

Set Apart On Christ's Team

Luke 12:49-59

I. Christ's Team Values Allegiance (46-53)

A. Following Christ Chooses Being On The Right Side Of The Judge (49)

⁴⁹ "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled!"

B. Following Christ Identifies With His Suffering (50; cf. Phil 3:10)

⁵⁰ "I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!"

C. Following Christ Opposes The World's Values (51)

⁵¹ "Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division."

D. Following Christ Faces Unfairness On Earth But Justice In Eternity (52)

⁵² "For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three."

E. Following Christ Divides Family Who Are Hostile To Him (53)

⁵³ "They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

II. Christ's Team Watches The Clock (54-56)

⁵⁴ "He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

III. Christ's Team Negotiates Best Outcomes (57-59)

A. Be Decisive – Don't Let Others Think For You (57)

⁵⁷ "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?"

B. Be Discerning – Settle Before Sentencing (58-59)

⁵⁸ "As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. ⁵⁹ I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny."

Conclusion:

- Huddle:
 - Will you follow Christ through the fire or bail when it gets hot?
 - Do you identify with Christ in your suffering?
 - Will you follow Christ when those who are closest to you don't?
- Game Clock:
 - Are we anticipating the coming of Christ?
- Strategy:
 - Are we counting the present cost for the future reward?