

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Luke 12: 49-56

49 So! I am come verily to send fire on the earth; and what will I, [1] if it be already kindled?

50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with. Yes, I know, another one. And how am I straitened till godparents are decided and it be accomplished!

51 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth and goodwill like the old carol will go? I tell you in true Jacobean fashion, Nay; but rather division: and that's long division, not the shorter kind. O yes.

52 For behold, from henceforth, all generations from this time onward and in the future and the days to come must know that there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. Crafty, eh? That's why I picked an odd number. So hope that it is an mansion, as my heavenly father will give unto you in his house.

53 The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother-in-law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother-in-law. [2] Did you get that? Did I miss anybody out? Good. So basically – domestic arrangements will carry on as usual. Don't snigger.

54 And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, especially nimbostratus or cumulonimbus, [3] straightway ye fetch thy mac and say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. And who is that shower? God only knows. But persistently raining it will be.

55 And when ye see the south wind blow, (stop sniggering!) ye say, There will be heat; and duh! It cometh to pass. And here endeth the weather forecast. But I know ye art not listening.

56 Ye hypocrites, ye – I am lost for words - ye can discern the face of the sky, the man in the moon, and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? And having said this it was the hour to return to Bethany.

[1.] Here a word or two is illegible.

[2.] Some versions include grandparents.

[3.] In some manuscripts stratocumulus are mentioned.