

ANALYSIS:

1. Who did Jesus say would teach his disciples what they should say when they were brought before magistrates and powers? _____
2. When a man asked Jesus to ask his brother to divide his inheritance, what did Jesus warn him to beware of? _____
3. Why did Jesus call a certain rich farmer "Thou fool?" _____
4. How did Jesus use ravens to demonstrate God's care of His children?

5. Which servants were declared blessed when the lord returns and knocks? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

When Jesus warned his disciples to "beware of the leaven of the Pharisees," he was speaking of the motive which guides one's conduct. Jesus said of the Pharisees, "but all their works they do to be seen of men" (Mt 23:5). We all struggle with the desire for man's approval, which, within proper bounds, is legitimate. When tempted to hide our religion when with irreligious people, and to act more religious than we really are when with religious friends, is hypocrisy. The supreme fact of life is our relationship with GOD. Let us keep Him in mind and check how our thoughts, desires, words and deeds rate in His sight. Did not our Lord foretell that every secret thing about us will be exposed and made known!

Whenever we catch ourselves hesitating to give a bold witness of being a Bible-believing follower of Jesus Christ, let us remember the words of our Lord: "Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do" (v 4). Many of Christ's disciples in the past have steadfastly gone to their deaths because they would not recant their faith or deny their Lord. We do not face such danger. But we can give a definite witness and testimony by word and deed to glorify our heavenly Father and his beloved Son. May our prayer be that we are never moved, for even a moment, by the fear of any man.

HELP:

1. The Holy Ghost (vs 11-12).
2. Covetousness (15).
3. Because he laid up treasure for himself on earth, but was not rich toward God (vs 20-21).
4. The ravens do not sow nor have storehouses or barns, but God feeds them; how much more are his children better than the fowls, and He will take care of us (v 24).
5. Those servants who opened unto him immediately because they were found watching (vs 36-38).