

CAUTION

about

COMFORT

L u k e 1 3 : 1 - 5

Big Idea:

Take caution that your comforts don't keep you from Christ.

1.) Lose the LOG in your eye (v. 1).

- In response to our Lord's warning about judgment against our sin, the crowd focuses on the sins of **OTHERS**
- Rather than looking inward, it seems that they responded by bringing up these two incidents and assigning God's judgment to others.
- **Application Questions:**
 - *When the Bible confronts us with the reality of sin and God's hatred of it, do we think first of ourselves, or do we point at others?*
 - *Which bothers you more: your own sins or the sins of others?*
- When tragedies occur, the wrong response is to point fingers and assign judgment to those suffering (Matthew 7:3-5).

2.) Respond with REPENTANCE (v. 2-5).

- The crowd incorrectly assumed that people who suffer tragedies on earth must deserve such a fate more than people who have it easy.
- **God intends that TRAGEDIES should lead everyone who understands them to repentance of personal sin.**
 - Atrocities and tragedies make obvious the terrible destruction that the overall sinfulness of humanity has wrought upon all of Creation.
 - Sin has brought destruction into the world, and sin will bring destruction upon us if we do not repent (Romans 8:20-21).
- **God's purpose in subjecting Creation to futility is to point our hearts to the singular hope of REDEMPTION in Christ.**
 - Every atrocity, disaster, and tragedy on earth is intended by God to serve as a clarion call to come to Christ in repentance and faith.

-- *How do you react to atrocities and tragedies? Do we remain as we are, or do we repent?*

3.) Be cautious about COMFORT

-- Jesus is speaking to people who are observing tragedy and suffering from a distance.

-- **One of the greatest spiritual trials in life is to have no TRIALS in life, because few things can keep us from seeking Christ like personal comforts (Deuteronomy 8:12-14).**

-- Whenever you see bad things happening to others and good things happening to you, be ready to run to God in repentance.

-- Sin is not just the failure to do good; it is also the failure to trust God, and that is exactly where the easy life can so easily lead.

-- **Never look at any good thing in your life as anything except UNDESERVED grace from God.**

-- **Application Questions**

-- *Do you have a 9-1-1 relationship with God?*

-- *Would you be just as satisfied in Christ if your many comforts were gone?*

-- *How often do you feel the need to repent?*

Summary

-- In response to tragedy, Jesus says we should lose the logs in our eyes, respond with repentance, and be very cautious with comfort.