



Series Title: "An Introduction to Hope: The Gospel of Luke"
 Message Title: "A Divisive Message"

Date: April 18, 2021
 Teaching: Brad Duncan

Reference: Luke 12:49-53 ESV¹

⁴⁹ "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Message Summary:

The message of the cross is an affront to many.

- The gospel is *exclusive*... not according to race, or age, or gender, or nation... but it is exclusive.
- Some will not follow Christ. We can do nothing about that.
- Some will be intentionally antagonistic toward the gospel and those who follow Christ

We struggle with this. The Good News is also Hard News.

To declare your allegiance to Christ means to be identified with him. It means to participate in his death and his resurrection. It means to declare that there is truth which cannot be compromised.

This is divisive, even to the point of affecting familial relationships.

And yet...

This message does indeed bring peace. Through Jesus the enmity between people and God, between people and one another can be eliminated. The turmoil in our own hearts is replaced with the peace of Christ.

Questions for Reflection:

- Are there issues over which people in your family take sides?
- What has Christ brought to your own family? division? peace? Why?
- What causes the most tension in your family, your relationship to Christ or how you express it?
- What did I take away from this message?
- What can I do to apply the message to my life?

¹ The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Luke 12:49-53). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles



