BIB336 Parables
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The Master and Servant

Luke 17:7-10

What is the meaning of the parable in Luke 17?

The Parable of the Master and Servant is a parable told by Jesus in the New Testament, found only in Luke's Gospel (Luke 17:7–10). The parable teaches that when somebody "has done what God expects, he or she is only doing his or her duty."

My thesis statement is about how the Parable of the Master and Servant in Luke 17:7-10 teaches us about the ideal attitude that an apostle should have in serving God.

I will show the audience the many ways we can understand what is expected by the ideal attitude that we, as the apostle of God should act while serving him in the Parable of the Master and servant the following sections will describe what God expect from you, from those that are the main people in the parable within the Gospel of Luke 17:7-10.

As it has been read in the Parable of Luke 17 Jesus is talking to his apostles as it is in the first verse of this chapter. As you read on Luke writes that Jesus's teachings about not being an obstruction. When you go into details more about this reading you see that the apostles ask of Jesus to increase their faith. In this reading you can see that Luke introduces Jesus's parable.

In the parable that Jesus introduces there are two main characters, the master and the servant. Jesus is using the demonstration from the beliefs and values of the society of their practices to create an idea. Before we go ahead more, I wanted to speak upon the servant more into detail. As you can see Jesus make a remark on the servant because as you can see the master

uses that person like a slave owner which is really the truth, but many don’t speak of it. When you define master, you can see it means a person who has people (servant or slave) working for him or her, back them it was mainly male master never a woman master. Knowing now that a servant was a person that was a slave own by another person: a master it would bother many people because you would think Jesus was okay with slavery of people and the idea of that is so horrible to think of at all. Do I think Jesus was okay with slavery? No, I don’t because Jesus was a man of faith that wanted peace for all that came to God by his message as you read in the New Testament it was something that wasn’t allowed to be done. As you read in the Parable of Jesus he is in a time where servants and slavery were allowed and okay to have. During that time Jesus uses his teaching to make it known what really a servant is. Jesus tries to help and teach those that servants are also human beings that have feelings in which many didn’t care or cared for knowing. That when our faith come in and help to point out to others how to treat everyone equally. God expects us to do the right thing because we know it the right thing and if we don’t then we have failed God and in Jesus teaching we didn’t learn anything because we didn’t put our minds into deep details of the messages, he taught us.

In the reading of The Challenge of Jesus' Parables by Richard N. Longenecker he speaks about the master and servant in his point of view on this parable (pg. 295) is that “parable describes is simple enough” shows you that no matter what the master will be first and idea of the servant being serve first isn’t a real idea that will happen, that you have to understand that, that the truth. Reading more into this you can see that the first of the verses on this chapter of Luke gives you an idea on side of the master and how looks at everything from his eyes. They allow the reader to hear the master out, so you’re able to see from your eyes whatever is

happening and let you guess the situation for yourself.

One example I can tell is that is almost the same to what Jesus was doing about teaching the ideal attitude to what an apostle should do in serving God is while growing up in a church you're supposed to be kind and generous to those looking for some type of faith within God. And if you didn't do that then you weren't doing the work of God and you were stopping those that wanted to be blessed by God. As I saw those that were really trying to do God's work, I saw those that said that were doing but really weren't and those that weren't doing were just judging and creating such a mess that allows the church to be in a bad place with God. When you don't allow any growth for the church to have then that allows no future for the church to have. Many of those bad eggs created division within the church causing so much pain, sadness and no growth to happen When that happen only ten people and their families stayed there. It was such a sad thing to happen because growing up in a place that I called a second to end up in the hands of evil people like that caused many to leave God and never look back to him. They connected those hurtful people to God and believed that if God was so hurtful then why should I serve him. As you see how servants are treated is the same way those people that didn't wan growth to happen treated everyone in the church I use to go. Those people are the Master and allowed and pushed people around while the servants the people that did what was told by them by God did their jobs. Jesus wanted his disciples to do their part into what is needed to be done because it was their jobs and that was expected by them to do and not second guess it ever at all.

As you read the verses in the parable in verse 7. Jesus speaks:

7 "Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'?

You can tell that Jesus know that no master allows his servant to eat before he does. With that happening Jesus's disciples understood that during that time it was never going to happen that a servant started eating before a master. Which as you can see it now was crazy because servants till this day it still happens because if you know someone that is famous or a person with money you understand they have mains, nanny, cooks, and many people working in their house don't eat before them because they are the help to them and nothing more.

As you read on more Jesus continues speaking in verse 8:

8 "Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?"

As you read on this verse you can see that the servant isn't allow to eat first because it not right in the eyes of the master that a servant goes first before the servant to eat. After a long day of working, you as a person want to get home and just relax to get to the point to eat and change clothes, but as you can see the servant doesn't do that. The servant comes to the home of the master starts to prepare the food of the master and then after having the food ready the servant must change into clean clothes to serve the master. After the master is serve and taken care of with food and everything else he desires then the servant can take care of him/her self, but the master will always be the one taken care of first before anyone else is taken care of.

When you read the next verse 9:

9 "Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?"

