

First Southern Baptist Church - January 26, 2022
The Kingdom of God Divides – Lk. 12:49-59

Introduction:

1. Series - read as we go
2. A needed correction
 - bring peace
 - also division

1. I have Come to Bring: Division (49-53)

A. Fire (49)

- judgment
- brings the gospel heat
- Very common image for God
 - in the bush
 - from heaven
 - pillar of cloud, of fire

Travels/ spreads

It's alive

Consuming

Gives warmth

B. Division (51)

Thought unity? - yes, but

Light and darkness

Sheep and goats

Wheat and chaff

Preach right and wrong... forces a separation -

God's ways are not man's ways

Settled into a culture:

- like them believer prayer is just meditation
- like them Jesus is not God - a great man
- like them beginning to believer miracles - outdated
- like them do not believe in a real Satan
- like them do not believe in a real hell
- like them God is out there - not personal
- like them attend church a little as can feel good about

Point? - instead of being different

C. Division within (51)

-marriages?

-families?

-friendships? - a sense in which we are supposed to lose friends - put on opposite sides

It's not that Jesus loves division - but this will be the result

D. Mt. 3:10-12

-John the Baptist - axe - fire of judgment, burns and is already started, - This is what John had in mind

2. I Am Pained (verse 50)

- what?
- the urge of the cross was upon Him
 - compelled
 - He was being pushed
 - He was driven
- I must go to Jerusalem - Thomas - go and die!
- Death = a baptism
- it had already started
 - The Kingdom of God was unfolding
 - Like a fire already burning

3. But, the Multitudes are **Still Unbelieving** (54-57)

- A. The idea is
 - You can predict the weather -
 - 1) The image of the weather:
 - You can predict the weather - kinda
 - How can you not understand?
 - 2) You understand... how can you not understand?
 - How can they not believe?
- B. Amazing how unbelieving we can be
 - We:
 - understand calculus - how can you not see and understand?
 - recognize all sorts of diseases - how not recognize?
- C. The Gospel is unfolding...
 - it is reach places never reached before
 - stage is set for the Rapture
 - See the unfolding plan of God?
- D. In light of that what does God expect?
 - Jesus Himself caused men to decide - for Him and against Him
 - We are salt:
 - Positive - flavors
 - Negative - burns
 - We are light
 - Positive - lightens the way
 - Negative - hurts eyes
 - We are truth
 - Positive - sets free
 - Negative - often stings

4. Repent **Before its too Late** (58-59)

- A. The image of a lawsuit
 - Because you know
 - its coming
 - its happening
 - its unfolding
- B. You quickly call the other lawyer - and make things right - agree quickly
- C. When you see the end you get serious