

Luke 17:11-37

At The Feet Of Jesus

Image Church // The Gospel of Luke: Inverted Kingdom Wk. 28

Introduction

Good morning Image Family I hope you're doing well...

- If you're **NEW** with us I want to invite you to stop by the **Connection Center**, we want to meet you and we have a gift for you...
- If you've been around and want to **JOIN IN** on what we're doing- the **Connection Center** is the place to do that- it's the one stop shop that we have created to best engage with those of you that are new or want to get involved!

Osborne High School on Friday night!! [\[Show Picture\]](#)

Last thing, if you're a Covenant Member, we're going to be having a **Covenant Members Gathering** here at **ECMS** on October 14th... You're not going to want to miss this- it's the first one since before COVID- Going to be a special time and we're going to be rolling out some exciting things!

Not a Covenant Member and want to become one- we have a **Membership Class coming up in the next month**- be on the lookout for more info...

Alright, if you have your bibles go ahead and grab them and turn to **Luke 17**...

Today, is going to mark the close of **volume 1** of our **Inverted Kingdom Series**... I don't know about you, but I have loved walking through the gospel of Luke together looking at the life and ministry of Jesus- I hope that it's been challenging and convicting...

*I think it's been very timely for us as a church- **I think God is doing something in us in order to prepare us for what He's going to do through us**... We have some exciting days ahead in the life of our church that I believe God is priming the pump for...*

And rest assure, we will come back and finish the gospel of Luke together- it will be **Volume 2!**

But next week we're going to be kicking off an exciting series that is going to set the trajectory for the next year in the life of our church... You're not going to want to miss the kickoff of this series...

We're going to be doing some new things and talking about some new things- so you're going to want to make sure to be here...

Ok, let's jump in and finish out Luke 17...

Remember, Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem...

And there's been **3 groups of people** that Jesus has interacted with on this journey: The Pharisee's who were the religious elite, sinners, and His disciples...

In **Chapter 15**- Jesus has all 3 groups of people around Him... And He makes an appeal to both the religious and the *sinners* through the parable of the lost sheep, lost coin and lost son...

Then Jesus turns to His disciples in **Chapter 16** and begins to instruct them... Turns out the religious elite we're listening in on what Jesus had to say to His disciples, because they started scoffing at Him because they didn't like what he was teaching...

And so, Jesus responds to their scoffing in the second half of **Chapter 16**...

Then we get to **chapter 17** where Jesus turns back to His disciples and holds up for them 4 marks of what it looks like to be one of His followers...

And then we pick back up on Jesus Journey to Jerusalem in **verse 11**... Let's pick up there...

Luke 17:11-37

11 While traveling to Jerusalem, he passed between Samaria and Galilee. **12** As he entered a village, ten men with leprosy, met him. They stood at a distance **13** and raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Now, I want you to notice:

- Lepers are outside the city...
- Jesus comes by and they keep their distance...
- These men are outcasts, and they are unclean...
- And they are calling out *Master, have mercy on us...*

14 When he saw them, he told them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And while they were going, they were cleansed.

This is incredible! Jesus doesn't touch them, He doesn't even get near them, He just says head over to the Priest and show him that you're healed and no longer unclean...

They start heading that way and boom... They are healed- crazy!

What we see again is the miraculous and restorative power of Jesus...

And you have to understand what this miracle meant for these 10 men...

- What Jesus did would have restored these men **physically**- no longer sick and feeble, **socially/relationally**- no longer outcasts that are isolated and marked as unclean, and **socioeconomically**- they would have gone from being poor and unable to get a job to now being able to provide for themselves and have money...
- What Jesus did would have literally given these men **completely new life**...

This is a huge moment that would've changed everything for these men...

Let's see what happens next... **Verse 15**

15 But one of them, seeing that he was healed, returned and, with a loud voice, gave glory to God. **16** He fell facedown at his feet, thanking him. And he was a Samaritan.

I want you to notice this... At the beginning there was **distance** between this man and Jesus, there was a gap between where Jesus was and where this man was... He was unable to get near Jesus because of his sickness...

But now we see that because of what Jesus did, this man has been made clean, and he's now able to be in the presence of Jesus... **The man who was once far off is able to come near...**

And look at how he responds when he comes into the presence of Jesus...

He Fell face down at the feet of Jesus and he thanks Him giving glory to God...

