



Luke 12:49-59

**The Real Big Issue - follow the Lord Jesus or  
reject him**

I have come to bring fire on the earth,  
and how I wish it were already kindled!



Purifying & Judgement  
Not yet kindled ?

But I have a baptism to undergo,  
and what constraint I am under until it is completed!



‘Baptism’ – inundated – immersed  
‘Constrained’ – pressure - limitations

Do you think I came to bring peace on earth?  
No, I tell you, but division.



**No more sitting on the fence  
It's either Right or Wrong !**

From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."



Issues go to the heart of things – family relationships  
Family honour – pride issues  
Whose opinion matters?



He said to the crowd: "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'It's going to rain,' and it does. And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot,' and it is."

**Good at forecasting  
the weather !**

Weather generally  
comes from west  
Negev desert in south



Hypocrites!

You know how to interpret the appearance  
of the earth and the sky.

How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?

**Why does he call them hypocrites?**

**The spiritual weather forecast  
Can you read the signs?**

**It is that obvious !  
Messiah's day has come**

Why don't you judge for yourselves what is right?  
As you are going with your adversary to the magistrate,  
try hard to be reconciled on the way,

# Get this right !

Your case is coming up ....



**Who is their adversary?  
What has he got against them?  
Does this apply to us too?**

**Get it sorted while you are 'on the way'  
ie. while you have still got time.**



or your adversary may drag you off to the judge, and the judge turn you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison.

The verdict is clear –



as charged!

### **Jesus' Words Decoded**

Judge = Jesus - appointed Acts 17:31

Officer = Angels - Matthew 13:30

Prison = Hell



I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny."

**I tell you**

He knows – and he himself, is going to have to pay to save his people

**Until ??? ... A possible exit ? Purgatory?**



**Impossible – they have no credit! – nor do we!**

# The fire is kindled



The Big Issue still stands – for him or against him?

Got it sorted with the magistrate (Saviour Jesus)  
before you face Judge Jesus

How ??

Repent – believe the good news

# The last penny PAID



*We may not know we cannot tell, What pain he had to bear  
But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.*

**Refreshing rain or desert wind - you choose.**