**ABOMINATIONS TO GOD**

**Text: Luke 16:13-15**

* Luke 16:13 “No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”
* 14 Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him.
* 15 And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

**INTRO:**

* Exodus 20:3“You shall have no other gods before Me.
* He is a jealous God
* To worship the Lord separates us from the rest of the people in the world and declare that He is our God
* To worship means placing the greatest value
* When Jesus was asked which was the greatest commandment,
* He said, “Love the Lord thy God with all your heart, all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength” (Matt 22:37)
* Because of that He hates anything we value more than Him

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO BE AWARE OF OUR HEARTS’ DESIRES AND INCLINATIONS
* FOR US TO ESTEEM GOD AS OUR EVERYTHING

**I. A TRUTH WE COULD NOT DENY-V 13**

* We could not serve God and money
* We could not love both of them
* We will love the one and hate the other or loyal to the one and despise the other
* We cannot esteem God and money valuable at the same time

**II. THE PHARISEES’ CASE**

* They were lovers of money
* They are the experts and teachers of the law
* They serve God outwardly but they love money inwardly
* They use their office as a pretence to get what they want
* Matthew 23:14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses

**III. THE PHARISEES HEARD ALL THOSE THINGS-V 14**

* The story of the unjust steward
* His teaching that the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.
* Shrewd-characterized by keen awareness, sharp intelligence, and often a sense of the practical.
* Disposed to artful and cunning practices; tricky.
* His teaching to make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home-v 9
* Self-denial and a race for wealth are incompatible things
* Luke 16:10 “He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.
* Luke 16:11 “Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?
* Luke 16:12 “And if you have not been faithful in what is another man’s, who will give you what is your own?

**IV. THEY DERIDED HIM-V 14**

* To laugh or make fun and treat you as worthless
* Because they were covetous or lovers of money and would prove they were not true friends of God
* Their profession of religion was really false and hollow
* They were attempting to serve God and money
* They looked upon His teaching with contempt and scorn

**V. JESUS WORD TO THE PHARISEES-V 15**

* “You are those who justify yourselves before men”
* They were lovers of money but were hiding it from the eyes of men by serving in the temple
* “Attempt” to appear just
* They aim to appear righteous in the sight of people, and do not regard the heart.
* They were hypocrites
* They’re only good in the eyes of men
* They’re only after for the approval of men

**VI.GOD KNOWS OUR HEARTS-V 15**

* Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things,
* And desperately wicked;
* Who can know it?
* 10 I, the Lord, search the heart,
* I test the mind,
* Even to give every man according to his ways,
* According to the fruit of his doings.
* This truth should deepen our sense of the unapproachable greatness of God.
* This truth illustrates, not the greatness only, but also the forbearance and mercy of God.
* This truth should teach us not to dwell on the guilt, of formality and hypocrisy.
* This truth is adapted to console and encourage the often misjudged and afflicted people of God.
* This truth assures us beforehand of the equity of the Divine awards at the judgment-day.

**VII. FOR WHAT IS HIGHLY ESTEEMED AMONG MEN IS ABOMINATION IN THE SIGHT OF GOD**

* Abhorrence; disgust.
* To hate or extremely dislike
* Just like Sodom and Ghomorrha
* Lukas 16:14 (Ilonggo) Pagkabati sadto sang mga Pariseo, ginyaguta nila si Jesus kay dalok gid sila sa kuwarta. 15 Nagsiling si Jesus sa ila, “Ginapakita-kita lang ninyo sa mga tawo nga maayo kamo. Pero nahibaluan sang Dios kon ano gid ang sa inyo tagipusuon. Kay ang mga butang nga ginapasulabi sang tawo ginakahigkuan sang Dios.
* (Cebuano) Pagkadungog niadto sa mga Pariseo, gibugalbugalan nila si Jesus tungod kay hinguwarta man sila. 15 Miingon si Jesus kanila, “Nagpakaaron-ingnon lang kamo sa mga tawo nga maayo kamo. Apan nahibaloan sa Dios kon unsa ang anaa sa inyong kasingkasing. Kay ang gipalabi sa tawo ginadumtan sa Dios.”
* (Tagalog) Ang lahat ng mga bagay na ito ay narinig ng mga Fariseo. Dahil sa sila ay mga maibigin sa salapi, nilibak nila siya. 15 Sinabi niya sa kanila: Kayo yaong mga nagmamatuwid sa inyong mga sarili sa harap ng mga tao. Ngunit alam ng Diyos ang inyong mga puso sapagkat kung ano ang lubos na pinahahalagahan ng mga tao ay kasuklam-suklam sa harap ng Diyos.
* That is, mere external works, or actions performed merely to “appear” to be righteous.
* Literally the love of money
* Money is not bad but the love of money is the root of all evil-I Timothy 6:9
* What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight (NIV)
* It could be anything or anybody
* It could be a BF, GF, job, relationship, religion,
* and could be ourselves
* God loves us no matter who we are because His love is unconditional, right?
* Could we be an abomination to God?
* YES if we value highly ourselves or highly esteem it over Him
* Luke 9:23 Whoever desires to follow Me, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, take up his cross daily, and follow me

**CHALLENGE:**

* What are those things that we highly esteemed or value that we lost our relationship with God?
* Are you willing to be corrected with His Word?

**CONCLUSION:**

* **Luke 16:15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God. (KJV).**