

Luke 11 pt. 5 vs. 29-36 (ESV)

²⁹ When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, "This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹ The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

³³ "No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. ³⁴ Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. ³⁵ Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. ³⁶ If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light."

1. Luke has been telling us about what Jesus did
2. Now he tells us more of what Jesus says
 - a. Like the parable of the good Samaritan
 - b. As well as the model for prayer
3. With His sayings, certain people react to His Words

I. Dark

II. Light

I. Dark

1. Some said; He casts out demons by the prince of demons
2. Others demand a sign, which is strange, because He's done many signs

- a. Deaf people can now hear,
 - b. The lame can now walk
 - c. The blind can see
 - d. Dead people are raised
 - i. And you say "We want a sign."
3. "And while the crowds were increasing, He began to say, **This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation**
4. Jesus calls this generation an evil one. Why?
- a. Because they witnessed our Lord personally (the desire of all nations) and walked away (Haggai 2:7)
 - b. They didn't recognize the Holy One of Israel standing in front of them (Isaiah 30:12)
 - i. Even with all of the wondrous things He did
 - ii. It's not that they couldn't see, but they refused to see
 - c. As we mentioned last time
 - i. Being in awe of Jesus doesn't make them believers
 - ii. Asking for a sign doesn't mean they want to believe
 - 1. Signs don't help your faith,
 - 2. They may draw large crowds, but don't change hearts
 - 3. Signs usually only stimulate senses
 - iii. Jesus did many miracles, so signs were not the answer
5. **No sign will be given to it except for the sign of Jonah**

6. Jonah was the reluctant prophet who was instructed to go to Nineveh (560 miles north east)
7. Instead of Nineveh, he took a boat to Tarshish (Westbound)
8. A storm happens and Jonah is thrown overboard
9. God prepared a great fish to guide Jonah to Nineveh
10. Jonah reluctantly preaches and says, 'forty days and Nineveh is going to be destroyed'
 - a. And everyone from the King on down repented before God
 - b. These gentile heathens who were a cruel and sinful people repented
 - c. They didn't see miracles and yet they believed
11. Those 3 days and nights in the belly of the fish are also a type
12. **As Jonah was in the belly of the whale for three days, Jesus will be in the tomb for 3 days**
 - a. Speaking of His resurrection.
 - b. Jesus said He will be in the heart of the earth for 3 days/nights
 - c. The gospel is more than the miracles of Jesus - although they were amazing
 - d. The resurrection proved what Jesus said was true & that God the Father accepted the atoning sacrifice & we are truly free
 - e. The resurrection is the hinge that the gospel turns on
 - f. **'If you're on the lookout for a sign, watch out for this one'**
13. He continues, "The queen of the South will rise up in judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of

the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.

14. The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah was here."
15. The story of the queen of the South (1st Kings 10) traveled 1400 miles to meet with Solomon and hear his wisdom
 - a. This is a gentile woman who heard from a distance and came seeking
 - b. This spoke of both her humility & hunger
 - c. She was hungry for truth and was willing to go to the ends of the earth to find it.
 - d. Humility that as queen, she didn't have all the answers
 - i. She spent time & money to sit and listen to someone outside her culture and learn about God
16. So both Nineveh as a nation **repents** when Jonah preached and the Queen of Sheba **takes head** to God's wisdom through Solomon
17. **A greater than both is here**
18. Greater than the Prophet who's simple message saved a nation
19. Greater than King Solomon who had peace and blessings unlike anyone before or since
 - a. Where during his reign, silver was as common as stone
20. Jesus came from heaven to earth and is Prophet, Priest & King and Israel doesn't respond.
 - a. He is Prophet by virtue of Him proclaiming the words of God

- b. He is Priest by presenting Himself as the sacrifice for our sins
 - c. He is King by virtue of being Jehovah, sovereign, creator
21. Instead of a change of heart with repentance, there was antagonism & stubborn unbelief
- a. Consider all the miles, all of the money that would have to be spent by the queen of Sheba to get to Jerusalem, all the effort, and she became speechless as she encountered Solomon
22. Both the Queen & the Ninevites will rise up in the judgment & condemn the unbelieving nation
23. A day of judgment is coming
- a. Jesus is here preaching salvation
24. In these 2 examples we learn something about the elements of salvation
- a. It begins with God sending messages of forgiveness for repentant hearts
 - b. It also has to do with people seeking the God who is calling them
 - c. **As in Luke 15**
 - i. The shepherd **seeks** His lost Sheep
 - ii. The woman **seeks** her lost coin
 - iii. The prodigal **returns** home responding to the Father
25. So what Jesus is saying is, Gentiles understood and responded
26. While the Jewish nation (who supposedly knew God) are missing Him
27. Jesus knows that they're not getting it and they're angry with Him
28. Yet because of His love for them, He continues to explain:

II. Light

1. No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come may see the light. The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body is also full of light. But when your eye is bad, your whole body is full of darkness. Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light.' "
2. In speaking of lamps and lampstands, He's inferring that the time they're living in is dark
3. It's been darkened by sin
4. This is a critical point to understand before salvation can happen
5. There's little that we can do without the ability to see.
6. Before electricity, a tightfisted old farmer was rebuking his hired help for carrying a lighted lantern when he went to visit his fiancé. "Why," he exclaimed, "when I went visiting my girl I never carried one of them things. I always went in the dark." "Yes," the hired man said, "and look what you got!"
7. The eye is the receiving instrument that sends signals to the brain about what is around you.
8. If our receiver is good, the rest of the body will be good
9. If our receiver is not receiving, (bad) then no light will penetrate
10. **Jesus Himself is the light & His Word is a light**
11. He is the bright lamp who brings light into the room of our hearts vs. 33
12. **John 8:12** Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the

light of life.”

13. **Psalm 119:105** Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
14. **Prov 6:23** For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light;
15. **Ps. 119:130** The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple”
16. Regardless of how bright light is, it requires good eyes to see
17. With good eyesight, we can drive, we can walk, we can run.
18. Just as healthy eyes are important to the body, a healthy spirit is important to the soul
19. **Prov 20:27** The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all his innermost parts
20. Man’s spirit must be healthy in order to receive from the Lord
21. Before salvation, man’s spirit is separated from God
22. When we choose to trust Jesus, our eyes are opened, the light shines in, and we become children of light (John 8:12; 2 Cor. 4:3–6; Eph. 5:8–14).
23. Don’t be deceived into thinking that you are walking in light if that’s not the case
24. **True light is evident**
 - a. **Psalm 34:5** those who look to Him are radiant
 - b. **John 5:35** John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light
 - c. **Acts 6:15** all who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel

- d. **2 Cor 3:18** and we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit
25. How does that happen?
26. **How do we walk in the light?**
- a. Acknowledge the truth that apart from God, we are in darkness
 - b. Bow the knee before Jesus and invite His light & truth into your heart
 - c. Call on Him daily so we can walk out the truth He reveals
27. Unless we walk out the truth, it's just information
28. His Word and Truth brings transformation