

## Introduction:

Since the election, I have tried to really curtail my interaction on Facebook. Some of my “friends” have not done so, and are really angry, scared, and just plain worried. At the same time, I have had conversations with some who seem to think everything is ok. They are busy with living their lives and serving God. This got me to thinking about this lesson.

### I) Jesus’ Teaching on Appropriateness

**Luke 5:33** Then they said to Him, "Why do the disciples of John fast often and make prayers, and likewise those of the Pharisees, but Yours eat and drink?" **34** And He said to them, "Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? **35** "But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them; then they will fast in those days." **36** Then He spoke a parable to them: "No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old. **37** "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. **38** "But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. **39** "And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.'"

#### A) Fasting often connected to sorrow

1. Why are your servants not fasting?
  - a. You don't fast until the bride groom leaves.
  - b. Putting new patch on old clothes don't work, stands out, and tears away.
  - c. You don't put new wine in old wine skins, the new

wine ferments, expands, and will burst the old wine skin.

**B) There are actions which are appropriate and some inappropriate.**

1. Certain attire at a wedding or a funeral.
2. Greetings of a close friend v, a business associate. Co-worker/boss, etc.

**II) Appropriate to Be Saddened by Sin**

***Nehemiah 9:3*** *And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for one -fourth of the day; and for another fourth they confessed and worshiped the LORD their God. 4 Then Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani stood on the stairs of the Levites and cried out with a loud voice to the LORD their God.*

**A) They recounted the sins of their fathers and their own sins.**

1. The misery and suffering caused by their sins.
2. The hardness of heart, and dullness of hearing.
3. The punishment due to their sins; Golden Calf many died, refusal to enter Canaan lead to wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, idolatry lead to captivity.

**B) Jesus' example of sorrow.**

***Luke 13:34*** *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! 35 "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"*

1. Destruction of Jerusalem and suffering.
2. Over a million Jews died at that one time.

**C) Appropriate to be saddened by sin.**

1. Knowing the heartache and suffering sin often causes in life
2. Knowing their eternal destiny.

***2 Thessalonians 1:8*** in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Sin is a hard task master.

***Romans 6:15*** What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! **16** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? **17** But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

4. You think life is hard as a Christian, think of living it as an unbeliever.

***Matthew 9:36*** But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. **37** Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. **38** "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

**III) Appropriate To Be Angry At Rebellion and False Teachers.**

**A) Jesus' Against the Religious Leaders.**

1. They perverted the temple to make money.

**John 2:13** Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers doing business. **15** When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. **16** And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

2. Jesus' harshest criticism was toward the religious leaders.

**Matthew 16:11** "How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? --but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." **12** Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

3. Called them blind guides, hypocrites, whitewashed tombs, full of extortion, and self-indulgent.

#### **B) We should be angered by false teaching**

1. Leading people astray, false hope, vain worship.
2. Doctrines of men, traditions of men.

**Matthew 15:8** "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. **9** And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

#### **IV) Appropriate to rejoice and be glad.**

**Nehemiah 8:9** And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep." For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law. **10** Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our LORD. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." **11** So the Levites quieted all the people, saying, "Be still, for the day is holy; do not be grieved." **12** And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and rejoice greatly, because they understood the words that were declared to them.

**A) To hear the Gospel of Christ**

1. Learn of God's love for mankind, **John 3.16**
2. Hear of Jesus' sacrifice for our sins
3. See His resurrection, overcoming death. **Acts 2**
4. Be taught the redemption we have through the blood of Christ.

**Ephesians 1:7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

5. To be a part of the family of God, His church.
6. Have the hope of heaven.

**B) To hear of others obeying the Gospel.**

1. News we don't hear enough but rejoice when we do.
2. There is rejoicing in heaven.

**Luke 15:7** "I say to you that likewise there will be more

*joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.*

**Luke 15:10** *"Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*

**Luke 15:32** *'It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"*

C) To see a Christian run the race to the end.

**Conclusion:**

What is your reaction to these things?