

Fire
Luke 12:49-59

Theme: a fiery blaze of judgment and warnings to be saved before it was too late.

1. DIVISION (v.49-53)

- A) The theme of _____ is consistent throughout the Bible.
- B) _____ was often the means by which God dealt with disobedient people.
- C) Jesus had one thing on His mind: the _____.
- D) The cross would effect an _____ division.
- E) The cross would effect an _____ division.

2. DISCERNMENT (v. 54-56)

- A) Jesus called them “hypocrites” because they deliberately refused to _____ Him.

3. DEBT (v.57-59)

- A) This was a mini parable in which He describes guilty people being thrown into a _____.
- B) He urges every guilty party to settle _____.

division, fire, cross, internal, external, believe, debtor's prison, out of court

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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. God would often resort to fire in order to execute judgment upon disobedient individuals and nations. (See Leviticus 10:1-3, 10; 2 Kings 1:9-12; Jeremiah 43:12; Hosea 8:14) Is this surprising to you? And why would He do this?
2. What kind of peace did Jesus promise believers? (See John 14:27; Romans 5:1) Why would Jesus say He did not come to send peace on the earth? V51
3. What is God's ultimate intention: to divide or join people together? (See Malachi 4:6). In light of the passage before us (v.51-53), why would some families experience division? What is the cause of this division and hostility? (See Luke 21:17) Have you ever experienced this?
4. Do you think the world is getting better or worse? More holy, peaceful and cooperative? If not why is this so? How will God ultimately deal with a sinful unbelieving world? (See Peter 3:3-7; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9; Revelation 20:15)
5. Is it possible for any man to represent himself before God on the final judgment day? (See Hebrews 9:27) What is the problem? What is the solution? (2 Corinthians 6:2)

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