

QUESTION: In Luke 9:62, what does "looking back" mean?

ANSWER:

- **Luke 9:59-62** "Then He said to another, 'Follow Me.' But he said, 'Lord, let me first go and bury my father.' Jesus said to him, '**Let the dead bury their own dead**, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.' And another also said, 'Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them goodbye who are at my house.' But Jesus said to him, 'No one, having put his hand to the plow, and **looking back**, is fit for the kingdom of God.'"

"Looking back" in this context means "looking for excuses not to obey Jesus." If you read the verses before verse 62, you see that Jesus is talking about people who procrastinate and make excuses for not following Him. **Jesus is seeking people who will OBEY Him**, and obey Him instantly, without questions, and without making excuses.

- **Read Luke 14:16-20** "Then He said to them, 'A certain man gave a great supper (feast, banquet) and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, "Come, for all things are now ready." But they ALL with one accord **began to MAKE EXCUSES**. The first said to him, "I have bought a piece of land, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused." And another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused." Still another said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

Procrastination is dangerous, but God will reward your diligence and obedience. Jesus said His blessings are proportionate to **HOW MUCH effort you put into seeking God's will in your life**. With the "same measure" you use, which means the **amount of diligence, effort and perseverance** you put into **seeking God's will and obeying it**, the rewards or blessings will be measured back to you. Are you seeking to become more like Christ, and serious about getting rid of the character defects that **BLOCK His working in your life**? If you are, then you must read and take in the word of God, and **DILIGENTLY** apply it to your life.

- **Mark 4:24** "And He said to them, '**Take heed** what you hear. **With the SAME measure** you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given.'"
- **Read Deuteronomy 28:1-14** "And it shall come to pass, if you shall hearken **diligently** unto the voice of the Lord your God, to observe and to do all His commandments..... ALL **these BLESSINGS** shall come upon you, and overtake you, if you shall hearken unto the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field....."
- **Hebrews 11:6** "But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder** of them that **DILIGENTLY SEEK Him**."