The Return of Jesus

Shawn Jeffries · Luke 21:5–32

INTRODUCTION

- I think we will all agree that most people are not very good at predicting the future.
- We now need to spend a couple of lessons clearing up misunderstandings that some have about the timing of this event.

1 Jesus Is Talking About the Destruction of the Temple

Luke 21:5–7; Matthew 24:3; Mark 13:2

- For the most part, what he's talking about in these chapters has nothing to do with his second personal literal return. Instead, most of this has to do with the destruction of Jerusalem.
- One day not one stone will be left upon another. It will all be torn down.
- The main reason why so many religious folks misunderstand this chapter and chapters that are parallel to it, like Matthew 24 and Mark 13, is because they don't carefully consider the context.
- These questions have to do with the destruction of the temple. And the Lord coming in judgment and the end of the Jewish age.

2 Signs Prior to the Destruction of Jerusalem

Luke 21:8–19; Colossians 1:23; Luke 21:29–32

- Jesus says there will be a lot of signs prior to this unbelievable event.
- History tells us that all of these things occurred prior to Jerusalem's demise and the destruction of the temple.
- Which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, of which I, Paul, was made a minister.
- This generation will not pass away until all these things take place.
- Jesus says that everything up to this point applies to the generation of that day.

3 Coming in a Cloud Is Judgment Language

Luke 21:25–28; Ezekiel 32:7; Isaiah 19:1

- Behold, the Lord is riding on a swift cloud. And is about to come to Egypt.
- This is figurative, apocalyptic judgment language that people in Bible times were very familiar with, and God uses it through his prophets to talk about him punishing a nation.
- They will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. That is judgment language.
- While this would be a time of great wrath and judgment for the physical nation of Israel, when it came to spiritual Israel, it would actually be a time of redemption.

4 Fear: Fear the Judgment of God

2 Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 10:31

- We should read this and fear the judgment of God.
- If things were this bad for the Jewish nation when God did away with them as a nation, how much worse you think it's going to be for the wicked today when the Lord personally comes again?
- It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

5 Comfort: Jesus Is Showing Care for His People

- While predicting his coming in judgment on the Jewish nation, at the same time, Jesus is showing care for his people.
- Over a million Jews died in the destruction of Jerusalem. But you know how many Christians died? Zero.
- He cares about our safety. He cares about our problems, our persecutions, our struggles, our sufferings, most importantly, our souls, and us enduring to the end.

6 Urgency: Be Ready at All Times

Matthew 24:36–44; 1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10

- It's going to be unexpected and like a thief in the night.
- But of that day and hour no one knows. Not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.
- For this reason, you also must be ready. For the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not think.
- Since there will be no signs that give us a heads up when he's personally going to return, we got to be ready today and all the time.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **If you need to get ready for that day, come to the front.**

MY NOTES