

Attitudes of Unbelief ?

Listening Guide
Sunday, March 10, 2019
The Cynic and the Self-Sufficient
Text: Luke 11:14-28

Luke 11:14-28 - Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

²⁴ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."

²⁷ As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" ²⁸ But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

1. The Truth of the Gospel of Jesus is _____. (14-23)
2. Conversion is NOT _____ (24-26)
3. The Evidence of Conversion is a _____ (27-28)

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Application Guide
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Home Group Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Home groups meet weekly and will provide you an opportunity to review the message, and to apply it to your life personally. Also, thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the truths we are learning.

Large Group

1. Was there any passage of scripture or statement in the message today that was particularly meaningful or applicable to you?

Small Group

2. Read **John 3:19-20** and **2 Corinthians 4:3-4**. Why are these truths so important as we interact with those who are cynical about biblical Christianity? Why is prayer such an important response to this insight?
3. Read **Hebrews 12:25-29**. Why do you think it is so difficult for us in this generation to passionately and urgently appeal to others about the importance of rightly responding to the claims of Christ? Read Jesus' words to the cynics in **Luke 11:17-23** aloud. What tone of voice, what inflections, and in what cadence (speed) to you picture Jesus speaking these words?
4. As a Christian, where do you struggle most in believing the Word of God for daily living? What are the promises you distrust, the commands you question, and/or the statements you doubt? Read **Psalms 139:23**. How can you deal with the cynicism and doubt of your heart?