

Sermon Notes

Insights from Luke

#84 – “Destruction of Jerusalem and a Portent of Things to Come”

– Luke 21:20-24

I. Introduction

A. Review of last week’s sermon

1. Olivet Discourse – found in Luke 21, Mark 13, Matthew 24
2. Significant questions

B. Difficulty interpreting

1. Cross reference to all synoptic gospels
2. Interface with Daniel’s prophecies
3. Christians have many preconceived ideas

C. Were the disciples asking questions about the end of the temple/ end of the world? – Luke 21:7; Matthew 24:3; Mark 13:3-4

1. Jesus does not clearly delineate which “end” they are referring to, yet, the disciple’s view needs clarification.
2. He notes many characteristics (deceptions and calamities) between the resurrection and the second advent.
 - a. Examples

D. Today’s text – Luke 21:20-24

II. Exposition

A. Luke 21:20-24

1. Note correspondence with Matthew 24:15-22.
 - a. Matthew and Mark add “abomination of destruction” reference (Mark 24:15; Mark 13:14).
2. Interpreting this discourse
 - a. What was meant by Jesus and how was it received by the original audience?
3. Luke 21:20 is key in pinpointing Jesus’ present remarks as relating to AD 70.

- a. Background on siege of Jerusalem by the Romans
- b. Moses’ warning of devastating human tragedy was realized in a macabre three year siege of the city.

1. Deuteronomy. 28:52-57; Mark 13:12.

c. Josephus’ remarks

4. Why did this happen?

- a. Days of vengeance – verse 22
- b. Wrath to this people – verse 23
- c. A fulfillment of Moses’ words – Deut. 29:15-16
- d. Ultimately it became a rejection of the Messiah.
 1. Matthew 27:24-25

5. “Depart from the city,” verse 21.

- a. Jesus warned His people.
- b. Eusibius, the historian, noted the Christian’s exodus to Pella.

6. Testimony of commanding Roman general.

III. Points for Reflection

A. Judgment is assured (applicable to our own day.)

1. Jeremiah 18:1-12
2. Jonah 3
3. Repentance needed, but not present.
4. The more God is moved out of society, the more people look to government to solve social ills.
5. Example of government help and greater harm done.
6. Abandonment to the people’s desires.

B. Be sure God is your refuge.

1. Jonah’s story
 - a. “Paid the fare”
2. What are you running toward?