

EYES TO SEE, EARS TO HEAR



I. THE PARABLE OF THE LAMP (21-23)



- 21-22 - "And He was saying to them, "A lamp is not brought to be put under a basket, is it, or under a bed? Is it not *brought* to be put on the lampstand? For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has *anything* been secret, but that it would come to light."
- 23 - "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

II. THE PARABLE OF THE MEASURE (24-25)



- 24-25 - "And He was saying to them, "Take care what you listen to. By your standard of measure it will be measured to you; and more will be given you besides. For whoever has, to him *more* shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him."

A. A WARNING (24A)

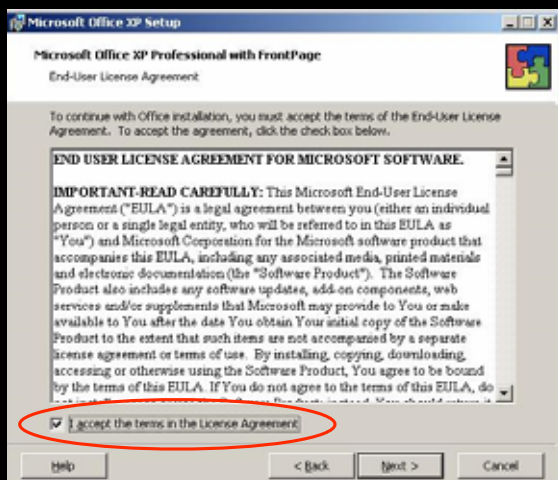


- 24a - "And He was saying to them, "Take care what you listen to."
 - Scripture tell us to take care...
 - 1) That you listen
 - Mark 4:9, 23 – "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."
 - 2) What you listen to
 - Mark 4:24 – "Take care what you listen to."
 - 3) How you listen
 - Luke 8:18 – "So take care how you listen."

LISTEN & DO!



- Josh. 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."
- Ps. 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night."
- Ps. 119:11 - "Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You."
- Ps. 119:99 - "I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation."
- Luke 8:21 - "But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it.""
- Luke 11:28 – "blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."
- Jam. 1:25 - "one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of





B. THE PARABLE (24B)

- **24b** - "By your standard of measure it will be measured to you."
 - The same expression...
 - 1) Matt. 7:2 - "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you."
 - 2) Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure-- pressed down, shaken together, *and* running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."
 - 3) Here in Mark 4, it is used a third time.
- **24c** - "and more will be given you besides."



C. JESUS' APPLICATION (25)

- **25** - "For whoever has, to him *more* shall be given, and whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him."
- A familiar expression...
 - 1) In the same context as Mark 4: Matt. 13:12; Luke 8:18
 - 2) In the parable of the talents.
 - Matt. 25:28-29 - "Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away."
 - 3) In the parable of the minas.
 - Luke 19:24, 26 - "Then he said to the bystanders, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.... I tell you that to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.'"
- Cf. Luke 8:18 - "So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him *more* shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."



IMPLICATIONS...

- For believers: a reminder that our ability to hear Jesus and respond is only because of God's grace.
 - John 6:44-45 - "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me."
 - Jam. 1:18 - "In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures."



IMPLICATIONS...

- For believers: a call to careful, prolonged Bible study.
 - Acts 17:11 - "Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so."
 - 1 Pet. 2:2 - "like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation."



IMPLICATIONS...

- For the church: a call to be engaged in expository preaching.
 - Ezek. 2:5 - "As for them, whether they listen or not-- for they are a rebellious house-- they will know that a prophet has been among them."
 - Taylor: "the faithful witness of the messenger has more importance than a successful response from his hearers."
 - 2 Tim. 4:1ff



IMPLICATIONS...

- For the unbeliever: Jesus' words are a warning to listen up.
 - Luke 10:10-11 - "But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your city which clings to our feet we wipe off *in protest* against you; yet be sure of this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'"
 - Acts 13:46 - "Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, 'It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.'"
 - 2 Cor. 2:15-16 - "For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;" 16 "to the one an aroma from death to death, to the