

- ✚ Before we jump into the details of the first 7 verses of chapter 12, we need to back up and take a bit more macro view of what Jesus says here first half of this chapter. Are you familiar with the term "Trinity"? Did you know that that term is used nowhere in the Bible but is a term that those who study the Bible have created to describe what the Bible presents as the nature of God? God is three Persons of the same nature, co-equal, co-worshipped, co-glorified and co-unified in all things. The Father can throw into hell, Luke 12:5; but you can't get into Heaven without honoring the Son Luke 12:8-9, but you can't get to Heaven without the Spirit either Luke 12:10. Which one is God? They all are!

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**1. Now we are ready to consider the somewhat smaller details of Luke 12:1-7.**

- ✓ Jesus has one opportunity to speak to, possibly, the largest crowd that ever assembled to hear Him. Luke 12:1a, "so many thousands" is just one word in the Greek "Muriadon" which is where we get our word "Myriad" from. The root of "Muriadon" is the Greek word "Murion" which means "ten thousand;" the Greeks didn't have a word for a number higher than that because any more was considered uncountable. With countless thousands stepping on each other to hear Jesus, what does He say? Luke 12:12b.

**2. Our greatest danger is false religion that hides behind hypocrisy.**

- ✓ Remember that Satan rules the world through false religion, clearly it is the largest existential threat on the planet. These that do not believe and do not teach the entire counsel of Scripture and do not hold to a biblical Jesus are the most dangerous people on the planet. They are soul terrorist, plunderers of eternity. "Beware of the yeast," very little yeast is required to spread throughout an entire lump of dough. Therefore, it's not just false teachers, it's their influence and teachings, beware of their writings, their philosophies, their influence. "Beware" is actually pointed at the individual not at the crowd, "take heed to yourself." Avoid all contact with them, Psalm 1:1-2.

**3. Jesus gives us three things we must do to avoid this danger.**

- ✓ First, it starts with fearing God, God must be feared above and beyond all else if we are to avoid this hypocrisy. The hypocrites don't do this. They don't fear God, they fear men. Matthew 23:5-7, all they do is for an outward show, to convince people that they are somebody. Remember Jesus called them whitewashed tombs, full of corruption and death on the inside, but on the outside so pretty and painted.

**4. Why should we fear God? Jesus gives us three reasons.**

- 1) Fear God because He will uncover everything hidden, Luke 12:2-3. Nobody escapes exposure, everybody and everything will be revealed.
  - ✓ Nobody is getting away with anything Romans 2:16; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 4:5
- 2) Fear God because of what He will do to those who don't, Luke 12:4.
  - ✓ Being killed is a terrible thing, but there is something that is far worse, Luke 12:5. Notice, Satan doesn't throw you into Hell, God does. Satan is getting thrown there too, God is the King of Hell not Satan. Nowhere in the Bible are we told to fear Satan, but everywhere we are told to fear God. This verse is very clear, there is something dreadful after death for those who do not fear God in this life. Here are some of the choice words Jesus used to describe that dreadful place: a place of weeping, wailing, gnashing of teeth, darkness, aloneness, torment and burning.
- 3) Jesus gives us one more reason to fear God, the fact that nothing escapes His knowledge, Luke 12:6.

**God knows about the least things that there are to know. So why fear Him? Because He knows everything about you; every word, every thought and every action, nothing will slip past Him. But don't fear Him and run away, run to Him. He's the God who created you and sent His Son to die for you, you are very valuable to Him, Luke 12:7.**

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