

“Do Not Fear Those Who Kill the Body”

- A. *Luke 12:1-9* contains words spoken nearly 2,000 years ago by Jesus of Nazareth. _____?
1. Extraordinary things had been said about him prior to and after his birth (*Luke 1-3*).
 2. He had claimed to be the fulfillment of a 700-year-old prophecy (*Luke 4*). And then he had...
 - a. *Luke 4* - healed a man with an unclean demon, a woman with a high fever, and many who were sick with various diseases
 - b. *Luke 5* - healed a leper and a paralytic
 - c. *Luke 6* - healed a man with a withered hand and many with diseases and unclean spirits
 - d. *Luke 7* - healed the servant of a centurion and raised a widow's son from the dead
 - e. *Luke 8* - commanded a storm to cease, healed a demon-possessed man and a woman sick for more than a decade, and revived a 12-year-old girl who had just died
 - f. *Luke 9* - fed more than 5,000, healed a boy with an unclean spirit, and been transfigured
 3. And now he has been talking about dying... soon (*Luke 9:21-22, 44*).
 4. In *Luke 10-11* he has been doing more teaching, his miracles beyond dispute (*Luke 11:53-54*).
- B. Here's the vitally important question: Is he telling us the _____?
1. *Luke 12* contains straightforward words about an unpleasant topic; is he telling us the truth?
 2. My answer needs to be squarely grounded in the lordship of Jesus. Is he _____? (*Matt 27:65*)
 - a. "...they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus" (*Luke 24:1-9*)
 - b. "The Lord has risen indeed..." (*Luke 24:33-34*)
 - c. "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you..." (*Luke 24:44-48*)
 3. If Jesus has been raised from the dead, then he is Lord and he knows what he's talking about. My decision at that point is, "Will I _____ what he is teaching?"

⇒ **You have a _____**

- Your body was given to you by _____ (*Psa 139:14*)
- Your body is neither invincible nor eternal (*Eccl 12:7a*)
- But you are more than a body; you have a _____ (*Eccl 12:7b*)

⇒ **We each _____ how we will conduct ourselves during our time on this earth**

- We can choose hypocrisy or authentic servanthood (*Josh 24:15*)
- Either way, we cannot _____ anything from God (*Psa 139:7*)
- One day, everything will be revealed and we will be held accountable (*Eccl 12:14*)

⇒ **Therefore, it is absolutely imperative that our fear not be shortsighted, but fully _____**

- Those who can kill the body have nothing more that they can do (*Psa 56:11*)
- Our Creator can kill the body and has authority to cast into _____ (*Eccl 12:13; Matt 5:22; Mark 9:43-48; Matt 25:41, 46; 13:49-50*)
- Jesus is willing to welcome and acknowledge you as his own (*Matt 16:18; John 17:24*)