

Notes on the Greek New Testament
Day 84 – March 25th – Luke 6:39-7:10

Works frequently referenced in these notes on Luke

Geldenhuis, Norval	<i>Commentary on the Gospel of Luke</i> , Marshall Morgan and Scott, London, 1950
Marshall, I Howard	<i>The Gospel of Luke</i> , The New International Greek Testament Commentary, Paternoster, Exeter, 1978
Morris, Leon	<i>Luke</i> (Tyndale NT Commentaries), IVP, London 1974

Verses 39-49

These verses deal "with the kind of inward character which produces the type of behaviour outlined in the earlier sections."

Verse 39

Εἶπεν δὲ καὶ παραβολὴν αὐτοῖς· Μήτι δύνатаι τυφλὸς τυφλὸν ὀδηγεῖν; οὐχὶ ἀμφοτέροι εἰς βόθυνον ἐμπεσοῦνται;

μητι Negative particle, used in questions expecting a negative answer
 τυφλος, η, ον blind
 ὀδηγεω lead, guide
 οὐχι (emphatic form of οὐ) not, no; used in questions expecting an affirmative answer.
 ἀμφοτεροι, αι, α both, all
 βοθυνος, ου m ditch, pit

Only here and in Mt 12:11; 15:14, cf. Is 24:18; Jer 31:44.

ἐμπεσοῦνται Verb, fut midd/pass dep indic, 3 pl ἐμπιπτω fall into, fall among

ἐν becomes ἐμ before π

In the parallel in Mt 5:14 the reference is to the Pharisees. But here, says Marshall, "The saying appears to be understood by Luke in connection with 6:39: the disciples are blind and therefore cannot lead others or criticize them."

Verse 40

οὐκ ἔστιν μαθητῆς ὑπὲρ τὸν διδάσκαλον, κατηρτισμένος δὲ πᾶς ἔσται ὡς ὁ διδάσκαλος αὐτοῦ.

μαθητης, ου m disciple, pupil, follower
 διδασκαλος, ου m teacher

Cf. Mt 10:24a also Jn 13:16; 15:20a. "The disciples must not behave differently from, or in a superior fashion to, Jesus – and he did not judge others (Jn 8:11)." Marshall

καταρτιζω mend, restore, make complete; midd strive for perfection

Here perf. pass. ptc = be fully trained

Verse 41

τί δὲ βλέπεις τὸ κάρφος τὸ ἐν τῷ ὀφθαλμῷ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ σου, τὴν δὲ δοκὸν τὴν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ὀφθαλμῷ οὐ κατανοεῖς;

βλεπω see, look, be able to see, beware of
 καρφος, ους n speck, small splinter
 δοκος, ου f log, beam of wood

Both καρφος and δοκος occur in the NT only in the context of this saying.

ἰδιος, α, ον one's own

κατανοεω consider, notice, observe

Verse 42

πῶς δύνασαι λέγειν τῷ ἀδελφῷ σου· Ἀδελφέ, ἄφες ἐκβάλω τὸ κάρφος τὸ ἐν τῷ ὀφθαλμῷ σου, αὐτὸς τὴν ἐν τῷ ὀφθαλμῷ σοῦ δοκὸν οὐ βλέπων; ὑποκριτά, ἔκβαλε πρῶτον τὴν δοκὸν ἐκ τοῦ ὀφθαλμοῦ σοῦ, καὶ τότε διαβλέψεις τὸ κάρφος τὸ ἐν τῷ ὀφθαλμῷ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ σου ἐκβαλεῖν.

πως interrog. particle how? in what way?

ἀφημι cancel, forgive; allow

ἐκβάλω Verb, aor act subj, 1 s ἐκβαλλω

throw out, expel, cast out

αὐτος is used as an emphatic pronoun which, although a 3rd person pronoun, in this context means 'you yourself'.

ὑποκριτης, ου m hypocrite

"He professes piety and righteousness, especially in censuring others, but other aspects of his behaviour conflict with this, and so he is guilty of inconsistency. His real character is impious; his 'righteous censure' of others is thus play-acting." Marshall

ἐκβαλε Verb, aor act imperat, 2s ἐκβαλλω

πρῶτον adv. first, in the first place

τοτε then, at that time

διαβλεπω see clearly

Verse 43

Οὐ γάρ ἐστιν δένδρον καλὸν ποιοῦν καρπὸν σαπρὸν, οὐδὲ πάλιν δένδρον σαπρὸν ποιοῦν καρπὸν καλόν.

