

## Luke 21:20–36

### Taking Heed of Christ's Word

to see or hear this sermon preached, click [bit.ly/210725luk21](http://bit.ly/210725luk21) (or scan QR code)

**Main idea:** Christ's warnings have proved true, and His counsel proved sound; and, He warns us to live as those who could be before His glorious presence at any moment.

<sup>20</sup> "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. <sup>22</sup> For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup> But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

<sup>25</sup> "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup> men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

<sup>29</sup> Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. <sup>31</sup> So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place.

<sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

<sup>34</sup> "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. <sup>35</sup> For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Introduction: you will suddenly be before the glorious presence of Christ. Will it be with terror, or with uplifted head? Will it be on your face and wishing you could flee, or will you be able to stand before Him?

#### 1. Taking Heed of Christ's Word

- a. Christ's Word is more enduring than heaven and earth, v33 (cf. Heb 12:25–29).
- b. Christ's Word proved true for the apostles (vv12–19).
- c. Christ's Word proved true for the Judean church, v32, 20–24
  - i. "being surrounded," v20. a.d. 66–70 and Pella, v21. The three-day wall.
  - ii. Christ's warning to His enemies, v22a. The wrath of Rome is small compared to the wrath of Christ (cf. 19:41–44).
  - iii. Christ's compassion upon His people, v23. Isn't it just like our Lord to have a special care for those who are pregnant, and those who are nursing and their babies!
  - iv. Christ's focus upon His kingdom, v22b, 24b.
- d. Christ's Word will prove true for you
  - i. You may be summoned before the presence of His glory with great suddenness, but this is not always good news (cf. 2Thess 1:9)
  - ii. The times of the Gentiles will be fulfilled (v24b), and the signs that caused them dread throughout those times (v25–26, cf. v9–11) will come to an end with something far worse for them (v27)
  - iii. But Christ has compassion upon believers, desiring that for them it would be a day not of vengeance but of redemption, to be met not with fear but with uplifted head, v28. So, for you it will not be the deadness of winter but the new life of spring and summer, v29–30. He wants that which makes other men's hearts fail them to be the very things that fortify your hearts and raises up your heads!
  - iv. The fulfillment of Christ's other prophecies enables believers to meet the signs of the age of the Gentiles not with fear, but with joy that His kingdom is already at hand, and that the completion of its coming is a day of redemption, v31. This verse is not just for one generation of believers at the very end, but for the apostles, and for the Judean church, and for all believers throughout the times of the Gentiles.
- e. Application: be encouraged by v10–11, 25–26 type signs; and, heed all of Christ's words since, by them, He is making His return a day of great joy for you!

#### 2. Taking Heed of Our Hearts

- a. They were to take heed of certain signs, and also of their hearts (v34) in light of those signs.
- b. Now that the signs have been fulfilled, and what remains is the setting off of a snare (v35), we are to be encouraged by the continual display of the signs, but we are especially to take heed of ourselves and particularly of our hearts (v34a)
- c. Beware the cares and pleasures of this life, v34b! (cf. 8:14–15)
- d. How to overcome earthly-mindedness in order to live well in your appointed time on earth: watch and pray, v36 (cf. Phil 4:6–9). By doing so, the generation that received this did escape! And by doing so, you will be able to stand before the Son of Man.
  - i. Jesus warns us not to tie our hearts down to earth by carousing (a life wasted in self-indulgence), by drunkenness, or even by anxieties.
  - ii. The only way to be prepared for something that will spring suddenly and inescapably is to always be prepared ("watching out at all times in praying so that you may be counted worthy to escape" the vengeance and instead stand in the day of the Son of Man (v36).
  - iii. It's so easy to waste our lives in pleasure-seeking, or in distractions that numb us from reality, or in worrying over the things that face us every day. Where can we get ability to find our pleasure in the Lord and in serving Him? Or the ability to deal levelly with whatever comes in God's providence and persist in service and obedience? Or the ability to maintain joyfulness and peacefulness through it all? God's ability, in the place of our inability, is called grace (cf. 2Cor 12:9–10); and, the Lord Jesus tells us here that grace-dependent watchfulness operates by a continual looking to God for it in prayer. The point of these passages is to watch and pray unto a life of holiness, in the midst of a world that is at enmity with Christ. While it is folly to think that we can predict His return, it is a greater folly to be living in any different than we will wish we had been when He appears. The Lord Jesus is your Prophet, and He has prophesied and commanded these things in order to spare you.

