

Notes on the Greek New Testament Day 99 – April 9th – Luke 13:1-21

Works frequently referenced in these notes on Luke

Geldenhuy, 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

Luke 13:1-9

The Need for Repentance

Verse 1

Παρήσαν δέ τινες ἐν αὐτῷ τῷ καιρῷ ἀπαγγέλλοντες αὐτῷ περὶ τῶν Γαλιλαίων ὧν τὸ αἷμα Πιλάτος ἔμιξεν μετὰ τῶν θυσιῶν αὐτῶν.

παρειμι be present, arrive

αὐτῷ here as an emphasising pronoun, 'at that very time'

ἀπαγγελλω announce, proclaim

αἷμα, ατος f blood

ἔμιξεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s μιγνυμι mix, mingle

θυσια, ας f sacrifice, victim

An incident which probably took place at Passover when worshipers sacrificed their own animals. "The expression need not be taken literally, but could simply be a gruesome metaphor for the two events taking place simultaneously." Marshall.

The precise historical incident is unknown.

Verse 2

καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Δοκεῖτε ὅτι οἱ Γαλιλαῖοι οὗτοι ἀμαρτωλοὶ παρὰ πάντας τοὺς Γαλιλαίους ἐγένοντο, ὅτι ταῦτα πεπόνθασιν;

ἀποκριθεὶς Verb, aor pass dep ptc, m nom s ἀποκρινομαι answer, reply, say

δοκεω think, suppose

ἀμαρτωλος, ον sinful, sinner

παρα here used to express a comparison, 'more sinful than' and παντας 'all other'.

ἐγένοντο Verb, aor midd dep indic, 3 pl γινομαι

πεπόνθασιν Verb, perf act indic, 3 pl πασχω suffer

Verse 3

οὐχί, λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀλλ' ἐὰν μὴ μετανοήτε πάντες ὁμοίως ἀπολεῖσθε.

οὐχι (emphatic form of οὐ) not, no
μετανοεω repent, have a change of heart, turn from one's sins

ὁμοίως likewise, in the same way

ἀπολεῖσθε Verb, fut midd indic ἀπολλυμι
midd be lost, perish, die

"The point is then that natural calamities afford no proof that those who suffer in them are any worse sinners than anybody else; far more important is the fact that all sinners face the judgment of God unless they repent." Marshall

Verse 4

ἢ ἐκεῖνοι οἱ δεκαοκτῶ ἐφ' οὓς ἔπεσεν ὁ πύργος ἐν τῷ Σιλωὰμ καὶ ἀπέκτεινεν αὐτούς, δοκεῖτε ὅτι αὐτοὶ ὀφειλέται ἐγένοντο παρὰ πάντας τοὺς ἀνθρώπους τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Ἱερουσαλήμ;

δεκαοκτω eighteen

ἔπεσεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s πιπτω fall, fall down

πυργος, ου m tower, watchtower

ἀποκτεινω and ἀποκτενω, -νυω kill, put to death

ὀφειλετης, ου m debtor, one indebted

I.e. sinners.

κατοικεω live, settle, inhabit

Verse 5

οὐχί, λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀλλ' ἐὰν μὴ μετανοήτε πάντες ὡσαύτως ἀπολεῖσθε.

ὡσαυτως adv in the same way, likewise

Verse 6

Ἔλεγεν δὲ ταύτην τὴν παραβολήν. Συκὴν εἶχεν τις πεφυτευμένην ἐν τῷ ἀμπελῶνι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἦλθεν ζητῶν καρπὸν ἐν αὐτῇ καὶ οὐχ εὔρεν.

συκη, ης f fig tree

εἶχεν Verb, imperf act indic, 3 s ἔχω

φυτεω plant

ἀμπελων, ονος m vineyard

ζητεω seek, search for

καρπος, ου m fruit, harvest, outcome

Verse 7

εἶπεν δὲ πρὸς τὸν ἀμπελοργόν· Ἴδου τρία ἔτη ἀφ' οὗ ἔρχομαι ζητῶν καρπὸν ἐν τῇ συκῇ ταύτῃ καὶ οὐκ εὐρίσκω· ἔκκοπον αὐτήν· ἵνατί καὶ τὴν γῆν καταργεῖ;

ἀμπελοργος, ου m vine-dresser, gardener

Here alone in the NT.

τρεις, τρια gen τριων dat τρισιν three
ἔτη Noun, nom & acc pl ἔτος, ους n year
ἐκκοπτω cut off, cut down, remove

ἵνατι why? for what reason?

γη, γης f earth

καταργεω render ineffective, use up

"The tree not only takes up space, but in fact exhausts the ground by taking nourishment from it." Marshall

Verse 8

ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς λέγει αὐτῷ· Κύριε, ἄφες αὐτήν καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἔτος, ἕως ὅτου σκάψω περὶ αὐτήν καὶ βάλω κόπρια·

ἄφες aor. imperative ἀφιμι allow,
tolerate, leave.

