecture X

April 14, 2021

THE GREATEST SERMON EVER PREACHED

● **Matthew 6:1-4 (KJV)**

6 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

2 Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

Jesus is affirming the positive value of doing charitable deeds. However, He warns that they must be done with the correct and proper attitudes and motivations. If our motivations are selfish and spotlight seeking then they become hypocritical contempt to God. We are not to give to please ourselves or to please others. Righteous giving to others should always be to please God. When we seek the spotlight or the recognition of man in our giving, God is not glorified.

When Jesus says “do not sound a trumpet,” He is saying that we should not seek to attract attention to our giving. He uses the word “hypocrite” to denote an actor who wears a mask and playing a part in a production. It’s like a performance, so one can receive a standing applause.

Jesus says give in secret which means give and rejoice in your giving even if no one knows but you and God.

● **Ecclesiastes 12:14 (KJV)**

¹⁴ *For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

● **II Corinthians 5:10 (KJV)**

¹⁰ *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

● **Matthew 25:31-40 (KJV)**

³¹ *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

³² *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

³³ *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

³⁴ *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

³⁵ *For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*

³⁶ *Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.*

³⁷ *Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?*

³⁸ *When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?*

³⁹ *Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?*

⁴⁰ *And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

● **Matthew 6:5-15 (KJV)**

⁵ *And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.*

⁶ *But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.*

⁷ *But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.*

⁸ *Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.*

⁹ *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

¹⁰ *Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

¹¹ *Give us this day our daily bread.*

¹² *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

¹³ *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

¹⁴ *For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:*

¹⁵ *But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

The Jewish custom was to pray standing with outstretched, uplifted hands and eyes gazing upwards. Jesus is not condemning the posture of standing while praying, nor is He forbidding His disciples to pray in public. Jesus stood in prayer.

● **John 11:41 (KJV)**

⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

Jesus was concerned about the motive and manner of prayer. It is a caution against vain glory; the seeking to impress others with how well we articulate and arouse people with how we pray and what we say when we pray.

When Jesus says, “enter into thy closet,” He means a place of seclusion, a quiet place where you shut out all distractions and give undivided attention to God. Talking to God and remaining humbly on your knees to listen to God as He talks back to you.

● **Luke 11:1-13 (KJV)**

11 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

² And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

³ Give us day by day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

⁵ And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

⁶ For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

⁷ And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

⁸ I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

⁹ *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

¹⁰ *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

¹¹ *If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?*

¹² *Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?*

¹³ *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*