

Luke 21.5-19

Temple of God comes to Temple of God

Luke 21 Temple of God comes to Temple of God = PLACE to Meet God

MOSES: Tabernacle/Tent – DAVID: Temple – Solomon, Zerubbabel, Herod

JESUS: NEW Covenant, Priesthood, Sacrifice, Place/Nations: Spirit & Truth

Jerusalem Temple MAGNIFICENT > Lofty Parapets, Grand Colonnades

Temple complex 36 acres > Largest Site of its Kind in Ancient World

1 Most Beautiful Bldgs in History of World > Josephus, Jewish Historian

“The whole of the outer works of the temple was in the highest degree worthy of admiration; for it was completely covered with gold plates, which, when the sun was shining on them, glittered so dazzlingly that they blinded the eyes of the beholders not less than one gazed at the sun’s rays themselves. And on the other sides, where there was no gold, the blocks of marble were of such pure white that to strangers who had never previously seen them (from a distance) they looked like mountains of snow” Josephus

Walls rose 80 feet above Roadways/ Foundation went 50 feet below Street

Herod: 10,000 workers, 1000 priests in masonry & carpentry, 1000 oxen

Stones 2 to 4 tons, some over 15 tons /1 Stone 415 t. 46 ft x 10 ft x 10 ft

## 1. Temple Decommissions Temple

a. Wonder 1<sup>st</sup> C Israelites MODEST Houses: Mud, Brick, Stone

v. 5 some were speaking of temple...adorned w noble stones & offerings

H> 20 BC, Pilgrims @ SEE New Adds to T – @ 50 yrs! Finished 64 AD

b. Wrecked Jesus Astonishing Prophecy / Unbelievable, SHOCKING

v. 6 “As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down”

4 year Siege by Roman General Titus & Army began in 66 AD > 70 AD

Josephus > Million people KILLED & 100 k taken CAPTIVE

Assumption > IF Temple will Come Down THEN World will End

c. Warnings 20.1 he teaching people in temple & preaching the gospel

TEMPLE Place of Truth: God of Truth > Last Week of Jesus Life

Luke records 2 of Jesus' Laments over Jerusalem

13.34,35 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! Behold, your house is forsaken"

For Jesus in Luke > ENTERING Jerusalem is ENTERING the TEMPLE

19.41-44 when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you...they will not leave 1 stone on another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

d. Wisdom > Apostle John helps JEWS Understand PLAN of God

Luke > Apostle to Gentiles – Jesus came to Seek & Save Lost World

4<sup>th</sup> Gospel JOHN > Written AFTER 70 AD / Destruction

Shocking! How could God permit Loss of Sanctuary – 3 X's Loss!

Explains > John liberty Re-Arrange ORDER of Events > Cleansing Ch 2

John 2.19-22 Passover of Jews...Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen & sheep & money-changers... making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple...So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in 3 days I will raise it up" Jews said, "taken 46 yrs to build this temple & you'll raise it up in 3 days? But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

God PUNISHES His People for Rejecting SON > TRUE Temple

Since 70 AD Jews NOT Obeyed Basic Requirement for Forgiveness Sins

Temple of Jews Decommissioned > Full & Final Sacrifice been Made

God has NO Plans to Rebuild Temple > Some Xtians Do > Backwards!

Temple of God WIDE Open for Worshippers > World comes to Jesus!

## 2. Deception and Need for Discernment

Disciples BELIEVED Jesus > Question NOT If or How but When

v. 7 And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?”

Wanted some WARNING before Great & Terrible DAY of the Lord

Luke 21 READ w BIFOCALS > End of Temple AND End of World

Temple in Foreground > Beginning of End > End of World FINAL Day

Commands of Jesus DIRECTLY to Disciples facing those Final Days

Interp > What was Original Author saying to the Original Audience?

Apply to US as we Await the RETURN of Jesus in His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming

### a. Do Not be Led Astray by Wild Ideas about End of the World

Beware of False Messiah or Rash Predictions: Jesus MOST Important!

v. 8 he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them.

Talk @ End of World brings Out the Crazies: Jim Jones, David Koresh

Late Great Planet Earth, Left Behind series > Fun Reads, False Theology

God Not taking any Direction from America’s Policy for Middle East

Many Declared DATES when Jesus RETURN > Embarrass Name Lord

Jesus knew that Would Happen > ADVICE “do not be led astray”

### b. Do Not be Afraid > End of Time makes People Scared!

v. 9 when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

When you Hear such a Prophecy > Easy to PANIC > This the NORMAL!

Seen in Revelation: 4 Horsemen Running NOW – TRIBULATION Now!

Answer to Specific Question: v. 7 WHEN, WHAT will be Sign?

