

“The Coming of the Son of Man Part 2” Luke 21:25-38

Please Stand and Open Your Bibles to Luke 21:5-24

As way of review from last week this teaching called the “Olivet Discourse” began because of the misperception the Disciples had on when the Kingdom of God would come. They had shown Jesus the magnificence of the temple with the idea that this was the one He would rule and reign in. Jesus confounded them by telling them that it was going to be destroyed. This is why they are asking Him a series of questions. Jesus started by telling them about the “Signs for all the times” and then the “Birth Pangs” that would precede that time to come. He then showed them their fate and encouraged them not to worry about it. He then says something unique to Luke on the coming destruction of the Temple, dispersion of the Jews to all the nations and a thing called “The times of the Gentiles”. We looked at Daniel 2 and 7 which describes in great detail exactly what that is. Jesus will now explain what the world would look like at the time of this last Kingdom of the Gentile era...

The Coming Day of the Lord

Luke 21:25-28

Now, Luke does not give us a timeline or really any details about what will happen during this time but if we are a student of scripture, we know that between Daniel and Revelation we have a very good picture of this time.

As you can from this * one chart available on Blue Letter Bible the timeline from the Church age into eternity. Many of you have the charts that I passed out and some that were purchased from Don Perkins. But focusing in more on the Day of the Lord or technically “The Seventieth Week of Daniel” we can see why Jesus describes it this way in Luke. Here is a list of things that will happen during that time...

First the Seals:

1. The ten kings elect one to rule the world through his promise of “Peace and Security” Making a “Covenant” with Israel.
2. War will break out in every place on Earth
3. Worldwide Famine and Economic Collapse
4. One Quarter (2 Billion!) people will die
5. New Believers that don't fall in line are slaughtered!
6. The Earth is rocked by cosmic disturbances
7. 144,000 Jews are sealed, the slaughtered in Heaven and silence in Heaven for half an hour in expectation of the seven Trumpets

Second the Trumpets:

1. Fire and Hail causes 1/3 of the trees and all the green grass to burn up
2. Great Burning Mountain falls into the sea 1/3 of the oceans and all in it die and turn to blood
3. A great star falls and destroys 1/3 of the rivers and springs with deadly “Wormwood”
4. 1/3 of the Sun, moon and Stars are struck and three woes pronounced on the earth dwellers.
5. First woe; Bottomless pit opened and demons released to torture all of mankind for 5 months.
6. Second woe; 200,000 million man demon/hybrid army will kill 1/3 of what’s left of mankind (Another 2 Billion!)
7. Proclamation of the kingdom and the King that is coming!

This is just the first half!

Before the bowls;

Seven thunders???

Satan is thrown out of Heaven and he goes to make war against Israel

Antichrist becomes world leader and demands everyone to take a mark

False Prophet makes all worship the Antichrist

Third the Bowls:

1. Foul and Loathsome sores on all who took the mark
2. All the sea and all in them die as it all turns to blood
3. All the rivers and springs of water turn to blood
4. Sun supernovas and men are scorched
5. The entire earth is in darkness
6. Euphrates dries up, demon frogs deceive the nation to come to Armageddon to battle
7. Great Earthquake as all mountains fall and 75-100 pound hail stones hit the earth.

Luke 21:25-26

“And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken”

Finally, this will conclude with the second coming of Christ!

Luke 21:27

“Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

Luke 21:28

“Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”

This next verse and following must be taken as application. It says when you see these things begin to happen. Not while they are happening, very important!

A Parable of Anticipation

Luke 21:29-33

Matthew adds this...

Matthew 24:32

Now learn this parable from the fig tree:

Now like I said last week we are not going to get into a deep study of this, but I will remind you of what is known as “Parabolic Consistency”. This is a biblical hermeneutical rule that says where one thing is spoken in a parable the meaning is the same in all the parables. Where is the first mention of this? In Luke!

Luke 13:6-9

He also spoke this parable: “A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, ‘Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?’ But he answered and said to him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.’ ”

Who is the Fig Tree in this parable? National Israel! So, using our rule what would make the fig tree in our passage today? Israel! Jesus had just told them that Israel would be scattered until the time of the gentiles was completed and now, we have a clue when that time will be close to an end...the fig tree started to put forth leaves. Notice that the leaves come before the fruit? What is the problem with the first parable? This is another proof on Israel’s regathering is first in unbelief. This is what we see today!

But notice Luke mentions “All the Trees”. I find this fascinating as the trees mean nations. Do we see national and regional entities lining up like the bible mentions? Just take a look Psalm 83 and Ezekiel 38-39 and ask yourself if these nations in their geographical locations are forming together as we speak. The answer is yes!

The one thing people are very confused about is how long a generation is. This has been used in many different scenarios to date set the rapture. But is Luke referring to a period of time?

Generation:

γενεά

genea

From (a presumed derivative of) G1085; a generation; by implication an age (the period or the persons): - age, generation, nation, time.

We let the context determine the definition. If the Fig Tree is a nation, then the use of Genea as a noun would require that idea. The nation of Israel will not be going away until the end of the times of the gentiles. This is settled not by date setting but by God's Word!

Luke 21:33

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Every one of those things that we mentioned earlier will happen. The things preceding it will happen. We are living in

the time just prior as the trees are budding and everything is falling in place. So, what do we do about it?

Luke 21:34-35

“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. 35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.”

Why is it people do not want to hear about this or talk about it? Because it messes with their life goals. It forces you to look at the future differently. Remember we finished last week with this...

1 Thessalonians 5:4

But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

We are to be looking for that Day because it is the day of our escape!

Luke 21:36

“Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Now before you start thinking that you are going to be left behind because you are not worthy you need to know this is a bad translation. It has the meaning of being “accounted as one” to escape. I mean no one is worthy. Here are a couple of other translations to help...

Luke 21:36 NLT

“Keep alert at all times. And pray that you might be strong enough to escape these coming horrors and stand before the Son of Man.”

Luke 21:36 ESV

“But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Luke 21:36 NIV

“Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

And what is it that we are escaping from?

Revelation 3:10

Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

The time of the Gentiles is coming to a close. Their final testing is at hand. Watch and Be Ready!

Luke 21:37-38

And in the daytime He was teaching in the temple, but at night He went out and stayed on the mountain called Olivet. 38 Then early in the morning all the people came to Him in the temple to hear Him.

The narrative will now move into the final days of the life of Jesus. Which we will pick up next week. But before we finish the question you need to ask yourself “Are you ready?”

John 14:1-6

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 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. And where I go you know, and the way you know.” Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and

how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

There is only one way out and that is through Jesus!