

## Sermon Notes

### *Insights from Luke*

#46 – “Courage for the Dark Hour” – Luke 12:1-12

#### I. Introduction

##### A. We all struggle with courage.

1. The struggle is because of fear.
  - a. All sorts of fear.

##### B. Today’s text concerns fear.

1. How do we overcome our fear of taking a stand for Christ?
2. The text – Luke 12:1-12

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Luke 12:1

1. Remember the setting for Chapter 12.
  - a. Jesus had been at a dinner gathering hosted by a Pharisee.
  - b. All were denounced – lawyers and Pharisees.
2. Jesus’ following continues to grow while the Pharisees plot His death.
3. The real threat is not the Pharisees but to live a L\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. HUPOKRITES – Hypocrite. The term originates from the stage.
  - b. Hypocrisy plagued Israel
    1. Ez. 33:31-32; Zech. 7:5-6.
4. Leaven is dangerous.

##### B. Luke 12:2-3

1. This fear is warranted – pursue integrity now because all will become known.
2. The ultimate reality show – “W\_\_\_\_\_ Y\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_?”

##### C. Luke 12:4-5

1. Use your tendency to become fearful as a motivation for holiness.
2. Fear harks back to Genesis 3:10.
3. Cast into hell (Gehenna).
4. Do not fear Satan, but do fear G\_\_\_\_\_.

##### D. Luke 12:6-7

1. Strike the balance.

Reverential awe, respect  
and fear of God



But He will not  
harm us

2. Sparrows have little value.

a. Martin Luther.

##### E. Luke 12:8-9

1. Stand for Christ and He will stand for you.

##### F. Luke 12:10

1. Blasphemy against the Son is forgiven, but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven – Luke 23:34.
2. What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
  - a. A hardening of the heart that, if not reversed, attributes that which is of God to Satan.
  - b. Geldenhuys
  - c. Hendricksen

##### G. Luke 12:11-12

1. Believer’s confidence must be in the power of God, and not their own, to do or say the right thing at the critical moment.
2. Yet, we should prepare – I Peter 3:15.
3. Rely upon the Spirit to see us through.
  - a. Martin Luther.

#### III. Points for Reflection

- A. People who lead secret lives do so because of secret sins. Crucify pride and sinful desire by becoming genuinely transparent.
- B. We hear a lot about the love of God these days, but the Bible speaks decisively about the fear of God and the requirement of repentance.
- C. His eye is on the sparrow and you, too. Do not despair over the anxieties of life.
- D. We must find hope from Scripture and those who have gone before us. Let us become courageous in and through the Holy Spirit.