

Luke 10:1–24

"The Very Worst Thing to Do and Very Best Thing to Rejoice Over"

Who are worse than Sodom? Who are more blessed than the kings and prophets? Pastor leads his family in tomorrow's "Hopewell @Home" passage. In these twenty-four verses, we learn that the Lord uses and blesses nobodies—and especially that there is nothing worse to do than to reject Christ and nothing more worthy of rejoicing over than that the Lord has chosen to give us Christ by faith.

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Luke chapter 10 verses 1 through 24, these are God's words. After these things the Lord appointed 70 others also and sent them to by 2 before his face and to every city in place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them the harvest is true, the harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few.

Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way. Behold. I send you out as lambs among wolves. Carry neither money bag nor sack nor sandals, great, no one along the road. But whatever house you enter first say peace to this house.

And if it's on a piece is there your peace will rest on it. If not it will return to you. And remain in the same house eating and drinking such things as they give for the labor or is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house whatever city you enter in and they receive you eat such things as our set before you and heal the sick there and say to them, the kingdom of God has come near to you.

But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you go out into its streets and say the very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this that the kingdom of God has come near you but I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that day for Sodom than for that city.

Whoa to you Corozaim and Bethsaida for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done entire inside and they would have repented long ago sitting in sackcloth and ashes but it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment. Then for you.

And you Capernaum who are exalted to heaven will be brought down to Hades. He who hears you hears me? He who rejects you rejects me and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me?

Then the 70 returned with joy saying Lord even the demons are subject to us in your name and he said to them.

I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven behold. I give you the authority to trample on servants and scorpions and overall the power of the enemy. And nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this but that the that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

And that hour Jesus rejoice in the spirit and said I thank you Father Lord of heaven and earth that you have hidden these things from the wise the prudent and revealed them to babies even so father for so it seemed good in your sight. All things have been delivered to me by my father no one knows who the son is except the father through the father is except the son and the one to him the son wills to reveal him.

Then he turned to his disciples and he said privately blessed the eyes, which see the things you see for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see and I'm not seeing it. And to hear what you hear. And have not heard it.

So far the reading of God's inspired in an air and word this passage we see two great truths that are related to one another and the first is that there is nothing worse than to reject the Lord Jesus Christ this happens we read by the rejection of the preaching of the gospel and even the rejection of the preachers of the gospel.

Me who years you here's me, he who rejects you reject me there are many people who sit in the churches and they think they think that because they are not murderers or there inward wickedness of their hearts is not known to others or they have not fallen into some scandalous sin that they are therefore somehow okay, or even they'll say well, I'm not as bad as Hitler or I'm not as bad as or I'm not as bad as and they'll pick.

Whoever they think is a terrible sinner that's the way the Jewish cities thought with relation to tire and siden and sodom if you were a Jew who had a troubled conscience you might say well, at least I'm not a Sidonian. At least yeah not from Sodom was long gone by that time but saw them was like the worst of the worst and Jesus says if you hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and you don't recognize who he is and rest in him and cling to him and love him and serve him that you.

That you are worse than tire and siding and sodom and your judgment will be worse there is nothing worse than to hear the gospel with a hard heart and to resist the Lord Jesus Christ and one of the ways that this especially happens is to resist him as he's revealed himself in the scripture.

To try to turn Jesus into this week if feminine a bottle who is just supposed to make you feel good and make everything feel nice and be pleasant all the time for you. That is not the Lord Jesus who came destroying the kingdom of Satan and living a perfectly obedient courageously

obedient life that we ought to have lived in our place so that it we counted for us and then going to the cross using his authority to lay his life down using his authority to take it up again rising again from the dead being ascending into heaven sitting on the throne of glory his enemies being made a footstool for his feet because he has an he has enemies the world is full of them.

And they are being made his footstools and his servants know him to be a kind and wise and perfectly good and yet because he is those things savior and master and redeemer he does together with the father and with the spirit he does chase in us as we need it and he leads us through difficult things and and the true Lord who tells us in this world, you will have trouble do not be surprised when the fiery trial comes upon you and, Following me may mean that unlike the foxes and birds you have nowhere to lay your head and following me may mean that you are persecuted oppressed and killed your own family may end up hating you you may lose everything in this world.