Conclusion: your Priest and King, the Lord Jesus is also your Prophet. By His Word, He not only shakes heaven and earth, but He prepares and preserves His people, so that the day they enter the presence of His glory will be a day of redemption, a day for lifting up the head, a day in which to stand!

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)**

---

And yet even as to some extent will be hearing even from the text. Morning. We can only hear well sparingly by that faith which he gives salutes ask for it, let's pray.

Lord Jesus.

When you spoke. At Sinai. And shook the mountain.

The people were terrified. And desired that you should speak to them no more. But we come now in your holy assembly joining with the angels and festival gathering. And with the souls of the righteous who've been perfected. Knowing that this your word and you with which you address us from heaven as the means by which you not only bring us to that faith in which we are declared righteous.

But grow us in that faith until your work is completed. And we will one day be not only the souls of the righteous but perfected. And so we pray that as you are the one who is shaking heaven and earth and told the time of your return. That you would come now by your word help us by your spirit grant that our hearing would be mixed with faith that we would not go astray in our hearts and be a stubborn and rebellious generation, but that by your spirits softening our hearts giving us faith the hearing would be mixed with faith and you would do us good and bring us at last into your rest.

When we have rested from all our works. And so we pray that you who give your people an unshakable kingdom. Would work now by your almighty spirit in us. That we might be those people who are inheriting an unshakable kingdom. Oh Lord help your servant who preaches.

For the glories, which you have appointed. In the preaching of the word and to be gained by the preaching of the word. Our glorious that only your grace can produce. And for which your word and not the words of men has been appointed.

So help him. That we might hear only according to the law and the testimony. That all of the words would be according to these and would have their dawn would have their light. And give the necessary light we pray to all of our hearts and all of our minds as we hear.

For we ask it. Through your own name. Lord Jesus. Amen.

So we come now to hear God's word read let us rise again, let's again rise.

Luke chapter 21 verses 23-6, these are the words of God.

But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies. Then know that it's desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. With those who are in the midst of her depart and let not those who are in the country into her. For these are the days of vengeance.

That all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days. For there will be great distress upon great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. And they will fall by the edge of the sword.

And be led away captive into old nations. And Jerusalem. Will be trampled by gentiles. Until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. And there will be signs in the sun in the moon and in the stars. And on the earth distress of nations with perplexity. The sea and the waves rolling.

Men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen.

Look up. And lift up your heads because your redemption draws near. Then he spoke to them a parable. Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they are already budding you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. So you also. When you see these things happening know that the kingdom of God is near.

Surely I say to you this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away. But my words will by no means pass away. But take heed. To yourselves. Lest your hearts be way down. With caressing Drunkenness and cares of this life.

And that day come upon you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare. All those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore. And pray always. That you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass. And. To stand before the Son of Man.

The sins the reading of God's inspired and inherent word we rejoice that he is appointed to add his blessing to the preaching of it. Please be seated.

Friend and Spanish class in high school, which I had made better choices, but. Should have been just an acquaintance he was a friend and he was like some of us are ultra literal. And we would sometimes have conversations about things people say that aren't actually true aren't ultra literally true and one of the things that really bothered him was when people would say he died slowly.

Now this man was not or this young man this boy was not a believer at all at the time. Lord only knows in his grace what he might have done with him. In fact, he was one of the most rebellious and resistant atheists I've ever known he said no one dies slowly.

You're alive, you're alive you're alive you're alive you're alive then you're dead. Now it's remarkable that Mark saw things that way because we know what we mean when we say someone dies slowly we mean that there are those who in what we consider the prime or the flower of their life and know anticipation that it might be ending soon are suddenly taken from the earth like those Galileans his blood pilot mixed with their own sacrifices.

Or those upon whom the tower of slowham fell and then there are those others who whether after a very long life or perhaps not a very long life, but they can track some disease some sickness that by all appearances will be the means by which the Lord takes them from this world and it takes some time for that to happen.

But even for such as those who quote unquote die slowly. They die very suddenly. We cannot appreciate. The great suddenness of leaving this world this age this life and appearing in the next.

