

Context

- 1] Jesus speaking to disciples (16:1)
 - 2] Parable - use passing worldly wealth for eternal benefit (16:9)
 - 3] Comment – can't serve God and Mammon / money (16:13)
 - 4] Pharisees - Eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee .. carefully watched (14:1)
- Pharisees muttering (15:2)

?? How does this link the two parables??`

The Pharisees (14)

- 1] strict sect of Judaism-

Nb tried to enforce Law keeping with meticulous regulations

- 2] Loved money

Cf cant serve God and money (13)

take no money – to disciples going out (9:3)

Eg Indiana Jones and the last crusade – the girl and the cup

'Do not love money'

- 3] Sneering at Jesus

He overt disbelief in Him

Cf sneered when Jesus on cross (23:35)

Jesus divides people

J – the Pharisees (15)

- 1] justify = make righteous

- a) in eyes of men

Nb the expert in the Law... wanted to justify himself (10:29)

Do not try and make your self-righteous in eyes on men

Eg when embarrassed by self – “God know what I am like and loves me”

- b) not in eyes of God / he knows your heart

Nb Jewish heart = mind

Cf your righteous deeds are as rags (Is 64:6)

you know me – before a word is on my tongue (Ps 139:1-4)

God knows our hearts

- 2] Comparison

- a) highly valued among men

ie status, fame, power, money (?)

- b) an abomination to God

cf used 4 times in NT – A. that causes desolation (Dan 11:31;12:11 - Matt 24:15; Mk 13:14); A. excludes from book of Life (Rev 21:27)

nb without holiness no man shall see God (Heb 12:14 KJV)

God detests some human action

J – the Law (16,17)

1] Before (16a)

a) Law and Prophets (OT)

b) 'were until John' - He

1) He baptised for forgiveness of sins (LK 3:3)

2) He prepared the way for the Lord (Lkn3:4)

3) Announce - The Lord will baptise with HS (LK 3:16)

2] Since (16b)

a) good news proclaimed

cf Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith (Gal 3:8).

GRACE The good news is – a gracious welcome in Jesus!!

b) Kingdom of God

The Lord is King

c) Everyone forcing their way in

nb all may – not everyone accepts it

cf forcing = implies violence (Acts 5:26; 21:35)

nb Enter with confidence the most Holy place (Heb. 10:19)

Force your way into the Kingdom through Jesus

3] the standard (17)

Nb The Law of the lord is perfect (Ps 19:7)

Cf not the smallest letter ... from the Law (Matt. 5:18)

God's Word / His Law is irrevocable

J – an example (18)

1] to Pharisees

Nb school of Hillel – men allowed to divorce for trivial reasons

2] Divorce may lead to adultery

Nb one man and woman for life

Cf Institution (Gen 2:24)

Divorce (Matt 5:31; 19:1-9; Mark 10:1-12)

??? The parables are about judgement after death. This section speaks of Gods requirements of men

MP God's law must be fulfilled completely but it has been made possible only in Jesus

KV Since that time the good news of the kingdom of Good is being preached and everyone is forcing his way into it. (16)

Summary

To the self righteous/ self important Pharisees, Jesus warned them that God would judge men according to His own different standards. (14,15)

God's Law, which is absolute, kept people out of His Kingdom until John came. (16,17)

(All disobey God's Law). You, Law keeping Pharisees commit adultery when divorce? (18)