

Luke 19:41-44 - Why Did Christ Weep Over the City?

“What is Your Expectation of Christ in Your Life?” The Crowds' *Hosanna's* Changed to *Crucify HIM*...Because They had a Wrong Expectation of Christ Wanted to Do in Their Lives that Day.

- Simply...Their Words of Praise...Did Not Match their Hearts! **READ LUKE 19:41-44**

As He rode down the road, crowds of people stood praising Him loudly, hailing Him as the King of Israel. And any man receiving such treatment might feel lifted up with a great sense of exhilaration, joy and pride.

But NOT the Lord Jesus...Let Me Explain...

- Instead of Reveling in the Overpowering Rejoicing All Around Him, *Jesus did Something Quite Unexpected*. As He gazed at the happy faces of all the people and at the whole city of Jerusalem with its many stately structures...**HE WEPT!!**
- It Was NOT Because of All the Terrible Things that He was Going to Suffer within a few days' time. Jesus was Not Weeping for Himself. Here are 3 Reasons for Jesus Weeping in Verse 41.

Firstly, He Wept...Because of His Unending Desire for the Peace of Jerusalem VS-42

- *Jesus wept for Jerusalem Because it had Rejected Him and Missed its Opportunity for Peace.*
- Jerusalem was to be a City of Peace. In its 3,500 yrs History Jerusalem has seen Little Peace.
- Some have called it 'the Most Contested Piece of Real Estate On Earth.'

Instead of being a City of Peace, Jerusalem has Therefore Become a City of Weeping. Jeremiah 9:1

- This helps Us understand why Jesus Wept over the City During His Triumphal Entry.
- He wept with those who've been longing for Peace in Jerusalem, a peace that should have been possessed by Jerusalem, which is supposed to be the city of Peace!

Jesus Our Lord and Savior Desires for Us to be Blessed with the Peace that passes all understanding, the Peace that is Ours Through being His People. His Tears Also Remind those who are Still Unsaved Not to Forsake the Opportunity for Peace with God that Jesus came to Bestow on Us.

- Only Jesus, the Prince of Peace Can Bring Sinners into a Permanent state of Peace with God (Rom 5:1). Phil 4:7 says, In Christ we can have His Perfect Peace in Every Situation and Trial.

Secondly, Jesus Wept over the City of Jerusalem Because He saw the Punishment of Jerusalem that was to come. **Verse 43** Being Omniscient Jesus foresaw Jerusalem's destruction in AD 70 by the Romans.

So, 'Why Was the Punishment of Jerusalem so Severe?' It was Because of their Sins Against God.

Although the Lord had given them the Law and sent prophets to them, they did Not Obey Him and seek after Him as a Nation. The fig tree Jesus cursed in Matt 21 was meant to be a picture of Israel.

- *Israel had Become a Barren Nation...Lacking in Fruits of Righteousness that the Lord Expected from it.* Jesus had to Even Cleanse the Temple from the Den of Thieves.

But All the Sins of Jerusalem were Not as great as the Sin of Rejecting the Messiah. Look at VS-44

- The last part of this verse makes clear the ultimate cause of Jerusalem's destruction *was Because Israel Failed to Recognize the Time of God's Visitation and they Refused to Receive Him.*

You may ask, didn't the Jews hail Him as their King as He Entered Jerusalem?' The True Picture is Revealed A few days later, when their Cheers of 'Hosanna! Turned to Jeers of 'Crucify Him! Crucify Him!'

- They Changed their tune Because Of Their Utterly Selfish and Mistaken Concept of the Messiah.
- *They Expected this Messiah to Resurrect the Davidic Kingdom of Israel back to Life, a Kingdom which had been Dead by then for Centuries!* Their cries of 'Hosanna! Hosanna!' expressed their hopes that Jesus would now lead them to overthrow the Romans and restore the Kingdom of Israel.
- But when it became Clear to them that this was NOT His Intention...Their Excitement Died down...Hope was Lost! What they Wanted...Was Not Why Christ Came!
- Jesus Wept over the city of Jerusalem Because He Saw Their True Motives!

Outwardly, they sought to recognize Him, but inwardly, they refused to recognize and accept Him as their God who had made them, and who had now come to visit them.

This is an Exhortation to the Church Today...It's Easy to Outwardly Praise Jesus as Our King here on Sunday's...But Inwardly to NOT Recognize the Claims He has on our lives to Live to Build His Kingdom!

- Daily God Pursues Each of Us and Desires to be First in Our life...But Too Often We Are Too Busy to Respond to His Small Still Voice. Whether He is Pursuing a person that Does Not Care to Know Jesus and Ignores Him! Which For this Person it is the Greatest Sin of ALL!

However, The Christian Believer Can Ignore God as Well.

- We Ignore a Private Time with God in His Word and in Prayer... Then Wonder Why Each Day Seems Dry and Worse Filled with Obstacles that Leave Us Fearful or Filled with Guilt!
- We Ignore His Small Still Voice about Meeting the Needs of Other's...And Then Wonder Why We Don't Experience the Joy of the Lord! Ignore God Long Enough...Our Hearts Become Cold!

Finally, Jesus Wept Because of His Unbounded Love for the People of Jerusalem VS 44 His Children

- The tears that Jesus shed on His way to Jerusalem were not Tears of grief over a Lack of Peace, or Sins of Unbelief...They Were Also Tears of Unbounded Love for His People. Matt 23: 37-39

And Jesus who Wept Tears of Love for Them...Also Weeps Tears Of Love For YOU.

- If You're like Jerusalem, Backslidden or Unwilling to Listen to His Gentle Calls Upon Your Heart...To Obey and Make Him Your First Love...HE WEEPS!
- If in the Busyness of Life...You've "Grown Cool" Toward God...Focusing On This Life and Neglecting the Mission and Ministry God Has For You...HE WEEPS!

If this is You, I Encourage You to Respond to His Call...To Recommit Yourself to God's Plan for Your Life...To Love God, Serve Others and Build God's Kingdom!

YOU SEE...GOD WANTS US TO HAVE HIS HEART FOR THE LOST! HE WANTS US TO WEEP FOR THOSE WHO ARE HEADED TO ETERNITY APART FROM GOD Mark 16:15-16

Fact: Only 1 in 10 believers have ever Led someone else to Saving Faith in Christ, which means that 90% of Christians keep their faith to themselves...Not what God Intended.

- We are to be Salt to the World...But We Need to Get Out of the Salt-Shaker.
- SHAKE, SHAKE, SHAKE Sharing Gods Word of Hope... Shake, Shake, Shake by Serving Others and Letting Them See Christ...Loving Them into Jesus Arms!
- Jesus Wept for the Lost...And He Wants Us to do the Same!

In Ravenhill's book, *"Why Revival Tarries"*, he says, **"You Cannot have Revival without Mr. Amen and Mr. Wet-Eyes Sitting in the Congregation."**

- Mr. Amen means We Say AMEN...**"SO BE IT"** To Making Disciples!
- Mr. Wet-Eyes Means **"We Will Shed Tears"** for Those Who are Lost W/O Christ!

God Has NO "Plan B." We Are It! We Have Been Given the Greatest Opportunity in the World...To Bring People...Our Family, Friends and Others to a Saving Knowledge and Acceptance of Jesus Christ!

- We Just Need to Say Amen to Focusing on Making Disciples.
- And As We Weep for Them...We Will Experience Revival in Lives!
- **We Need to Be God's Salt-Shakers Sharing the Gospel and Christ's Love.**

"LIFE" POINT: I WILL SHAKE, SHAKE, SHAKE TO REACH THE LOST!