

LUKE I The King Enters Jerusalem Text: Luke 19:28–48

If these kept silent then the stones would cry out —Bill Turner

1. It's been said that courage is a cornerstone virtue—because without courage, none of the other virtues would matter—without the courage to live them out.
 2. Dark forces are gathering in Jerusalem—dark forces in the hearts of men—dark forces in the spiritual realm—all converging against Jesus
 3. But instead of avoiding His destiny—He faces it with courage
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1. JESUS ENTERING JERUSALEM (v.28–40)

A. HIS ENTRANCE

1. Jesus entered Jerusalem in the most interesting way because
—His entrance was a fulfillment of Prophecy (Zechariah 9:9)
 - a) He Entered this world in a borrowed Manger—no human had been born in before
 - b) He entered Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey—never ridden before,
 - c) He Left This World and was buried in a borrowed tomb—never used before
2. The people laid their coats on the animal for Jesus...
 - a) and they laid their coats on the ground as Jesus rode into Jerusalem!
 - b) They Rejoiced and Praised God as Jesus entered Jerusalem ...
3. Some were offended that the people were calling Jesus King...
 - a) They Knew that this was the Title of the Messiah
 - b) But Jesus tells them: *"I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."*
4. They Didn't Understand...
 - a) This event has been planned from before the world began!
 - b) This is the fullness of time when God chose to send His son
 - c) This is the Final Week before He is crucified for the sins of the World

B. HIS COURAGE

1. Remember there is already a price on His head...
 - a) The chief priests and pharisees and rulers of the Jews have already issued secret orders to have Him arrested...
2. Yet He is Entering the very strong hold of the rulers who want Him dead!
And He is NOT Entering QUIETLY—He is entering OPENLY!

C. HIS HUMILITY

1. Jesus is not entering Jerusalem on a war horse...
 - a) He is not entering in a Roman Chariot
 - b) He is not entering with armed guards or soldiers or crowd control
2. He is entering Jerusalem on a Donkey...
 - a) Appealing to the Hearts of the people,
 - b) but knowing this WILL be the VIOLENT END of His 3 year ministry

2. JESUS WEEPING OVER JERUSALEM (v.41–44)

A. JESUS WEEPS FOR THIS CITY

1. Some burdens are so heavy that there are no words...
2. Tears are words that cannot be spoken
3. Our Savior Wept—But NOT for Himself—Even though He knows what the corrupt rulers of this city will do to kill Him...
4. He weeps for the lost souls of those who refuse to listen & refuse to repent

B. WHEN A PEOPLE REBEL AGAINST HEAVEN—THERE'S NOTHING LEFT ON EARTH THAT CAN RESTRAIN THEIR EVIL

1. When they crucified Jesus there was three hours of darkness... an earthquake and the veil of the Temple was Torn
 - a) As if God rent the veil in visceral wrath against sin and Intense Anguish for His Son
 - b) God's presence departed from the temple that day...
 - c) His Hand of Protection No Longer Over Jerusalem
2. Without God's Hand of Protection—Jerusalem couldn't last a generation...
3. It was not long before they revolted against Rome AGAIN... and Rome Had Enough.
 - a) Not one stone of the Temple was left upon another [Image]
 - b) The City was so destroyed that they razed it to the ground and then spread salt over it so nothing could grow back

C. IT WAS ONLY THE WARNINGS OF JESUS AND THE PROVIDENTIAL MERCY OF GOD THAT SPARED THE LIVES OF THE FAITHFUL

1. A Jewish Historian at that time (Josephus) wrote that the Roman General Vespasian surrounded the City in 66 AD and cut off its supplies
 - a) But the Suicide of Nero, the Political Assassinations of the Praetorian Guard, and the insanity in Rome caused Vespasian to end the Siege of Jerusalem and return to Rome to restore order and become Emperor.
 - b) Four Years Later He sent His Son Titus to finish the Job of destroying Jerusalem.
2. As One Bible Commentator said:
 - a) "The tragedy was that if only they had abandoned their dreams of political power and taken the way that Jesus offered it need never have happened. The tears of Jesus are the tears of God when he sees the needless pain and suffering in which men and women involve themselves through foolish rebelling against his will.¹
3. You see, their Dreams of Political Power was just an outward manifestation of something even darker in their hearts...