What we see in this is that *His actions reveal the depth of his perception...*¹

- This man's actions showed that he understood the magnitude of **what** he had been given and **who** had given it to him... And it led him to a **place** of worship, and in a **posture** of worship...

And then we find out something else about this man... He's a Samaritan... Luke saves this for the end to grab our attention...

- You see again a picture of the **Inverted Kingdom**- those who you think will respond (*the religious professionals*) **don't**, and those who you don't think will respond (*the irreligious*) **do!**
- You would never think that a Samaritan would respond like that given the cultural divide between Jews and Samaritans...
- But **this man realized something that religion had been blinding the Pharisees from...**

¹ Direct quote from Bock, D. L. (1996). *Luke: 9:51-24:53* (Vol. 2, p. 1403).

Salvation doesn't come through affiliation, it comes by being at the feet of Jesus in worship and surrender because of who He is and what He's done!

It doesn't matter what your parents believed, how religious they were or how much church was part of your family, what matters is whether or not you've truly surrendered to Jesus!

*Let's look at what Jesus says about this in **verse 17**:*

17 Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?"

18 Didn't any return to give glory to God except this foreigner?"

19 And he told him, "Get up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

Jesus is like hang on a minute... Where's everyone at? Where's their gratitude and worship?? And then He looks at this man and He says- your **faith** has saved you...

And what we see in this is very important... All 10 men experienced the general mercy of Jesus in their healing, but only **one** traced it back to the source and embraced the **giver** over the **gift**...

And ***His faith in Jesus led him to the feet of Jesus***... This is so beautiful... ***His external posture was an indication of an internal reality***...

This man understood the magnitude of what he had received and who it is what had given it to him and led him to his knees in worship...

What we see from this is an incredible picture...

Gospel connection:

- See, you and I are just like these lepers, we are sick with a disease called sin...
- And there's nothing that we could do to heal ourselves...

- We were born with it... And it shows itself in all of the ways we run after things that are counter to God...
- It shows itself in all the lies we believe about ourselves and about the things of this world...
- We are rotten at the core of who we are... Our hearts are decaying with sin...
- And like these lepers, we have been cast out of God's Kingdom... We are separated from God with no way to approach Him because of the stench of our sin, and our rebellion...
- But God would do something incredible... He would come to earth and do what we could never do for ourselves... Jesus would come and He would heal us of our disease by dealing with our sin...
 - ***Life, death, resurrection***... And like with these lepers He would extend to us new life!!

And the question is, how will you respond?? For some of you how are you responding??

Do you understand who Jesus is what He's done for you?? Like do you really get that??

One of the best ways to know the answer to this question is by looking at the posture of your life...

I said this earlier but what we see in this interaction with Jesus is that this man's ***actions reveal the depth of his perception***...²

- This man's actions showed that he understood the magnitude of **what** he had been given and **who** had given it to him... And it led him to a **place** of worship, and in a **posture** of worship...

² Direct quote from Bock, D. L. (1996). *Luke: 9:51-24:53* (Vol. 2, p. 1403).

Have you ever come to a place of worship before where you see Jesus for who he is?

Because it's coming to that place of worship in your life that leads you to a posture of worship with your life...

This is why we always have to come back to the gospel... To keep us in a posture of worship...

The degree of our worship is dictated by the depth of perception for who Jesus is and what He's done for us...

Worship is not a song it's a way of life... It's a posture that you assume...

Romans 12:1-2 says ***this is worship***, that you offer your life as a living sacrifice to God... Where you don't conform to the things of this world, but you allow Jesus to transform your life, where everything becomes about Him...

Offering your body as a sacrifice is a powerful concept... because back in the day they killed sacrifices, but in the gospel Jesus was killed for you so that you can live- and that life you now live for Him!

Is that true for you?? Is your life characterized by the worship of Jesus?? Is He the one who dictates your life, is He the one who your life is about??

Here's the beauty of all this... Being about the kingdom now is making Jesus the center of your life...

The way that you live as a citizen of God's Kingdom is by making Jesus the center of your life... By being about the ways of Jesus- by being His apprentice, by putting into practice what he says...

He is the center of your life when He actually dictates the way that you live...

My fear is that like the 9 who were healed that many of you have experienced the common grace of God in knowing about Jesus, by being around religion but you're not at the feet of Jesus...

It's why you don't

- Generosity
- Service
- Caring for the orphan and the widow, engaging with the marginalized
- Sharing the gospel- living as a missionary
- Love of neighbor
- Local Church/biblical community- gathering corporately and communally...

