

Luke 17 Pt 2

Jesus

IV. The Kingdom of God

20 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees **when** the kingdom of God would come...

- **Jesus** ...preached the **Kingdom of God**
- **Apostles** ...preached the **Kingdom of God**
- **Seventy** ...preached the **Kingdom of God**

**At this Point the Kingdom of God has been heralded throughout all Israel
What is the Kingdom of God?**

- **Jews** Time when Israel is no longer under Roman control
- **Jesus** God's Sovereign reign over all... beginning w/ each individual

Q. When will the Kingdom of God be here?

IOWs if You're the Savior...when will you start saving us from Rome?

20b... [Jesus] answered them and said, "The kingdom of God **does not come with observation**; ²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the **kingdom of God is within you.**"

The ancient Greek word translated **observation** is better-translated, hostile examination. Jesus told the Pharisees that their hostile, doubting eyes were unable to see or receive the kingdom of God. [Guzik]

- **Kingdom of God is w/in you:** IOIW It must begin w/in you first for you to see it...

John 3:3 ... unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."... **5** unless one is born of water **and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God **...7** Do not marvel that I said to you, **'You must be born again.'**

The Kingdom of God begins in us the moment we make Jesus King
The Kingdom of God culminates in Jesus' absolute reign over all

- **Pharisees Question:** When will the Kingdom of God come?
- **Jesus Answer:** Begins **when any whosoever** makes Me King of their life

Within can mean among. Kingdom is among you

IOWs Where the King is there is the Kingdom [but your not in it till you make Jesus King]

Luke 9:27 [Not a place] ... there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the **kingdom of God.**" [Saw the King in His glory. Saw a person not a place]

The Kingdom of God: Simply God's sovereign rule as King over all

- **To the Pharisees:** You can't have the Kingdom and reject the King

- They will not only reject but crucify the King...

22 Then He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. **23** And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them.

- **To His disciples:**

1. I am not setting up my Kingdom at this time
2. Life will be hard when I leave...**but I will be back. Count on it.**

Matthew 9:15b [You rejoice now/that is right...] But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from [you], and then [you] will [not rejoice].

Life will become so difficult when I leave that you will desire the times we have together now and want Me back. False-teachers will exploit this desire by drawing you to themselves. Don't listen to them. Don't follow them. **When I come back the whole earth will see it.**

- Kingdom begins w/**no sign** Quietly in us when we make Jesus King
- Kingdom culminates w/a **great sign** Jesus back in Judgment/Seen by all

24 For as the **lightning** that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the **Son of Man will be in His day.**

To Future Jews at End of Tribulation: You won't have to guess that its Me

- **So, When is the Kingdom of God?**

Jesus makes it clear that the kingdom has two phases...**one now and one to come.** In the beginning of His kingdom on earth God prepares a King to rule; then He gathers a people for Him to rule over; then He gives the Ruler a realm in which to reign. The kingdom of God is not the same as the church, though the church is part of that kingdom. The kingdom today is the presence of God alongside earthly kingdoms. **One day however Jesus will rule over all and He will share that rule with His people.** [NKJV Thompson]

To the Disciples: Don't be discouraged at what's next...
The Cross will not stop Me from coming back

25 [First, I] must suffer many things and be **rejected by this generation.**

Rejected at the First Coming

- **Jews rejection opened an Opportunity for us**

Romans 11:17 And if some of the branches were broken off[Jews], and you [Gentiles], being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, **18 do not boast against the branches** [Jews].. you do not support the root, but **the root supports you ... 24** For if you [Gentiles] were cut out of the olive tree [Israel] which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature

into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these [believing Jews], who are natural branches, **be grafted into their own olive tree?**

Israel will embrace their Messiah in the Tribulation

- **Purpose of the Tribulation is two-fold...**

1. **God's Wrath** poured out on a Christ Rejecting World/God's Enemies
2. **Israel Call** to embrace the true Messiah [2 Witnesses/144,000/Gospel Angel]

**Before the Tribulation God will Remove us His Bride the Church
God always removes His people before judging His enemies**

26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

- **Days of the Son of Man:** Def. Times surrounding His coming to earth **both times**

1. **DOSOM Jesus First Coming** Birth to Ascension
2. **DOSOM Jesus Second Coming** Rapture to 2nd Coming [context here]

- **Before the Second Coming:** Earth scorched/50% population dead. 3.5 after AD
- **Before the Rapture:** Life as usual but not good. Total Depravity/Wickedness

Genesis 6:5 Then the Lord saw that the **wickedness of man was great** in the earth, and that **every intent of the thoughts** of his heart was only **evil continually ...12** So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

- Noah commanded by God to build a boat though no rain
- Noah preached judgment/salvation for **100 years**

2 Peter 2:5 [God] ...did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a **preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; 6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly...