¹ William Barclay, Luke, Daily Bible Study Series. p.241

3. JESUS CLEANSING THE TEMPLE (v.45-46)

A. THE HOLY TEMPLE WAS THE PRIDE & JOY OF JERUSALEM

1. It was a massive structure and Impressive to anyone who visited
2. This was Passover Week when millions of Jews traveled to the Temple
3. People traveled from all over the world to offer sacrifice and prayer to God

B. SADLY THE TEMPLE WORSHIP SYSTEM HAD BECOME CORRUPTED

1. It was supposed to be a House of Prayer for all nations (Isaiah 56:7)
But the Religious Leaders turned it into a den of thieves (Jer. 7:11).
2. Instead of the worshipper entering the courtyard with reverence to God...
he was confronted with a loud and busy market of shop venders.
3. 1st: There were tables of money changers...
 - a) exchanging currency at rates that amounted to robbery of the poor.
 - b) There was a yearly temple tax that Jews had to pay in a particular coin & currency
 - c) The High Priest ran these tables and had become rich off them.
4. 2nd: There were Rows of Booths selling all kinds of sacrificial animals...
 - a) When a worshipper brought a lamb for passover it had to be inspected...
 - b) But if it did Not Pass Inspection then they had to buy a Lamb from the Temple,
 - c) which could cost double or triple or more than any where else. But if you bought from anywhere else—you could have it rejected as well!

C. JESUS OVERTURNED THIER TABLES AND DROVE THEM OUT!

1. It wasn't just that the Flea Market Atmosphere of buying and selling interfered w/ dignity and reverence of worship...
2. It was that the VERY WORSHIP in the House of God was being USED to EXPLOIT The Worshipers! (Barclay)
3. Jesus stopped them from using the Temple as a Marketplace—
—and the Rulers Hated Him for it! (Mk 11:15-18 NIV)

4. JESUS TEACHING IN THE TEMPLE (47-48)

A. IT'S DIFFICULT TO DESCRIBE HOW SHOCKING THIS WAS...

1. By Overturning the Tables of the Money Changers and Sellers...
2. By Condemning them publicly—By Driving them out of the Temple
3. By Ripping the Fake Masks Off their Faces in front of everyone
4. These Religious Rulers are Seething—They want to Destroy Him

B. JESUS IS NOW ENEMY OF THE STATE—SO WHAT DOES HE DO?

1. He keeps Teaching in the Temple! DAILY! PUBLICLY!
2. They Want to Destroy Him—but they can't get to Him!
3. Because all the people following Him and learning from His teaching!

C. NO ONE HAS EVER TAUGHT LIKE JESUS

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away” –Lk 21:33

- 1. “His words have passed into law, they have passed into doctrines, they have passed into proverbs, they have passed into consolations, but they have never ‘passed away.’ What human teacher ever dared to claim an eternity for his words?” (Maclean, G. F. Cambridge Bible for Schools, p.149, 1893).***

- 2. If the people had not raised their voices in praise to God
then the rocks would’ve cried out... But they remain silent...
The Majestic Mountains remain silent...**

***“These Mountains, which have seen untold sunrises, long to thunder praise—
but stand reverent, silent so that man's weak praise should be given God's attention.”
(Donald Miller)***

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Jesus entered Jerusalem—Not to be Coronated—but to be Crucified...**
- 2. It will be the most expensive purchase ever made in the entire universe**
- 3. The price of Grace—He paid with His life—to save yours.**

How will you respond?

Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6)