

# The Hope of the World

What we are facing today with the war in Ukraine is not new. Luke 13 opens with a story of the brutality and injustice of the Roman governor Pilate. One historian of his day referred to him as doing deeds of “most grievous inhumanity.” As the earth is allowed to stand ... there will always be injustice worked by evil men who have been corrupted by their lust for power and blood. So what is the answer? Jesus. How can we know? Matthew 12.18-21 provides the answer.

## I. Matthew 12.18a: Jesus was Chosen by the Father.

A. 12:18a: *Here is my servant whom I have **chosen**, my beloved in whom I delight...*

1. “Chosen”: To take in a firm commitment ... like a person adopting a child.
2. It was a term the Jews would have been familiar with ... The Chosen One.

## II. Matthew 12.18b - Jesus was Commissioned by the Spirit.

A. *I will put my **Spirit** on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations.*

B. Jesus was anointed with the Spirit for royal service.

1. He was committed to depending on the Father’s power through the Spirit ... and functioned within the Father’s plan.
2. Philippians 2.6-8 says He willingly gave all these things up to come and live as one of us... becoming obedient to the Father ... *even to the point of **death**.*

## III. Matthew 12.18c-20 - Jesus was Committed to Helping the Weak.

A. 12:18c - By giving the right message

1. Matthew 12.18c: *he will **proclaim** justice to the nations.*
2. This is the message of rightness and truth.
  - a) Hebrews 4.12: *For the word of God is living and **effective** and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

B. 12.19-20b - By lifting up the broken

1. Matthew 12.19: *He will not **argue** or shout, ...*
  - a) He wasn’t in to shutting down the opposition ... or agitating others.
2. Matthew 12.20: Helping the weak
  - a) Matt. 12:20: *He will not **break** a bruised reed, and he will not put out a **smoldering** wick,*
  - b) The hurting, the ones everyone else steps on, the unworthy, those down and out, those despised, or suffering, or hurting... He strengthens them.

## IV. 12.20c-21 - Jesus will bring Consummating Victory.

A. Matthew 12.20-21: *until he has led **justice** to victory.*

1. Right will win. In spite of all the persecution, difficulty, and rejection.
2. All who work evil will be judged ... the righteous vindicated ... Satan destroyed.

B. “Justice” in 12.20: this is a word whose meaning is larger than mere legal vindication ... it is the setting of right in whatever is not as it should be.

C. Matthew 12.21: It is in this that *the nations will put their **hope** in his name.*

## V. As We Close..

A. The 2020’s have been difficult to say the least... pandemic, economic pain, war...

B. What’s next? I have no idea what is going to happen ... and you don’t either.

C. Here’s what we can know: Our great king is in control! No matter what happens! Will you believe?