

Luke 12:49-59  
Be Ready and Know the Times

**Background:** Three B's

1. **Be**-ware of \_\_\_\_\_. (12:1)

Usually, Jesus' comments regarding hypocrisy are addressed to the Pharisees. They do everything they can to look good on the \_\_\_\_\_ for the praise of \_\_\_\_\_. They are like whitewashed tombs...clean on the outside, but full of dead bones on the inside.

In this situation, Jesus addresses His \_\_\_\_\_. How can a disciple be a hypocrite?

By caring more about what other people think than what \_\_\_\_\_ thinks. This leads to hypocrisy. (12:4-5) Jesus tells them that what is hidden on the inside will be shouted from the \_\_\_\_\_ tops.

In both cases, Jesus addresses the heart. On the one hand they are to \_\_\_\_\_ their hearts and in the other they are to \_\_\_\_\_ their hearts.

2. **Be** on your guard against \_\_\_\_\_. (12:15)

Be careful of laying up treasures only for yourself!

The sin of greed turns to \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus said, "Don't be anxious over what you're going to eat and what you're going to \_\_\_\_\_. He points to the birds and to the \_\_\_\_\_ and says, "Look at them and see how God cares for them. You are so much more valuable to God than a \_\_\_\_\_ that is here today and gone tomorrow!"

Instead of worrying and keeping all of our focus on "stuff" and how to build bigger "barns" to keep it all, Jesus tells His disciples to seek \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God and \_\_\_\_\_ these things will be added to you. Be rich towards God and build treasures in \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Be** \_\_\_\_\_. (12:35ff)

Jesus reinforces His teaching on the right use of wealth by reminding His disciples that earthly things are \_\_\_\_\_, but the coming of the Son of Man is sure.

Therefore, they were to be READY! This has a double meaning. When darkness comes, be ready and have your lamps lit. They were to be ready for an impending crisis. Jesus knew His \_\_\_\_\_ was coming and He was encouraging them to be ready.

Secondly, they were to be ready for His \_\_\_\_\_ coming, when He comes as LORD and Master.

### **Luke 12:49-53**

Though, Jesus did come to bring peace, there are some things that are more important than peace. Sometimes His message and the way it is received brings division. Jesus spells this out. Tyndale Commentary on Luke. P. 219

“fire” most likely means \_\_\_\_\_.

“kindled” means to \_\_\_\_\_. What will initiate judgment? The \_\_\_\_\_.

The cross will set God’s plan of salvation in motion. All of what God is doing focuses on the \_\_\_\_\_. **Jesus is not saying that He looks forward to inflicting judgment on others, but on bearing that judgment for us!**

He goes on to describe the \_\_\_\_\_ as the “baptism” that He must undergo. (Mk. 10:38)

“how distressed I am until it is accomplished.” The \_\_\_\_\_ of the cross always hung over Him.

The way in which men choose to receive His message will \_\_\_\_\_ men from one another. Those who choose to believe His message will be at odds with those who don’t and those who don’t receive His message will be at odds with those who do. This division will even run through \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Luke 12:54-59**

In this passage, though they could determine the weather by looking at the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_, they were unable to determine the times that they were in. The Messiah was here and all Scripture pointed to it, and yet, they didn’t know it. They were not paying attention. Instead they paid attention to superficial things like the \_\_\_\_\_.

Why does Jesus use the analogy of making things right with your opponent on your way to court?

Now is the time to get right with \_\_\_\_\_. If you wait until the final judgment, you will lose every \_\_\_\_\_. You will lose everything!

**DISCUSSION:**

1. Why do you think Jesus follows the “be ready” discussion with “the message I bring divides?”
2. If the Gospel message divides, what are some practical things we can do to be ready?
3. What are some things we can do to be wise about the times in which we live?

**ACTIVITY:**

Every day ask the LORD, what can I do to ready? Is there anything I need to get rid of that gets in my way? Is there anything I need to do that will help me in being ready?

**MEMORY VERSE: Luke 12:35**