When you read this verse, it speaks of master and if he has to thank the servant on the things, he or she need to do even though it their job to get or do the things he asks of them? Many would say the master doesn't need to say thank you to the servant because it their job. The

servant is place into the master home to do the things the master can't or doesn't want to do. That the servant must do his or her job whatever the master ask of them without any questions asked by them to the master. Back during those times people didn't care for servant and their opinions because that what they were supposed to do, as a servant you're supposed to serve your master in whatever their need was. No question(s) asked to them.

As you can see that how it was with the apostles and Jesus, but it was different because Jesus didn't ask to be taken care of by anyone. Many of his followers did it because it was expected by them to care for the Messiah, even though Jesus was happy with whatever was given to him from people. The Apostles were servants of God and they had a part and God was a master you can say and God always made sure that his followers went first before him, which was the different when it comes to other masters.

Lastly on the tenth verse of this chapter, verse 10:

"**10** So you also, when you have done everything, you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

In this verse you read that God is our master and we are his servants. As Jesus preaches, we listen and hear the word of God and what needs to be done so we can do our part to get to God. God tells us what we need to do and it up to us as his followers or servant to get to what God wants for us. When we are told by God what needs to be done were need to start believing in having faith towards him no matter what is ask of us. Many people start to fear because there isn't any faith. If you allow faith in your heart and into your mind then fear can't control you at all in what God has for you and your future.

Many people begin to question is it fair that the master expect his servant to do all the

things for the master, even after the servant has done a work load of errands from their personal life. Is it okay to get to working on the master's things after you've done so much of a day's work for yourself and begin doing someone else's errands? I believe it isn't, but depending on who you have to serve is another reason to double check your answer for this question. The servant does it because they're told do it because it their job. Just like how we are the servants of God followers of Jesus because Jesus has preached the gospel taught us the teachings of his father.

During the time that Jesus lived he explains to his disciples that their roles, the part that they have to take in with Jesus is to learn the part of being a servant but also acting upon it towards God. As you read on (pg. 298) it shows how people started looking at the disciples of Jesus as people that was "special status." It like being the friend of a famous person that you look at on television. By people looking at the disciples as special status it is shown that what they do is an example of Jesus and his teaching of his father. They had to understand that when you are look upon as role model then you set yourself for the path of being just like Jesus or God and whatever you do people will start to place their eyes on you always wherever you go and that isn't an easy thing to do.

The readings show off what is our duties as a servant to God as he is our master, the way you speak of God and the actions you take for him allows others to see the kind of person that serve God and what they are whiling to do for him. As you read in the Parable you get to understand the type of God, he really is to us. As he gives so much to us because he sees the needs, we have in our lives shows that he really deserves our complete obedience. To understand our moments here while we live during the times of serving God, I want to understand God a

little more. Many of us have a point of view of what God is. Not all of us believe in the same way of thinking like the neighbor that next to you. How would you see God in your eyes? Is he a father that is caring and doing what he only thinks is right for us? Is he a father that just uses us for his own benefits so that others may know of him by the word of mouth from others? Like how is God to you? Many won't understand or don't' want to put their all into this. You just have to allow all of your heart into God and have faith that what he is doing is to fulfill your happiness for life to gain access with him in the heavens. For eternal life of happiness. When God commands you to do the things needed by you it because you are the servant willing to do the things for you master (God) before you have to do your own needs. Majority of the time we are unworthy servants of God because we don't do the thing that are asked of us by God. Many of us aren't like that servant that think of their master first. Many servants will serve themselves before they serve God and that not how it should go.

The parable sounds like it is allowing God to not give what his people deserves if they do what is asked of them. God does give rewards to his people because they have done what is right of them. It is clearly spoken in the scripture of Luke. God knows that you will get your reward for doing his work. This parable doesn't point that out but it points out that when you are commanded by him to do something, we need to do that and nothing else unless God tells us more to do. You need to have faith that all will turn out the way it should be as a follower of God, you should get the reward because of it.

This parable explains that it is about serving God with such gratitude because as you can see God's grace show that rather than serving with an attitude of thinking you're better because of your effort. God is such a beauty that he never allows himself to be place in a situation that

can create a hateful feeling towards us from him. God know that we deserve rewards because we put ourselves in places that he wants us to gain more faith from others for him, so that people can understand the love and happiness he can give us if we allow it to be. The point of this parable is to show that God doesn't treat us as his servants or doesn't give us our just rewards. When you read an earlier parable in Luke 12:37 Jesus tells the story of a master who give rewards to his faithful servants that serve him no matter what is the cause and reason. God has never given a reason to doubt him because he is a God that puts you first before him. He believes that we all deserve love, happiness and rewards because those that do the work him focus on God.

Our labor of love allows us to gain such a glorious place with God. As his servants we must do what is asked of us with no questions asked. However, God is our master that we must serve first before ourselves so that we can understand his faith and only his faith allow without second guessing if what he ask if us will create a negative moment. God know and understands that he wouldn't place us in any harm's way for anyone to hurt us. Once you do what is told then your work will be done of what was asked of us. God teaches us that doing the right steps in the right order will gain the faith that he knows you can receive from him to share with those around you.

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