Okay, the the Jesus that people invent for themselves. Listening to Christian radio. Is not the Jesus of the Bible. Who loves us and sweetens to us every affliction. Who is God himself who became one of us. So that he could give himself for us and so that we could belong to him and walk with him and be his joyful slaves.

Even his younger brothers James and Jude start their letters in the New Testament slaves of Jesus Christ, praise God. If you. Prefer or cling to a distorted picture of Jesus in your mind. Then you are rejecting the true Jesus. I have. One friend who just can't get it through his head that that's the problem with observing Christmas season every year.

Because it it over emphasizes one part of Jesus's life, that is not so emphasized in Scripture. And it makes him into a little baby and it's associated with all kinds of weak romanticized over emotionalized songs and traditions and the Christ of the Bible the Christ of the cross the Christ of the empty tomb the Christ of glory is not the same.

As the distorted disproportionate one that you get when you're Christianity revolves around this man-made religion thing. I believe the man is a Christian. But he doesn't understand why. So deeply concerned. For him. This is one of the reasons why you should be persistent in the scripture and prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to keep applying to you and rooting your heart, which you see about Christ from all the Bible because there is nothing worse.

Than to reject. The Lord Jesus Christ. And there's nothing better. Than to recognize receive and rest upon him. Israel had kings who accomplished many things and who enjoyed great riches especially in Israel had had profits his word was very successful even in defeating kings, especially if you read first and second kings and the battle between the prophet the word of God in the mouth of the prophet and the wicked ones on the thrones of the of the northern kingdom, especially.

But those kings and prophets weren't as blessed as the disciples. Jesus says just like he says tire siding and sodom aren't discursed as poets and beseta and Capernaum, so he also says that David Solomon. Asus ISO on aren't as and Moses Samuel Elijah and so on aren't as blast.

As the disciples why. Because the disciples got to see and hear Jesus and you know, who else gets to see and hear Jesus? Whoever. Hears and receives and response to him in gospel preaching he who hears you hears me, he says to his preachers he who receives you receives me he says to his preachers so the Lord Jesus sends us preachers who proclaim the word of God to us and the Holy Spirit second Corinthians five tells us make second Corinthians four tells us makes the light of the knowledge of the glory of God shine in our hearts in the face of Jesus Christ through the plain speaking of the word.

And we see and we hear but the prophets and the kings longed to see and hear but did not see in the year. There is nothing greater. Than to receive and respond and rest upon our Lord Jesus Christ. So yes, praise God by His Spirit, he may make you very effective in ministry and Satan's kingdom may crumble and wherever you go and your household and the congregation and you're in the community.

And he may make you to enjoy wonderful things like we're talking about in the question of the answer time some sometimes how generous the people of God can be with earthly things and respond to the ministry. But however effective he makes you and whatever good things he give you are nothing compared to the father having been pleased to reveal the son to you even though you were a baby and having written down your name in heaven like verse 20 says and the son being pleased to show you the Father by His Word by His Spirit.

So whatever else you are thankful for. And we should be thankful for all of God's good gifts to us. Whatever else you are thankful for take it as a reminder to be thankful for the electing redeeming love of God and that you know Him in Jesus Christ. Amen. Let's pray.

Our Father in heaven. Have mercy on us we pray because we do often read or hear your word distractedly. Or robotically in one ear and out the other and we forget to receive and rest upon you our Lord Jesus. To give yourself to us by means of that preaching to show yourself to us.

By means of that word. And we know that there is nothing worse than. To reject you as you are in your word. Then we know that there's nothing better. Than to receive you. We ask that you would be patient with us as there is much in our understanding that is out of place.

Much that is deficient. But grant the continued work of your spirit to grow us by your grace. Lord Jesus and by knowing you Lord Jesus. For we ask you in your name and your children say Amen.