σκαπτω dig

βαλλω see 12:58

κοπριον, ου n manure

Cf. Hos 9:10; Is 5:1-7; Joel 1:7.

Verse 9

κὰν μὲν ποιήσῃ καρπὸν εἰς τὸ μέλλον – εἰ δὲ μήγε, ἐκκόψεις αὐτήν.

καν (και εαν) even if, and if

μεν ... δε similar to "on one hand on the other hand"

μελλω (ptc. without infin) coming, future

εἰς το μελλον 'in the coming (year)' – the phrase is left incomplete; the conclusion is evident in the context.

"The day of grace will come to an end, despite the intercession of the vine-dresser which could only be for a limited remission of judgment." Marshall

Verse 10

Ἦν δὲ διδάσκων ἐν μιᾷ τῶν συναγωγῶν ἐν τοῖς σάββασιν.

διδασκω teach

εἰς, μια, ἐν gen ἑνος, μιας, ἑνος one

Verse 11

καὶ ἰδοὺ γυνὴ πνεῦμα ἔχουσα ἀσθενείας ἔτη δεκαοκτώ, καὶ ἦν συγκύπτουσα καὶ μὴ δυναμένη ἀνακύψαι εἰς τὸ παντελές.

γυνη, αικος f woman, wife

ἀσθενεια, ας f weakness, illness

ἔτη Noun, nom & acc pl ἔτος, ους n year

δεκαοκτω eighteen

συγκυπτω bend double

ἀνακυπτω straighten up, stand up, look up

παντελης, ες complete; εἰς το π. fully, at all, completely

The meaning depends on what is being qualified by παντελες

i) It may go with ἀνακυψαι, 'unable to raise herself completely', or

ii) with μη δυναμενη, 'completely unable to raise herself'.

Marshall says that the latter best fits the context.

Verse 12

ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτήν ὁ Ἰησοῦς προσεφώνησεν καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· Γύναι, ἀπολέλυσαι τῆς ἀσθενείας σου,

ιδων Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s ὁραω trans see, observe, perceive

προσφωνεω call to, address

γύναι Noun, voc s γυνη, αικος f woman, wife

ἀπολελυσαι perf. pass. ἀπολυω release, set free,

The use of the perfect is here prophetic or dynamic in that it is by this act (including the laying on of hands, v.13) that the woman has been loosed for ever from her bondage. The perfect also stresses the permanent nature of the cure.

Verse 13

καὶ ἐπέθηκεν αὐτῇ τὰς χεῖρας· καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνωρθώθη, καὶ ἐδόξαζεν τὸν θεόν.

ἐπέθηκεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s ἐπιτιθημι place on

χειρ, χειρος f hand, power

παραχρημα immediately, at once

ἀνορθωω restore; pass straighten up

Only here and Acts 15:16; Heb 12:12.

δοξαζω praise, honour, glorify

Cf. Acts 3:8f.

Verse 14

ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ ἀρχισυνάγωγος, ἀγανακτῶν ὅτι τῷ σαββάτῳ ἐθεράπευσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, ἔλεγεν τῷ ὄχλῳ ὅτι Ἐξ ἡμέραι εἰσὶν ἐν αἷς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι· ἐν αὐταῖς οὖν ἐρχόμενοι θεραπεύεσθε καὶ μὴ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου.

ἀποκριθεὶς Verb, aor pass dep ptc, m nom s ἀποκρινομαι answer, reply, say

Here of response to what had happened.

ἀρχισυναγωγος, ου m president of the synagogue

ἀγανακτεω be indignant, be angry

θεραπευω heal, cure

ὄχλος, ου m crowd, multitude
 ἕξ six
 δεῖ impersonal verb it is necessary, must,
 should, ought
 ἐργάζομαι work, do, perform

Verse 15

ἀπεκρίθη δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος καὶ εἶπεν·
 Ὑποκριταί, ἕκαστος ὑμῶν τῷ σαββάτῳ οὐ λύει
 τὸν βούν αὐτοῦ ἢ τὸν ὄνον ἀπὸ τῆς φάτνης καὶ
 ἀπαγαγὼν ποτίζει;

ὑποκριτής, ου m hypocrite

"The plural form ... indicates that Jesus is
 addressing the ruler and any present who agree
 with him." Marshall

ἕκαστος, η, ον each, every
 λύω loose, untie, release
 βους, βοος m ox
 ἢ or
 ὄνος, ου m & f donkey
 φατνη, ης f manger, feeding trough,
 stable
 ἀπαγαγὼν Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s ἀπαγω
 lead away by force, lead
 ποτίζω give to drink, water

Verse 16

ταύτην δὲ θυγατέρα Ἀβραάμ οὐσαν, ἣν ἔδησεν
 ὁ Σατανᾶς ἰδοὺ δέκα καὶ ὀκτῶ ἔτη, οὐκ ἔδει
 λυθῆναι ἀπὸ τοῦ δεσμοῦ τούτου τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ
 σαββάτου;

θυγατήρ, τρος f daughter

"It may be that the Jews denied her this
 position, since her illness might have been
 regarded as a sign of sinfulness (cf. 13:2), but
 Jesus affirms it." Marshall

δεῶ bind, tie
 Σατανᾶς, α the Adversary, Satan
 δεκα ten
 ὀκτῶ eight
 λυθῆναι Verb, aor pass infin λυω
 δεσμος, ου m (& n) bond, chain,
 imprisonment, prison

Jesus' words suggest, contrary to the view of
 the synagogue leader, that there is something
 particularly appropriate about healing on the
 Sabbath.