δενδρον, ου n tree

καλος is here equivalent to ἀγαθος, 'good'

ποιῶν Verb, pres act ptc, n nom/acc s ποιῶ
 καρπός, ου m fruit, harvest, offspring
 σαπρός, α, ον bad, rotten, harmful
 παλιν again, once more

The emphasis is on the second half of the saying.

Verse 44

ἕκαστον γὰρ δένδρον ἐκ τοῦ ἰδίου καρποῦ
 γινώσκειται· οὐ γὰρ ἐξ ἀκανθῶν συλλέγουσιν
 σῦκα, οὐδὲ ἐκ βάτου σταφυλὴν τρυγῶσιν.

ἕκαστος, η, ον each, every

ἴδιος see v.41

γινώσκειται Verb, pres pass indic, 3 s

γινώσκω

ἀκανθα, ης f thorn-plant

συλλεγῶ gather

συκόν, ου n fig

βάτος, ου m & f bush, thornbush

σταφυλή, ης f (bunch of) grapes

τρυγῶ gather, pick

Only here and in Rev. 14:18f.

Verse 45

ὁ ἀγαθὸς ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ θησαυροῦ
 τῆς καρδίας αὐτοῦ προφέρει τὸ ἀγαθόν, καὶ ὁ
 πονηρὸς ἐκ τοῦ πονηροῦ προφέρει τὸ
 πονηρόν· ἐκ γὰρ περισσεύματος καρδίας λαλεῖ
 τὸ στόμα αὐτοῦ.

θησαυρός, ου m treasure store, treasure
 box, storeroom

προφέρω bring out, produce

πονηρός, α, ον evil, bad, wicked

περισεύμα, τος n abundance

λαλεῶ speak, talk

στόμα, τος n mouth, utterance

Verses 46-49

The final section of the Sermon "is an appeal to the hearers of the Sermon (cf. 6:18) to obey the commands which they have heard, and not be content to be mere hearers of the word; cf. Jas 1:21-25; Lk. 8:21; Rom 2:13... The connection with the preceding section is an implicit one rather than a direct one: the good person is the man who obeys the words of Jesus. But the section forms a conclusion of the Sermon as a whole, and its main purpose is to stress the importance of obedience to what has been heard." Marshall

Verse 46

Τί δέ με καλεῖτε· Κύριε κύριε, καὶ οὐ ποιεῖτε ἃ
 λέγω;

Verse 47

πᾶς ὁ ἐρχόμενος πρὸς με καὶ ἀκούων μου τῶν
 λόγων καὶ ποιῶν αὐτούς, ὑποδείξω ὑμῖν τίνι
 ἐστὶν ὁμοίος·

ὑποδείξω fut. ὑποδεικνυμι show

ὁμοίος, α, ον like, of the same kind as

Verse 48

ὁμοίός ἐστιν ἀνθρώπῳ οἰκοδομοῦντι οἰκίαν ὃς
 ἔσκαψεν καὶ ἐβάθυνεν καὶ ἔθηκεν θεμέλιον ἐπὶ
 τὴν πέτραν· πλημμύρης δὲ γενομένης
 προσέρηξεν ὁ ποταμὸς τῆ οἰκία ἐκείνη, καὶ
 οὐκ ἴσχυσεν σαλευθῆσαι αὐτὴν διὰ τὸ καλῶς
 οἰκοδομηθῆσαι αὐτήν.

οἰκοδομοῦντι Verb, pres act ptc, m dat s

οἰκοδομεῶ build, build up

οἰκία, ας f house, home, household

σκαπτῶ dig

Only here and in 13:8; 16:3. Luke gives more detail than Matthew concerning the care of the builder.

ἐβάθυνεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s βάθυνω
 go deep

ἔθηκεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s τιθεμι place,
 set

θεμέλιος, ου m (also θεμελιον, ου n)

foundation, foundation stone

πέτρα, ας f rock, solid rock

πλημμυρα, ης f flood

προσέρηξεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s

προσρηγγυμι burst upon

ποταμός, ου m river, stream

ἐκεῖνος, η, ο demonstrative adj. that, those

ἰσχυῶ be strong, be able, be sufficient

σαλευῶ shake, disturb

καλῶς Adv well

οἰκοδομηθῆσαι Verb, perf pass infin

οἰκοδομεῶ

Many MSS, followed by TR read τεθεμελιωτο γὰρ ἐπὶ τὴν πέτραν (see Mt 7:25) rather than διὰ τὸ καλῶς οἰκοδομηθῆσαι αὐτήν which is well supported by p⁷⁵ & B L *et al.* Metzger writes, "The distinctly Lukan clause assigning the reason for the permanence of the house ('because it was well built') which corresponds to the earlier statement concerning the builder's industry ('dug deep and laid the foundation upon rock'), was supplanted by copyists who preferred the reason given by Matthew ('for it was founded upon the rock,' Mt 7:25)."

