

Dangerous Things

“The Danger of Living a Facade”

Luke 11:37-52

“God is God and I am not and I am committed to be a witness of Him in both Word and deed”

Introduction: As we noted last week we live in a dangerous world.

- A. If we take just a quick look at the world we live in. We see dangerous things happening all over the world.
1. There are wars raging
 2. Crime is as prevalent as it has ever been
 3. There seem to be new diseases found every day.

= But I would like to remind us once again that we are over comers:

Listen to the words of Paul:

- *³³Who will bring a charge against ^(A)God's elect? ^(B)God is the one who justifies;*
- ³⁴who is the one who ^(C)condemns? Christ Jesus is He who ^(D)died, yes, rather who was ^{(a)(E)}raised, who is ^(E)at the right hand of God, who also ^(G)intercedes for us.*
- ³⁵Who will separate us from ^(H)the love of ^(b)Christ? Will ^(I)tribulation, or distress, or ^(J)persecution, or ^(K)famine, or ^(L)nakedness, or ^(M)peril, or sword?*
- ³⁶Just as it is written,
"^(N)FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG;
WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."*
- ³⁷But in all these things we overwhelmingly ^(O)conquer through ^(P)Him who loved us.*
- ³⁸For I am convinced that neither ^(Q)death, nor life, nor ^(R)angels, nor principalities, nor ^(S)things present, nor things to come, nor powers,*

³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from ^(D)the love of God, which is ^(U)in Christ Jesus our Lord.

B. Can we not say with all unity this morning that the dangers of this world are nothing compared to power of God!

1. I do want to point out though that the scripture is not without warning.

2 Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;*

¹⁷so that ^(B)the man of God may be adequate, ^(C)equipped for every good work.

- The word reproof is the word "elegchos" conviction: God Word brings conviction to warn us of heading in the wrong direction.
 - It is a warning sign stop, don't go any further there is danger ahead.

Transition: Clearly there are dangers of this world but the warnings that are received from God are not concerning the dangers of man but the dangers of walking contrary to God's commands.

A. This morning I want to take you to a warning Jesus himself gave to the Pharisees.

1. It is a warning of the danger of living a façade: According to Webster's Dictionary a Façade is a grand or fine front that is meant to conceal something not at all grand.

= Let me read you the text READ Luke 11:37-52

B. Much could be said concerning these warning to the Pharisees and Lawyers this morning I want to just give you the idea of this danger of living as if you are something that you are not.

Danger # 1 verse 42 Woe to you Pharisees

I. The Danger of Giving with Wrong Motive vs. 42

A. Jesus says woe (That is a serious warning)

1. That woe means that you are in serious danger for doing what you are doing.
- Now I want you to notice that the danger was not in the giving: Jesus says "These are things the things that you should have done.
 - The problem is the paying of the tithes it was the purpose of paying the tithes was only for outward appearances.
2. They were ignoring who God was (The very one that they were giving tithes to)
 - They were considering at all the justice and love of God: It was all about what it look like to others and not at all about the power of God at all.

B. According to Lev. 27 Mint and Tithes were certainly something to be tithed as well as other things, how are our lives different if we not only tithes on our money but with all the other things that God blesses us with, giving to the Lord is not just about money.

1. The point here is not whether to give or not scripture is plain about the giving part.
 - There danger comes in when we give for the purpose of being recognized in ourselves and not for the glory of God!

C. Woe to you Pharisees and woe to us if give our:

1. Money, Our service and our sacrifice for men to see that we are good.

Transition: church, it is so dangerous to give to the Lord with selfish and prideful motives instead simply for the glory of God!

A. This kind of giving is nothing but a dangerous façade, something that looks great on the outside but has no greatness on the inside.

1. This is a dangerous thing.

B. Verse 43 brings another danger warning: Woe to wanting front seats.

II. The Danger of Loving Front Seats verse 43

A. Jesus does not warn them here that it is wrong or dangerous to desire the front seats.

1. He says woe to you who **love** the front seats.

- Church it is a very dangerous thing to try and upstage God!

- The Pharisees wanted the front seats to look good and be noticed, to have their prideful egos stroked.

- They loved the attention that they found in public because it made them feel proud and important.

- But there are few things more dangerous than using God to bring attention to ourselves.

= Pride goes before the fall

Transition: It is a dangerous thing to put on a religious façade looking all dapper in our self-righteousness knowing that on the inside that we are unrighteous as filthy rags.

A. A life that is lived so using God for man to see us is living a façade looking like it should on the outside but is full of pride and indifference on the inside.

- Verse 44 gives us yet another danger warning: Woe to those that are fooling others.

III. The Danger of Just Fooling Others verse 44

A. Jesus is saying that it is dangerous to appear to be living on the outside when you are dead on the inside.

1. Cemeteries are beautiful places but we do not go there to play games and have picnics.

A. We don't because there are stone markers everywhere and it is not the markers that are the problem it is what is under the markers that is the problem.

1. It is full of dead men's bones and it is just not a proper place to have a good time!

=But if there were no head stones no sign out front just the beautiful green grass and the trees and bushes we would not call it a cemetery we would call it a park because it would be a façade.

➤ It would look like something great on the outside but on the inside would be full of death.

B. That was the way that the Pharisees were living the people would look to them for council and advice because they looked like great godly leaders but on the inside they were dead.

➤ They were giving a grand appearance but they were dead on the inside.

Closing: I know this morning that this has been a difficult message but I pray this morning that if you do not have the real thing that this is the morning that God has chosen to convict you to confess before him you're lost condition.

A. I pray that the warnings of Christ:

1. To stop presenting yourselves as something that you are not.

■ Fall before a Holy God quit living a façade and truly see God change your life.