Verse 17

καὶ ταῦτα λέγοντος αὐτοῦ κατησχύνοντο
 πάντες οἱ ἀντικείμενοι αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος
 ἔχαιρεν ἐπὶ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἐνδόξοις τοῖς γινομένοις
 ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

καταισχύνω put to shame, humiliate,
 disgrace

πάντες Adjective, m nom pl πας
 ἀντικεῖμαι oppose, be against

"The phrase is strongly reminiscent of Is 45:16
 αἰσχυνθησονται ... παντες οἱ ἀντικειμενοι
 αὐτῷ, and may perhaps imply that for the
 narrator the messianic promises are being
 fulfilled in Jesus." Marshall

χαίρω rejoice, be glad
 ἐνδοξος, ον glorious, splendid

"The expression is reminiscent of Ex 34:10,
 and stresses that the deeds of Jesus are the
 work of God (cf. 7:16 for the thought)."
 Marshall

Verses 18-21

**The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the
 Leaven.** "In both cases the kingdom of God is
 compared to the process involved. From tiny
 beginnings it will grow and extend its
 influence to a tremendous extent. Thus the idea
 of growth and of the contrast between the
 small beginning and the great end result are
 both present... In the present Lucan context the
 parables are a commentary on what has
 preceded. The defeat of Satan is a sign of the
 advance of God's rule (11:20). The evidence
 may be slight – such an apparently trivial
 incident as the cure of a crippled woman – but
 the potential is beyond description. The small
 beginning is the earnest of certain victory,
 despite the opposition which Jesus experiences
 throughout his ministry." Marshall

Verse 18

Ἔλεγεν οὖν· Τίνι ὁμοία ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ
 θεοῦ, καὶ τίνι ὁμοιώσω αὐτήν;

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

Τίνι ὁμοία ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ θεοῦ "What is
 the Kingdom of God like?"

ὁμοιωω make like; pass resemble, be like

Cf Mk 4:30, also Is 40:18.

Verse 19

ὁμοία ἐστὶν κόκκῳ σινάπεως, ὃν λαβὼν
 ἄνθρωπος ἔβαλεν εἰς κῆπον ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ
 ἠῤῥξῆσεν καὶ ἐγένετο εἰς δένδρον, καὶ τὰ
 πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ κατεσκήνωσεν ἐν τοῖς
 κλάδοις αὐτοῦ.

κόκκος, ου m seed, grain
 σινάπι, εως n mustard

"Usually identified as *sinapis nigra*, 'black
 mustard'. This grows to form a bush about 4 ft
 high, but greater growth, even to 9 ft., is
 known, and the description of it as a δένδρον is
 not inappropriate." Marshall

λαβὼν Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s λαμβανω
 κηπος, ου m garden
 ἑαυτος, ἑαυτη, ἑαυτον him/her/itself

αὐξανω and αὐξω grow, increase, reach
full growth

δενδρον, ου n tree

Some MSS add μεγα

πετεινον, ου n bird

κατασκηνοω nest, live, dwell

κλαδος, ου m branch

Cf. Dan 4:12,21 ... where similar imagery is used of the relation of the world to Nebuchadrezzar, the ruler of Babylon; see also Ps 104:13 (103:12); Ezek 17:23; 31:6... The birds may represent the nations." Marshall

Verse 20

Καὶ πάλιν εἶπεν· Τίτι ὁμοιώσω τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ;

παλιν again, once more

Verse 21

ὁμοία ἐστὶν ζύμη, ἣν λαβοῦσα γυνὴ ἔκρυσεν εἰς ἄλευρου σάτα τρία ἕως οὗ ἐζυμώθη ὅλον.

ζυμη, ης f yeast

"'Leaven'... is old, fermented dough which is added to the new baking in order to start off the process of fermentation." Marshall

λαβοῦσα Verb, aor act ptc, f nom s λαμβανω

γυνη, αικος f woman, wife

ἐγκρυστω place or mix in

ἄλευρον, ου n wheat flour

σοτον, ου n saton (a dry measure of about 12 litres)

τρεις, τρια gen τριων dat τρισιν three

ζυμοω cause to rise

ὅλος, η, ον whole, all, complete, entire

"Leaven often typifies evil influences (12:1), but here the point is the powerful influence of the kingdom of God." Marshall