The person who obeys Jesus will safely survive the crisis of divine judgment; cf. 17:26-37; 1 Cor 3:11-15.

Verse 49

ὁ δὲ ἀκούσας καὶ μὴ ποιήσας ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἀνθρώπῳ οἰκοδομήσαντι οἰκίαν ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν χωρὶς θεμελίου, ἣ προσέρηξεν ὁ ποταμός, καὶ εὐθὺς συνέπεσεν, καὶ ἐγένετο τὸ ῥῆγμα τῆς οἰκίας ἐκείνης μέγα.

οἰκοδομήσαντι Verb, aor act ptc, m dat s
οικοδομεω
γη, γης f earth
χωρὶς prep with gen without, apart from,
separately

εὐθὺς adv. straightway, immediately
συνεπεσεν aor. συμπιπτω collapse, fall

Here alone in the NT. Reflects Luke's liking for συν- compounds.

ῥῆγμα, τος n ruin, destruction
μεγας, μεγαλη, μεγα large, great

Cf. Ezek 13:10-16.

Luke 7:1-10

Cf. Mt. 8:5-13.

Marshall sums up the theme of 7:1-50 as follows: "What God had promised to do in the last days was being fulfilled: John himself was fulfilling the role of the coming Elijah, and Jesus was making the messianic era a reality. Above all, the characteristic of this era was the gracious intervention of God in the life of his people, answering their needs both physical and spiritual."

Verse 1

Ἐπειδὴ ἐπλήρωσεν πάντα τὰ ῥήματα αὐτοῦ εἰς τὰς ἀκοὰς τοῦ λαοῦ, εἰσηλθεν εἰς Καφαρναούμ.

ἐπειδὴ since, because, for

Here means, 'after'.

ἐπλήρωσεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s πληρωω
fill, make full, fulfill

Means to finish a task.

ῥημα, ατος n word, thing, matter
ἀκοη, ης f report, news, hearing
λαος, ου m people, a people
εἰσερχομαι enter, go in, come in

Verse 2

Ἐκατοντάρχου δὲ τινος δοῦλος κακῶς ἔχων ἤμελλεν τελευτᾶν, ὃς ἦν αὐτῷ ἐντιμος.

ἐκατονταρχης, ου m centurion

For the opening genitive in the story, cf. 12:16.

δουλος slave, servant
κακως badly; κακως ἔχω be sick
ἤμελλεν imperfect μελλω (before an infin)
be going, be about
τελευταν infinitive τελευταω die

He was thus too ill to be brought to Jesus.

ἐντιμος, ον valuable, precious, honoured,
esteemed

Verse 3

ἀκούσας δὲ περὶ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἀπέστειλεν πρὸς αὐτὸν πρεσβυτέρους τῶν Ἰουδαίων, ἐρωτῶν αὐτὸν ὅπως ἐλθὼν διασώσῃ τὸν δοῦλον αὐτοῦ.

ἀπεστειλεν aor. of ἀποστελλω send, send
out

πρεσβυτερος, α, ον elder, old man
Ἰουδαίος, α, ον a Jew, Jewish, Judean
ἐρωταω ask, request, beg, urge
ὅπως (or ὅπως ἂν) that, in order that
διασωση Verb, aor act subj, 3 s διασωζω
bring safely through, rescue, cure

The verb perhaps stresses the dangerous nature of the illness.

Verse 4

οἱ δὲ παραγενόμενοι πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν παρεκάλουν αὐτὸν σπουδαίως λέγοντες ὅτι Ἄξιός ἐστιν ὃ παρέξι τοῦτο,

παραγινομαι come, arrive, appear
παρακαλεω exhort, encourage, urge

"The use of the imperfect of παρακαλεω... in a continuous sense does not indicate that Jesus was unwilling to respond, but rather that the elders were willing to press his case eagerly (σπουδαιως)." Marshall

σπουδαιως earnestly, diligently, eagerly
ἄξιος, α, ον worthy, deserving, fitting

Refers here to "the public reputation of a man held in esteem by his fellows." Marshall

παρεχω act & midd cause, bring about, do

Verse 5

ἀγαπᾷ γὰρ τὸ ἔθνος ἡμῶν καὶ τὴν συναγωγὴν αὐτὸς ὠκοδόμησεν ἡμῖν.