For the unbeliever, it's a whole suddenness. They have had misery and trial and they have spent their whole life going after pleasures that they cannot achieve for themselves totally and cannot retain and even the measure that they have for however long they have it is never so satisfying as they had thought.

In fact, there are those who burned their brains out. To get a chemical illusion of perfect satisfaction. But as just an illusion and they spend all of the rest of their life destroying themselves to get as many instances of that illusion as possible before they die. For the wicked.

The greatest of the troubles that they have had in this life is not to be compared. To when they are suddenly before the glory. Of the Lord Jesus Christ.

For the godly. For those who clung to Christ and. Had a life full of yes earthly afflictions, but increasing by God the Holy Spirit's grace to them joy and know in this life more blessedness than the chemical illusion that many chase after could give them even in this life.

What they have known of Christ what they have desired in him what they have delighted in in him and with him does not even begin to anticipate the greatness of that first moment of holy perfection and complete satisfaction of their desire in him. So that the greatest blessing of this life is not to be compared to the almost infinite difference.

In that moment. For the godly. And the greatest misery of this life is not to be compared. To the horror of that moment. For the wicked. That's the comparison that Jesus is making in this passage the disciples have responded to Jesus talking about the widows to mites with commentary on the great stones and donations of the temple and they completely having missed the point that the widow didn't put two mites in she gave her life, he said she put in all her life and there the idea of their responses as well, that's all.

Good and well, but two copper coins doesn't make this Jesus. And he responds by repeating to them what he had said in chapter 19. That Jerusalem and the temple and its stones and everyone in earth. Would be led to the ground. In the day of the vengeance of God for what was about to be done to his son in that place.

And he Jesus responding to what the disciples have said about that, they think that he's talking about the end. And they want to know when will these things be what sign will there be when these things are about to take place. Jesus responds by talking about three different time periods.

One the time period of the apostles and their testimony. And the other two are in our passage this morning. The time period of the destruction of Jerusalem. And then the times of the Gentiles which have their at the completion of which are at the fulfillment of which the Son of Man suddenly appears.

Suddenly appears like a snare being triggered. And that instantaneous spring of the trap. And so those are the two things that we have but the point that Jesus is making to us is that. His word is true. What? He prophesied about the apostles' lives and their ministries it was fulfilled it came true by their obeying what he said about how to respond to the opposition how to respond to when they stood on trial how to that how to respond when they were about to be martyred for their faith.

And he told them about these things and they obeyed him by the grace of the Holy Spirit. And that part was fulfilled. And what he said about the the fall of Jerusalem and the warnings that he gave and want to look out for and what to do and how they would be spared and the believers took him at his Word.

That was true. And those who believe in Jesus Christ holding to Jesus' word escaped the siege and destruction of Jerusalem and the horrors and they are horrors. That was true. So he's come to us. For him, we're not in the apostolic bird, we're not before the siege of Jerusalem and he says my word never passes away.

I have warned the apostles and they were preserved by it. I warned the Christians in Judea and they were preserved by it. Now I'm warning you about something for which there are no new signs. There are signs that occur for the entire period from the apostle period from the fall of Jerusalem until the return but the requirement south springs like a trap.

So you take heed to my words. That have proven true. And then his words can be summarized by take heed to your hearts. So we consider this passage this morning, perhaps this morning and. And next Lord stays looking

at the time we consider this passage under those two heads taking heed of Christ's word and taking heed of our hearts because every one of us one day will be suddenly.

Before the glory of Jesus Christ. Whether he comes in your lifetime or not. You will be suddenly before his glory. And Jesus gives us words to direct us to himself so that it is a suddenness of redemption in which we can lift up our heads so that we before his glory may stand may be counted worthy to stand.

Rather than to fall. And to wish that we could have fled. First then taking heed of Christ's word as he transitions from his description of the the three-time periods that before all these things they will lay their hands on you time period first 12 through 19, which is the apostolic period and the period especially of their testimony and the destruction of Jerusalem and the salvation or the delivery.

From that destruction of the Judean church and verses 20 through 24 and then the signs of that the whole time of the times of the Gentiles the signs with which that is fulfilled that point to the dreadfulness of when the signs are not only signs and earth but when the son of man himself appears in the heavens and in his glory.

So the times of the Gentiles he finishes his description of those things and then he tells them that for then the the sign will come with the moment but it doesn't have to be a sign of terror and and in verses 29 through 33. And then the transition is heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away.

