

# Lesson 20

## CHAPTER 20 & 21, JESUS, THE CORNERSTONE

It's the final week of the life of Jesus on earth. The Pharisees and teachers of the Law, the Jewish religious leaders, were plotting a way to destroy Jesus. But they had a problem. The people believed that he was a great prophet. They hung on his every word. To arrest and persecute this popular man would mean losing control of the people. This would lead to their losing control of the lucrative Temple sacrifices. Jesus knew their scheme, but he wasn't hiding from them. A collision course is looming for these two opponents. But Jesus is still trying to convince his Jewish brethren that he is the long-awaited Messiah.

1. Jesus had previously run the money changers out of their racketeering in the temple. Read Luke 20:1-8,19-44. In these three stories what are the Jews trying to catch Jesus saying? How does Jesus answer them?

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2. In Luke 20:9-18, who do you think the tenants represent? Who are the servants? Who is the son of the master? Verse 17-18 is quoting Psalm 118:22, Isaiah 8:14-15, 28:16, Zechariah 4:7, and 1 Peter 2:7,8 which are messianic prophecies. What do these verses proclaim?

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3. What Old Testament heroes does Jesus put forth as proof that he is alive and the answer to the prophecies? See Luke 20:37-38 and 41-44.

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4. In Luke 20:45- 21:4, what does Jesus point out as the difference between the Jewish elite and the poor widow?

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5. In the rest of Luke 21, Jesus addresses the grandeur of the Temple. What does he warn against? In verses 25-36, what do you think Jesus is referring to? Compare this to Daniel 7:13,14.

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6. What is the answer for those who follow Jesus according to Luke 21?

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**APPLICATION:** The warnings we see in these chapters were certainly for those Jews living at the time of Jesus. They rejected Jesus as the true Messiah and savior. Judgment happened in 70AD when the Roman general Titus surrounded Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple and thousands of Jews living there. What is the warning for you?

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**PRAYER:** Holy Father, you are a God of love and grace but also judgment. A line is in the sand today for those who desire to follow Jesus as savior and those who reject him. May we not wait to declare our allegiance to Jesus and follow him no matter where he leads. Help us to trust in your divine purposes in our lives and to be willing to take up our cross daily and follow Your Son Jesus. Amen.