Jesus NOT answer Question DIRECTLY > Many Terrible things 1<sup>st</sup>

It will NOT Happen All at ONCE > Destruction of Temple NOT End W

v 10,11 “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

The temple could not fall without shaking the whole world. John Calvin

63 AD Earthquake destroyed Pompeii / 66 AD Jew revolt agnst Rome

Soon the PAX ROMANA (Peace of Rome) be BROKEN FOREVER

(Global Peace, Travel, Language created to SPREAD GOSPEL?)

CHURCH would expand thru times of FRACTURED Nations and Tribes

WAR is often FOLLOWED by FAMINE

4 HORSEMEN race Across Earth > Conquest, Bloodshed, Famine, Death

2 Peter 3.7,10 the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly...the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed

WE Fear Natural Disasters – Nuclear Attack – Terrorist Strike –

Stock Market Collapse – Oil Shortage – Election DA Other Guys

People MORE Curious @ Timetable as CONCERNED for own SAFETY

7000 Xtians killed in NIGERIA in 2025 > Not Lose Sleep, Did PRAY?

v. 12 But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake.

Followers of Jesus Faced Increasing Opposition and PERSECUTION

Persecution > BEGINS LOCAL and goes GLOBAL > Councils to KINGS

OPPOSITION is OPPORTUNITY to WITNESS to GOSPEL of Jesus

Stand as Witness > PERSECUTION should lead to PROCLAMATION

Apocalyptic Language // Revelation > to Whole Church 1<sup>st</sup> C to Final C

Even more Reason NOT Afraid > Serve RISEN Savior, Scriptures, Spirit

### 3. Persecution and the Need for Endurance

#### a. Trials provide a Great Opportunity for Evangelism

v. 16,17 You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name's sake.

Persecution is PAINFUL > MOST Painful from OWN FAMILY

Even Family & Friends TURN AGAINST Believers and Gospel

ALL Thru LUKE > Family Fractures and Re-forms in Christ

Jesus: "My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice." 8.21

Persecution Against 1<sup>st</sup> Christians in Israel, across the Mediterranean

Persecution of Church BEFORE Destruction of Temple: by Jew & Gentiles

Hardship Predicted by Jesus > SEEN in Book of Acts

Prison, Betrayal, Hatred, Death > Peter & John, Stephen, James, Paul

Not just Apostles Suffered > Many Ordinary Xtians Suffered for Jesus

vs 13-15 This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.

Acts: We never find Apostles at a Loss for Words: Arrested > Preached

5.29 the high priest... "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name  
...But Peter & apostles answered "We must obey God rather than men"

5.42 every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Stephen kept Preaching the Gospel to his very Last Breath

END > Paul in ROME > Global KINGDOM, Caesar is LORD

28.31 proclaiming kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Pray for Persecuted Church > Not JUST Protection, also Proclamation

“Do not be afraid of the enemies of the gospel in all the places of spiritual darkness. The more hatred any society has for Christ, the clearer it becomes what difference it makes to be a Christian...God is always giving us opportunities for witness” Philip Ryken

Promise of God being with Us > He will Give us words to say

1 Peter 3.15 “in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you

More Opposition we Suffer > Better our Opportunities for Witness

Not About You > Don't Worry that You must say Perfect Words

Trust in Holy Spirit > Make Message Clear and Well Understood

v. 13 “This will be your opportunity to bear witness”

Any Time of Loss, Sickness, Trouble, Hardship: God is with Us

**b. By Endurance you will Gain your Life**

v. 18,19 But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.

Conflict? v. 16 Jesus said some of His followers would be KILLED

No Matter what Happens to your Body > No One can Touch your Soul

We can Never be Plucked from the Protective Hand of God

Nothing will Happen Outside His Perfect Will

All Things work Together for Our Good and His Glory

Savior promised if we Lose our Lives for Him we will Save them in End

He has Gone Ahead of us into Glory, Our Place in Heaven is Secure

We have Nothing to Fear, If your Trust in Jesus Death will be Destroyed

If by Grace we Persevere to the End, we will be Saved Forever

Psalm 59 // Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; protect me from those who rise up against me; // **deliver me from those who work evil, and save me from bloodthirsty men.** // For behold, they lie in wait for my life; fierce men stir up strife against me. // **For no transgression or sin of mine, O Lord, for no fault of mine, they run and make ready.**

Awake, come to meet me, and see! You, Lord God of hosts, are God of Israel. // **Rouse yourself to punish all the nations; spare none of those who treacherously plot evil.** // Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city. // **There they are, bellowing with their mouths with swords in their lips** — // for “Who,” they think, “will hear us?” But you, O Lord, laugh at them; you hold all the nations in derision. // **O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress.** // My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies. // **Kill them not, lest my people forget; make them totter by your power and bring them down, O Lord, our shield!** // For the sin of their mouths, the words of their lips, let them be trapped in their pride. // **For the cursing and lies that they utter, consume them in wrath; consume them till they are no more,** that they may know that God rules over Jacob to the ends of the earth.

**Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city.** // They wander about for food and growl if they do not get their fill. // **But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.** // For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. // **O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.**     Amen and Amen.