Reckoning – Fear is not our Future

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Season 2 Sermon Series Overview

- Lesson 1: Thunder
- Lesson 2: I Saw You
- Lesson 3: Matthew 4:24 Unexpected
- Lesson 4: The Perfect Opportunity
- Lesson 5: Spirit
- Lesson 6: Unlawful
- Lesson 7: Reckoning
- Lesson 8:

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As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, See your King comes to you, gentle and riding a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

The "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Accounts from the other Gospels

Mark 11:1-11 Luke 19:28-40 John 12:12-19

Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9-10

I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken.
He will proclaim peace to the nations.
His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River[b] to the ends of the earth.

Hebrew Prayer Tallits

The Hebrewic inscription: Baruch atah adonai Eloheinu melech ha olam Asher kidishanu b'mitzvotav Vitzivanu l'hitatef b'tzitzit.

Hebrew Prayer Tallits

The Hebrewic inscription reads: Blessed are you Lord our God, King of the Universe Who has sanctified us by Your commandments And has commanded us to wrap ourselves In the fringe garment



Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst."

Luke 17:20-25

Then he said to his disciples, "The time is coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it. People will tell you, 'There he is!' or 'Here he is!' Do not go running off after them. For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

Jesus challenged expectations

 Simon the Zealot's expectations about a conquering King
 John and James' confusion about salvation coming to The Gentiles.

3. The Pharisee's expectation for the longevity of Moses' Law.

4. Peter and the disciples expectation that Jesus would stay on Earth

John 16:25-32

"Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

John 16:25-32

Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

"Do you now believe?" Jesus replied. "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

Key Questions for Today

What do you expect from God?
 What do you expect from a life of following Him?
 What do you expect God to accomplish in and through You?
 What do you expect after you die?
 What are your expectations?

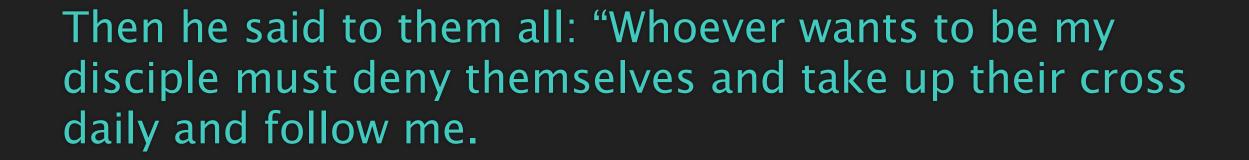


God's Word tells us: We can expect trouble and hardship



"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."





Matthew 5:10-12

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

John 20:24-29

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus[a]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."



A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."



Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



Expect the unexpectedly miraculous

Matthew 17:19-20

Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 10:38-39

Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

John 14:1-4

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

John 14:1-4

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."



Expect an everlasting life to come



We need direction from God's Will Which requires: Remembrance & submission



He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

Applications

 We need to realize that Jesus promises spiritual freedom and life. There may be physical changes, but remember, in this world there will be trouble.

- 2. We need to believe and expect Jesus to do amazing things in and through us and all around us.
 - 3. We need to live like we are fighting for eternity.



4. Lastly, we need to remember and submit our will to the Will of the Father. Communion aids us in remembering and The Lord's Prayer is one of many ways to submit our will to the Will of the Father.

Matthew 26:26-29

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the[a] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."