**Luke 12:49-59**

**Peace**

**December 9th, 2018**

1. **Peace Gained Vs 50**

Jesus was consumed with fulfilling Father God’s saving gracious purpose of providing reconciliation for sinful humanity through his death, saving all who would believe from the coming and final judgment.

*Through faith in the Lord Jesus’ saving work, God’s hostility towards us has been replaced with love towards us as his children, children consumed with being his ambassadors of reconciliation.*

1. **Peace Lost Vs 49-53**

Faith in Jesus’ reconciling work resulted in divisive enmity between those reconciled and their unreconciled unbelieving families who considered those now following Jesus as traitors to the family.

*Those reconciled to God by faith in Christ live lives orientated around God’s purposes, which unbelievers perceive as traitorous, something that will spawn enmity and division.*

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1. **Peace Sign Vs 54-59**

Right interpretation of Jesus’ miracles as the Holy Spirit’s affirmation of Jesus’ identity and saving ministry being from God would lead people to repentance and securing peace with God.

*Unbelievers’ enmity towards believers is a sign the Spirit has supernaturally worked to reconcile believers with God, a sign when correctly interpreted can lead others to seek peace with God.*

Summary: **The divisive enmity that unbelievers feel towards Jesus’ disciples is a sign of disciples’ peace with God that, when rightly interpreted, can lead others to be reconciled with God too.**

1. Read over Romans 5:1-11 together as a group and then take some time to respond to the Lord in conversational prayer. Feel free to use ACTS as a format beginning with Adoration followed by Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication.
2. Besides escaping God’s coming wrath, what other positive benefits come with being reconciled to God?
3. Besides the natural family, what other relational or social groups could experience Jesus dividing them up so to speak as a result of some of them changing their allegiance from the group to Jesus?
4. What changes resulting from someone from the group becoming reconciled to God would unbelievers consider traitorous?
5. In what ways is divisive enmity expressed from the unreconciled to the reconciled?
6. Rather than trying to alleviate divisive enmity, we are to embrace it with the hopes that God will use it to draw others to himself.

How can we embrace what is essentially quite painful to endure?

1. Read over 2nd Corinthians 5:17-21. According to these verses, what is it that we should be consumed with fulfilling that also consumed Jesus to fulfill?