

## Sermon Notes

### *Insights from Luke*

#42 – “True-Help vs. Self-Help” – Luke 11:14-26

#### I. Introduction.

##### A. Division in the House

1. Examples: Family, work, church.
2. Lincoln
  - a. Luke 11:17

##### B. Today’s Text – Luke 11:14-26

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Luke 11:14

1. Another miracle but very brief account.
2. Luke records Jesus pummeling the powers of darkness.
  - a. Luke 4:1-13; 4:41; 8:26-39; 9:37-43; 11:14
3. Not the same event as noted in Matt 12:22-30 & Mk 3:20-30

##### B. Luke 11:15-16

1. The false explanation.
2. Beelzebul – Background is deep in Jewish history.
  - a. II Kings 1:2-3; 6:1

##### C. Luke 11:17-19

1. Jesus’ response:
  - a. Knows their thoughts
  - b. His point – why work against yourself?
  - c. Clarification – Philip Ryken

##### D. Luke 11:20

1. The finger of God.

a. Harks back to Exodus 8:19.

b. Jesus as hand and finger of God.

#### 1. Cyril of Alexandria

#### E. Luke 11:21-22

1. A parable is inserted to illustrate Jesus’ point.
2. “Own possessions” → Unbelievers
  - a. II Tim. 2:26; Eph. 2:1-3

#### F. Luke 11:23

1. Only two categories.
  - a. No one is in between.

#### G. Luke 11:24-26

1. Somewhat a mystery.
2. Spirit of Christ insulates against the habitation of demons.
3. Self-help may become self-destructive.
  - a. Moral improvement through self-improvement ends in no spiritual improvement.
  - b. II Peter 2:20

#### III. Points for Reflection

- A. The dumb spirit took away the man’s speech and the powers of darkness use the same ploy today.
- B. Unbelievers need to be confronted with the illogic of appealing to God for judgment while denying His power.
- C. There is no middle road.
- D. Jesus’ point in delivering the possessed from demons is that this proved the onset of the Kingdom of God.  
This was completely done at the cross.