

Questions for Gospel Harmony #47

Luke 12.35-59

1. Explain these statements: “let your waist be girded and your lamps burning”; “be like men who wait for their master when he will return from the wedding”; “the second watch, or the third”. What will the master do for his servants if he finds them ready? Why does Jesus switch from describing servants awaiting their master to a master being surprised by a thief? What is the meaning or point of this parable? (verses 35-40)
2. Who does Peter mean by “us” and why does he ask this question? What was the role of a “steward” in the ancient world? How does Jesus describe the differences between a “wise and faithful steward” and one who is not? What will the master do to the wicked steward when he comes to him? What will happen to the servant who knew his master’s will and did not do it? What of the servant who did not know his master’s will? Explain the phrase: “For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.” (verses 41-48)
3. What is “fire on earth” that Jesus came to send? What does he mean when He says He wishes it “were already kindled”? To what baptism does Jesus refer here? Why would He be “distressed” until it was accomplished? What kind of division does Jesus say He would bring to earth? (verses 49-53)
4. What does Jesus say the people could discern, and what could they not discern? To what “times” does Jesus refer? What does this question mean: “Yes, and why, even of yourselves, do you not judge what is right?” Why does Jesus give this teaching about agreeing with one’s adversary in this context? (verses 54-59)