

I. Read Luke 11:45-53

- A. In vs. 45-46, the experts on the law engage Jesus in a discussion of His accusations against the Pharisees. Jesus had intended His rebuke for any that distort the truth and lead people astray. The “lawyers” were doing this as well. What was causing them to feel guilty? (Read Romans 2:1-3, 12-15.)
- B. In verse 48, Jesus points to the paradox of those who claim to teach the law, yet deny the salvation promised by the prophets. They were in the position of working against their professed mission and purpose. How does Jesus illustrate the contradiction of their teaching in verse 48?
- C. In vs. 49-51, Jesus alludes to the ongoing struggle between the seed of God and the seed of Satan. Read Genesis 3:15-16 and discuss the nature of this struggle.

How does one know on which side of the struggle one falls? (See Romans 4:3.)

- D. What *generation* is Jesus referring to in verse 50?
- E. In verse 52, degrees of sin are alluded to. Read the following Scriptures and discuss: (Luke 17:1-2; Matthew 11:21-22; James 3:1)

- F. Why do you suppose the scribes and the Pharisees were “hostile” toward Christ? (Read John 3:18-21.)
- G. In the NKJV, verse 54 uses the word *accuse*. How does the use of this particular word reflect the true loyalty of the scribes and Pharisees? (See Revelation 12:10-11.)
- H. Are there religious leaders in our day who represent themselves as *keepers and teachers of the truth*, but who are really following in the footsteps of the scribes and Pharisees of Jesus’ day?
- I. What does the hostility of the scribes, lawyers and Pharisees toward Christ tell believers they should expect from the world? (See Matthew 5:10-16.)

How should this affect a believer’s willingness to interact with unbelievers?