

## Daily Devotional, March 11, 2021

### 'The Four Woes', (Luke 6:24-26)

***“But woe to you who are rich,  
For you have received your consolation.  
Woe to you who are full,  
For you shall hunger.  
Woe to you who laugh now,  
For you shall mourn and weep.  
Woe to you when all men speak well of you,  
For so did their fathers to the false prophets.”*** (Luke 6:24-26, NKJV)

These four woes are presented by Jesus Christ as spiritual paradoxes. Things may seem to the worldly minded to be well, but there are far reaching spiritual consequences that outweigh any temporary benefit.

**The first woe is to the self-satisfied**, God cannot and will not add blessing to such an individual. One may be rich in pride, rich in power, or rich in material wealth. You may even prosper in some worldly area, but the only reward will be in this life. Then there will be a reckoning in the hereafter for placing other things above God and never coming to the point of realizing your spiritual poverty, deadness in sin, and need for the Savior.

**The second woe is worldly fullness**. Jesus says in another place, ***“Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see”*** (Revelation 3:17-18). This is applicable to those who are described in the first two woes.

**The third woe is to those who make light of spiritual matters**. Hell is no laughing matter (***Revelation 20:11-15***). Men mock those who pursue godliness and take their faith seriously at their own peril and to their own hurt. They will not be laughing anymore when the flames of hell engulf them in eternity.

**The fourth woe is to the friend of the world**, the one who receives and feeds on flattery. ***“Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God”*** (James 4:4). False prophets often tell people what their itching ears want to hear, but ***“they shall be cast down”*** (Jeremiah 6:10-15). This is the thought we shall be left with. Let us ask ourselves, ‘Are we more a friend to the world or are we more a friend to God?’ If we fall short in any areas, let us act to rectify them at once.