LUKE: Investigating the Real Jesus

How to Respond to Jesus’ Plan for the Future?, Luke 17:20-37; 21:5-36

Weekend of June 29-30, 2024

GREAT WEDNESDAY celebrating what God’s been doing so far in 2024 including our EO3 GOALS- update Children’s area, develop/hire leaders, start a new campus by end of 2025- Lord willing end of summer 2025- Sandusky/Pastor Luke. It all comes back to our MISSION: Discover truth, Decide on Jesus, Demonstrate change, Deploy to serve/share- it’s always about drawing people to Jesus and growing to be more like Him! New campus more opportunities! This is our focus because- 1. Jesus commanded it, 2. People’s eternity is at stake- not to mention their need for Jesus in this life, and 3. Time’s ticking!! Our world/society is disintegrating and it’s just a matter of time before Jesus comes back. That’s what we are going to talk about today out of Luke 21, pg. 1050. As you turn there, remember last week the RLs sent spies into the crowd to act like they were followers of Jesus and see if they could trip Jesus up. They tried by asking Him if it was OK for Jews to pay taxes to Rome.

GETTING UP TO SPEED

1. “Spies” Question Jesus, Luke 20:20–26- Should Jews pay taxes to Rome?
2. Yes, pay taxes- the crowds would turn on Jesus.
3. No, don’t pay taxes- the Roman authorities would arrest Him.
4. JESUS POINT: give Caesar what’s his, give God what’s His.
5. Caesar’s image on coin- you use Caesar’s money, obey him. He’s also making a bigger point.
6. God’s image on humans- you use the life God’s given you, you should obey Him.
7. Sadducees Question Jesus, Luke 20:27-40 Whose wife is who's in heaven?
8. Law- widow marries the unmarried brother of husband.
9. RIDDLE: a woman marries 7 brothers who all die. Whose wife will she be in heaven? The 1st, 2nd, all?
10. Their trap- she’d be in sin, having multiple husbands; Jesus would be condoning adultery/polygamy
11. JESUS’ POINT: life in heaven is not like life on earth- humans are not angels but are like them once in heaven in that here’s no marriage in heaven, there is no having children in heaven, and believers will live forever; heaven is about God’s relationship with His followers.
12. JESUS’ ADDED POINT- the Sadducees didn’t believe in the resurrection, but by mentioning Moses’ teaching in the Torah, that God’s the God of A/I/J Jesus is saying that Moses believed there was a resurrection.
13. Jesus Questions the RLs, Luke 20:41–44 How could Messiah be God/David’s son- human?
14. Jews believed Messiah would be in the line of David, but only human.
15. Psalm 110- all Jews recognized Psalm 110 as a prophecy about the Messiah.
16. In Psalm 110 David called the Messiah, “Lord”/God.
17. JESUS’ POINT- Jesus is the only descendent of David who is both God/man- we know the RLs researched Jesus’ lineage- line of David because if He wasn’t they wouldn’t have been threatened. Problem- all records of lineage were destroyed when temple destroyed in AD 70, anyone claiming to be the Messiah after that could not be verified.
18. Jesus Warns the People, Luke 20:45–47
19. Jesus praises the humble dependence of the widow, Luke 21:1–4

How to Respond to Jesus’ Plan for the Future?

1. END TIMES- Things to Know
2. Dispensational Theology
3. Definition- God works in different ways at different times throughout history- spoke directly, then through prophets, Jesus, HS/Bible, etc.
4. Israel/church are separate, church doesn’t take over for Israel.
5. God made promises to Abraham/David- land, everlasting kingdom, etc. physical promises that need a physical fulfillment.
6. He fulfills those promises in the earthly/physical and the eternal/physical aspects of His kingdom.
7. Focus of End Times Events Is Israel
8. God has set Israel aside for a period of time we call this time the church age/currently in it.
9. He is currently focused on drawing Gentiles to Jesus- believers will enjoy benefits of Jesus’ earthly/physical kingdom and eternal/physical kingdom.
10. God returns to work with Israel/fulfill OT promises- big ones are land and everlasting kingdom
11. Prophecy- DUAL FULFILLMENT; most often there’s a near/incomplete fulfillment and then future/complete fulfillment. We’ll see this in Jesus’ prophecy in Luke 21.
12. End Times Timeline
13. Jesus’ 1st coming
14. He INITIATED the inner/spiritual aspect of the KofG/becoming a CITIZEN- that comes through placing your faith in the TRUTH that Jesus died on the cross to remove your sin that keeps you from God.
15. It’s what Jesus meant in Luke 17:21- “the kingdom of God is in your midst”; entos; inside, within you, and Luke 17:25 “Son of Man must suffer/rejected”.
16. Church age
17. Unknown length of time between Jesus’ ascension/return to heaven and the rapture/when He takes the believers to heaven.
18. God sets Israel aside to focus on bringing Gentiles/non-Jews to salvation- inner/spiritual aspect, growing the population of the KofG.