ἀγαπαω love

ἔθνος, ους n nation, people; τα ἑ. Gentiles
συναγωγή, ης f synagogue
οικοδομεω build, build up

"The implication of the account for the early church is that, if even Jews thought such a man worthy of help from Jesus, Jewish Christians should see no barriers to the acceptance of similar people (cf. Acts 10:2) into the church." Marshall.

Verse 6

ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἐπορεύετο σὺν αὐτοῖς. ἤδη δὲ αὐτοῦ οὐ μακρὰν ἀπέχοντος ἀπὸ τῆς οἰκίας ἐπεμψεν φίλους ὁ ἑκατοντάρχης λέγων αὐτῷ· Κύριε, μὴ σκύλλου, οὐ γὰρ ἰκανός εἰμι ἵνα ὑπὸ τὴν στέγην μου εἰσελθῆς·

πορευομαι go, proceed, travel
ἤδη adv now, already

μακρὰν far, far off, at some distance
 ἀπεχω be distant
 πέμπω send
 φίλος, οὐ m and φίλη, ἡς f friend
 σκύλλου Verb, pres midd imperat, 2 s
 σκυλλῶ trouble, annoy; midd trouble
 oneself
 ἱκανός, ἡ, οὐ worthy, sufficient, fit

"The thought is hardly of ritual uncleanness but of unworthiness, like that felt by John the Baptist before the authority of a teacher sent from God." Marshall

στεγῆ, ἡς f roof
 εἰσερχομαι enter, go in, come in

Verse 7

διὸ οὐδὲ ἐμαυτὸν ἠξίωσα πρὸς σὲ ἐλθεῖν· ἀλλὰ εἰπέ λόγῳ, καὶ ἰαθήτω ὁ παῖς μου·

διὸ therefore, for this reason
 ἐμαυτὸν Pronoun, acc s ἐμαυτου, ἡς reflexive pronoun (not used in nom)
 myself, my own

ἄξιω consider worthy
 ἐλθεῖν Verb, aor act infin ἐρχομαι

λογῷ is here a redundant dative of instrument.

ἰαθήτω Verb, aor pass imperat, 3 s ἰαομαι
 heal

Many manuscripts read ἰαθησεται the future passive, assimilating the text to Mt 8:8.

παῖς, παιδός m & f servant, slave, child

Verse 8

καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ἄνθρωπός εἰμι ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν τασσόμενος, ἔχων ὑπ' ἐμαυτὸν στρατιώτας, καὶ λέγω τούτῳ· Πορεύθητι, καὶ πορεύεται, καὶ ἄλλῳ· Ἔρχου, καὶ ἔρχεται, καὶ τῷ δούλῳ μου· Ποίησον τοῦτο, καὶ ποιεῖ.

ἐξουσία, ας f authority, right, power
 τασσω appoint, designate, set aside, command, direct

ὑπο ἐξουσίαν τ. under the authority of superior officers. "... so Jesus, being under the authority of God can give orders to others." Marshall

ἐμαυτὸν Pronoun, acc s ἐμαυτου, ἡς reflexive pronoun (not used in nom)
 myself, my own

στρατιώτης, οὐ m soldier
 πορεύθητι Verb, aor pass dep imperat, 2 s πορευομαι go
 ἄλλος, ἡ, ο another, other

Verse 9

ἀκούσας δὲ ταῦτα ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐθαύμασεν αὐτόν, καὶ στραφεὶς τῷ ἀκολουθοῦντι αὐτῷ ὄχλῳ εἶπεν· Λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐδὲ ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοσαύτην πίστιν εὑρον.

θαυμάζω wonder, be amazed

στραφεὶς Verb, aor pass ptc, m nom s
 στρεφω turn, turn around
 ἀκολουθεω follow, accompany, be a disciple
 ὄχλος, οὐ m crowd, multitude
 τοσοῦτος, αὐτή, οὐτον correlative adj so
 much, so great, so large
 πιστις, εὐς f faith

I.e. such great faith in the power of God revealed in himself.

εὑρον aor. εὕρισκω find, discover

Verse 10

καὶ ὑποστρέψαντες εἰς τὸν οἶκον οἱ πεμφθέντες εὑρον τὸν δούλον ὑγιαίνοντα.

ὑποστρεφω return, turn back
 πεμφθεντες aor. pass. ptc. πέμπω send

Many MSS, followed by TR, read ἀσθενουντα δουλον.

ὑγιαίνω be sound, be in good health