Salvation Rejected: Ark a type of Salvation by Wood/Nails

- **People laughed**/Moment God closed the door judgment came

Genesis 7:16 [Noah family believed therefore/got on-board] and the **Lord shut him in ...19** And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered **...23** So [God] **destroyed all living things** which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. **Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.**

God took Noah/family out before judging His enemies
God always removes His people before judging His enemies

28 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 Even so will it be in **the day when the Son of Man is revealed.**

LORD's patience had run out for Sodom...
Angels warned Lot to get out before Judgment. Lot warned his family...

Genesis 19:12 Then the men [2 angels] said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city—**take them out of this place!** ¹³ For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it." ¹⁴ **So Lot went out and spoke** to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up, get out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city!" **But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking.**

Genesis 19:16 And while [Lot] lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the **Lord being merciful to him**, and they brought him out and set him **outside the city ...24 Then the Lord rained brimstone** and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. ²⁵ So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ **But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.**

God took Lot/Daughters out before judging His enemies
God always removes His people before judging His enemies

- **He will take us out before the Tribulation**

John 14:2 In My Father's house are many mansions... **I go to prepare a place for you.** 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.**

1 Thessalonians 4:17 ... we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to **meet the Lord in the air.** And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

God removes His people before Judging His enemies
As Lot we are Pilgrims/Sojourners in a Violent Foreign Land

2 Peter 2:6 ...[God turned] the cities of Sodom/Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; 7 and delivered **righteous** Lot, who was **oppressed** [vexed] **by the filthy conduct of the wicked**

v30 Even so will it be in **the day when the Son of Man is revealed**

- **Days of the Son of Man:** Times surrounding His coming to earth both times

1. **Jesus First Coming:** Birth to Ascension
2. **Jesus Second Coming:** Rapture to End of Trib

Unbelieving Jews of our day will miss the Rapture and be Left Behind

31 **"In that day** [end of Trib], he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. 32 **Remember Lot's wife.**

- **In that day: Days from Rapture to end of Trib.** [Context here end of Trib]

1. **No Sign** ...before Rapture and Wedding
2. **Great Sign** ...before 2nd Coming and Judgment ...

Matthew 24:30 [2nd Coming] Then the **sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven**, [Cosmic Changes] and then all the tribes of the earth [Jews] will mourn, and they will see the **Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.**

- **Second Coming:** Proceeded by signs thus. Temp Protect their stuff/Turn to world

Matthew 24:16 ...let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field **not go back to get his clothes ...21** For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

Remember Lot's wife: Turned back to the world/self-life and was lost

33 **Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it**, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

Matthew 16:25 ...whoever **desires to save his life will lose it...whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.**

John 12:25 He who **loves his life will lose it**, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

34 I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed: the **one will be taken and the other will be left.** 35 Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. 36 Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left."

- **Worldwide Sheep/Goat Judgment end of Trib/After Armageddon:**

1. Some in bed at night/Some working in day [Jesus confirms round earth]
2. **One taken/One left...**

37 And they answered and said to Him, "**Where, Lord?**" So He said to them, "**Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.**"

- **Q.** Where will those taken be taken **A.** Ultimately everlasting punishment. [w/mark]
- **Begins w/being drawn to Battle of Armageddon...**

Matthew 24:28 c.f. For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

- **Sheep/Goat judgment:** After Battle of Armageddon at end of Trib/Judgment

Matthew 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his **sheep from the goats**. 33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left

- Sheep/Goat Judgment [c.f. Mat. 24:31-46] Study for self in detail to see...
- **Judged based on their treatment of Israel:** ...least of these **My brethren**

Genesis 12:2 [God to Abram] I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 **I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you;** And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 27:29 [Isaac to Jacob] Cursed be everyone who curses you, And blessed be those who bless you!"

Numbers 24:2 [Balaam's Prophecy] Balaam raised his eyes, and **saw Israel** encamped according to their tribes; and the **Spirit of God came upon him ... 9 [He said] "Blessed is he who blesses you, And cursed is he who curses you."**

- **Common Theme:** Bless Israel and be Blessed/Curse Israel and be Cursed

You want to be on God's side of the Israel issue ASAP

- **How close are we to being as the days of Noah/Lot?**

2 Timothy 3:1 ...in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God

- **For such a time as this we are here...**

Warriors for the Truth in a world of Deception
Shining God's Light in a world of Darkness

Love when you're tempted to hate. Stand when you're tempted to cower. Stay true when you're tempted to skate. Endure when you just want to give up. Preach louder when you're told to shut up. [NJC]

Let love and truth empowered by the Holy Spirit be our life every day, every week, every year till we see the appearing of our Great King...when this present world of "everything almost" becomes all it was meant to be; i.e. **Life Eternal in the Kingdom of God with Jesus our King!**