

Insights from Luke
#82: "Condemnation and Correction"
Luke 20:45 – 21:4

Luke 20:45-47
“⁴⁵ And while all the people were listening, He said to the disciples, ⁴⁶ ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets, ⁴⁷ who devour widows’ houses, and for appearance’s sake offer long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.’”

“Beware of the Scribes”

Matthew 23:27
“²⁷ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.”

“Long robes”

“Chief seats”

“Devour widows’ houses”

Deuteronomy 10:18a

“¹⁸ He executes justice for the orphan and the widow, ...”

Psalm 68:5

“⁵ A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, Is God in His holy habitation.”

Jeremiah 22:3

“³ Thus says the Lord, ‘Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor. Also do not mistreat or do violence to the stranger, the orphan, or the widow....’”

“Long prayers”

Matthew 6:5-6

“⁵ When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.”

“These will receive greater condemnation.”

Luke 21:1-4

“¹ And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. ² And He saw a poor widow putting in two small copper coins. ³ And He said, ‘Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them; ⁴ for they all out of their surplus put into the offering; but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on.’”

Verse 2

PENICHROS

Poor and needy but not destitute

Verse 3

PTOCHOS

This term refers to those who have nothing and are reduced to begging.

Our identity is in Christ Alone.

Greater condemnation of the Scribes reminds us that God’s judgment is always proportionate to the sin committed.

James 3:1

“¹ Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.”

The Scribes were guilty of hypocrisy.

**Distortion of
the Word of God
is chief evidence of
Satan's wickedness.**

Luke 19:48b
“⁴⁸ ... for all the people were
hanging on to every word He
said.”

Matthew 4:4
“⁴ But He answered and said, ‘It
is written, “MAN SHALL NOT
LIVE ON BREAD ALONE,
BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT
PROCEEDS OUT OF THE
MOUTH OF GOD.”’”

Genesis 3:1,4
“¹ Now the serpent was more crafty
than any beast of the field which the
Lord God had made. And he said to
the woman, ‘Indeed, has God said,
“You shall not eat from any tree of
the garden’?’ ... ⁴ The serpent said
to the woman, ‘You surely will not
die!’”

**Why is it that the more people make,
the less proportionately they give?**

Luke 21:4
“⁴ ...for they all out of their
surplus put into the offering; but
she out of her poverty put in all
that she had to live on.”