1. 7-Year Tribulation
2. With church age believers in heaven, God returns to focus on Israel/fulfill His OT promises/prophecies. No believers at the beginning.
3. 7 years of unprecedented persecution of Israel, and those who come to faith during this time, by the anti-Christ who leads the world governments and God’s judgments on the people of the world- the earth dwellers as Revelation calls them.
4. Christ’s 2nd coming/Millennial Kingdom- the earthly/physical aspect of the KofG.
5. Armageddon- tribulation ends with the anti-Christ coming against Jerusalem to wipe out the remaining Jewish people
6. Jesus returns, rescues believers/most Jewish, destroy all unbelieving JewsGentiles, binds Satan so he has no power on the earth.
7. As Jesus said in Luke 17- His coming will be obvious to all, those taken are the judged, those left- enter Millennial Kingdom.
8. Believers/mostly Jewish, as the only ones remaining on the earth, will enter the earthly/physical aspect of KofG- Millennial kingdom/1000-year reign of Jesus on earth in Jerusalem and begin to repopulate the earth.
9. This fulfills God’s promise of land to Abraham and begins to fulfill the eternal kingdom. .

1. The Eternal State- Jesus defeats Satan/followers, sets up Great White Throne judgment, He sends all unbelievers of all time into the lake of fire for eternity, destroys the present heavens/earth, and creates a new heavens/earth for all believers of all time- the eternal/physical aspect of the KofG, what we call the Eternal State.
2. THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE AND COMING EARTHLY KINGDOM, READ Luke 21:7-36

TAKEAWAYS- How to Respond to Jesus’ Plan

1. Don’t Be Misled, Luke 21:8 planao; wander aimlessly, knocked off course by following wrong teaching.
2. There’s only ever been 1 Messiah and that’s Jesus.
3. People did come after Jesus claiming to be the Messiah/Savior of Israel, but they were men who couldn’t even prove their lineage since the Temple records were destroyed.
4. In our lifetime there have been cult leaders who have claimed to be the Messiah- they weren’t even Jewish.
5. Jesus is the only one who fits the description and has proven He’s God/man.

1. Don’t listen to the so-called “experts” who have supposedly figured out Jesus’ return.
2. Only God, and now Jesus, knows when Jesus will return.
3. Getting caught up in this will distract you from the mission God’s given you.
4. SIDE NOTE: Not knowing refers to a pre-tribulation return to rapture the church, all other suggested returns have a timetable attached; mid-Trib- 3 ½ years, post-trib- 7 years, start of kingdom- 7 years from start of Tribulation.
5. Don’t Be Terrified by Wars, Disturbances, Luke 21:9
6. Terrified- ptoeo; alarmed, startled; fearfully surprised
7. WARS- People freaking out about a potential WW3- it might happen but God’s got it handled.
8. DISTURBANCES- riots, unrest, believers getting stressed/distracted by social issues/pressures.
9. Jesus is in charge; everything is working according to His plan.
10. Use Persecution to Share the Gospel, Luke 21:13
11. The persecution Jesus experienced brought us salvation.
12. He didn’t yell, insult, threaten, but entrusted Himself to God; He let God work in/through His response.
13. Don’t yell, insult, threaten, but entrust yourself to God; let God work in/through your Christ-like responses.
14. Be on Guard, Luke 21:34
15. Prosecho; state of alertness, be concerned about
16. Against being focused on this world and getting discouraged.
17. Against anxiety, escapism, fear, hiding from these days.
18. This world distracts and then traps us which will keep us from our mission and looking forward to seeing Jesus.

1. Keep Alert and Pray, Luke 21:36
2. agrupneo; literally- don’t sleep, keep thinking about, be vigilant
3. Don’t sleep but pray for strength to escape discouragement.
4. Be proactive and get with God each day to respond correctly throughout the day.
5. Stay focused on the mission so you can stand before Jesus one day without regret having impacted those He brought into your life.

NEXT WEEK: Come back, Luke 22, the Last Supper and we’ll celebrate communion. Let’s stand and pray.