These things should be the natural posture of our lives if we are at the feet of Jesus...

We are either face down or we're not...

When we get off our face before Jesus- we do what we want, when we're about our comfort and our desires and we see this- we fall back on our face and repent...

Embracing the gospel...

Some of you need to do this for the first time...

Others need to reorient...

This is so big for us to get because of what Jesus is about to talk about next...

Let's keep reading, verse 20... The peanut gallery jumps back in, we haven't heard from the Pharisees sense they mocked Jesus back in

Chapter 16... But rest assure they have been watching and listening...

20 When he was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, **“The kingdom of God is not coming with something observable; 21 no one will say, ‘See here!’ or ‘There!’ For you see, the kingdom of God is in your midst.”**

The religious - They were looking **out there**, and Jesus is saying *boys you missed it... you're not going to see it out there because it's right here...*

They were looking for all of the wrong things... Jesus on a white horse... Slaughtering nations, bring freedom...

Jesus did the opposite... And they missed Him...

Huge moment **verse 21...** **the kingdom of God is in your midst**

Jesus is saying that He is the essence of the Kingdom... Man, such a powerful statement...

Now it's important that we understand how this all fits together, because in just a second Jesus is going to start talking about the future coming of His Kingdom...

When it comes to the Kingdom there's a **now and not yet...**

Let me explain...

Remember And here's the consistent thing that we see from the life of Jesus... He came as the **means** of our salvation, and He also **modeled** for us how saved people live...

- *Explain what this means regarding God's Kingdom and the implications it has on our lives to live now of citizens of the Kingdom we have been saved into...*

Everything Jesus did was to show what the Kingdom would be like, and in addition point us to a way of life in light of who Jesus is and the Kingdom He's saved us into...

OK, now Jesus is going to turn to His disciples and He's going to change direction a little He's going to start talking about the not yet part... The Part of the Kingdom that will be coming...

Verse 22 Then he told the disciples, **“The days are coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you won't see it. 23 They will say to you, ‘See there!’ or ‘See here!’ Don't follow or run after them.**

False claims will be made- people will raise up and say I am Jesus... Don't believe them... *Here's why...*

Verse 24 **For as the lightning flashes from horizon to horizon and lights up the sky, so the Son of Man will be in his day. 25 But first it is necessary that he suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.**

Jesus will be like a flash of lightning when He returns it will be **distinct** and unmistakable...

Verse 26 **“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be in the days of the Son of Man: 27 People went on eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage until the day Noah boarded the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. 28 It will be the same as it was in the days of Lot: People went on eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building. 29 But on the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 It will be like that on the day the Son of Man is revealed.**

When Jesus returns it will be **unexpected**...

Verse 31 **On that day, a man on the housetop, whose belongings are in the house, must not come down to get them. Likewise the man who is in the field must not turn back. 32 Remember Lot's wife! 33 Whoever tries to make his life secure will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.**

When Jesus returns it will be **sudden**... You can't escape and you can't take anything with you...

Verse 34 I tell you, on that night two will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. **35** Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left."

When Jesus returns *a separation will occur, one to judgment and another to deliverance.*³

37 "Where, Lord?" they asked him. He said to them, "Where the corpse is, there also the vultures will be gathered."

Jesus is saying, don't worry about where, worry about the fact that it **final**, and you won't be able to miss it, it will be obvious just like vultures over a corpse...

So, here's what we need to see: when Jesus returns it will be: **Distinct, unexpected, Sudden, and final**

The question is do you see and understand the weight of this and are you ready?? Like really do you see this and feel the weight!?

Appeal...

If this is true, then it changes everything...

The question is how do we stay ready? How do we experience deliverance over judgment? How do we make it through all of this? How do we not get lured away??

Be on your face before Jesus...

Again, please here me, this isn't a one-time thing, this is not about religious practices, this is about embracing a person... This is about surrendering to His Lordship...

- *Flesh out...*

This being about His Kingdom...

Conclusion [VAMP]

Coming to the end of this series... Seen a lot about Jesus and what it means to follow Him...

Call to respond:

- Faith for the first time...
- Baptism...
- Repentance...
 - What in your life is not submitted under the King as a citizen of His Kingdom?

Space

Pray

³ Bock, D. L. (1996). *Luke: 9:51–24:53* (Vol. 2, p. 1438). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.