You're thinking about when Jerusalem is destroyed but having an earth are preserved this is what the disciples were thinking about moment when Jerusalem would be destroyed and Christ and his kingdom would finally overtake his nasty. Pharisees and scribes and herodians and Romans and priests all the people who are after Jesus and whose heads are budding with Jesus that's where we are in the book of Luke there's this increasing tension between all other authorities and Christ in the, Cycles think they.

It out. They think aha the destruction of the temple is the the time at which we finally rule over all those other people who don't get it. Jesus says, you don't get it. Yeah, Jerusalem's gonna be destroyed in about 40 years, but this heavens and these heavens and these this earth.

It stays our number two. There's a new heavens and a new earth that is coming but Jesus has just telling them you need to pay attention to my words because Heaven and earth will pass away the day is going to be much greater than you think. So clearing to my words and as we've already alluded to that's what Jesus is doing with us right now.

Hebrews chapter 12, and we have many times looked at the difference between the worship at Sinai or the coming of God at Sinai Hebrews chapter 12 verses in 18 and 19 for you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire and to blockness and darkness and tempest and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore.

Remember these signs of the appearance of the living God himself. We, Just had a good opportunity to consider that and in the book of Joel for, they could not endure what was commanded and if so much as a beast touches the mountain it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow and so terrifying was the site that Moses said ion exceedingly afraid and trembling.

So he says, you've not come to that mountain but you've become to Mount Zion to the city of the living God to the heavenly Jerusalem to an immovable company of angels to the general assembly and church of the firstborn registered in heaven to God the judge of all to the spirit of the Just men made perfect to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of able.

See that you do not refuse him to speaks. And so he compares Christian worship to Sinai. And he says you are coming to the same God, but he has given you to come not through but through faith in Jesus Christ. Now, there's a difference and there's a similarity. Jesus is blood speaks.

And it speaks better than that available. But in Christian worship, he says see that you do not refuse him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused him who spoke on earth. More so we not escape. If we turn away from him. Who speaks from heaven. So Jesus his divine nature as the eternal son speaks at Sinai in a shakes it and he burns it and he scares to death even Moses.

Jesus. Speaks from heaven in his human nature. As the one who has shed his blood and now by his spirit through those whom he has called to it on earth he addresses his congregations on earth and announces to them the redemption that is in his blood. Whose voice then should earth.

Verse 26. But now he has promised saying yet once more I shake. Not only the earth. But also heaven. Now this yet once more indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken as a things that are made that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. So it talks about his word shaking heaven and earth and removing them and the things that cannot be shaken remaining.

Therefore since we are receiving a kingdom, which cannot be shaken. What are the things that remain? Well, his word remains have an inertial pass away but my word will not pass away and by means of his word he preserves those who he brings to faith in himself those who cling to his words as the words of the eternal son of God who became man and now sits in glory and has reduced us by his blood and he whose blood speaks better than able speaks from heaven through the preaching on earth.

And he preserves us by that word. The book of Hebrews has been talking about this since chapter 2 when it talks about the from Psalm 22, the one who said my God my God, why have you forsaken me in a quotes from that? Psalm the end part of the Psalm Jesus saying I wrote in the midst of the assembly.

I will declare your name to my brethren in the midst of the assembly. I will sing your praise. Jesus the preacher and Jesus the singer and the warnings in chapter three in chapter four of not hearing with faith as Jesus preaches. And the the generation in the wilderness who went to stray in their hearts and the word did them no good in fact God swore in his wrath, they would not enter his rest but he brings us to his worship to hear him preach to hear anything.

Even through your lips Dear Christian. Word by which he is shaking the heavens and earth but preserving believers. Therefore since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken let us have grace by which we may serve. God acceptably with reverence and Godly fear. And the therefore in Christian worship is not because Sinai is black and burning and shaking and thundering Christian worship is that the same woman who shakes heaven and earth and removes them by his word preserving you.

That his already word is designed to get you to that day of terror but as a day of redemption so that you may be counted to work worthy not to be destroyed by the Son of Man that the stand before the son of man.

And so we hear the exposition there of why this you know, it's just which is why the the worship of a biblical church is going to be holy and reverent and have a God who is a consuming fear is destroying the heavens and the earth.

But it is not a holy reverence or awe of terror. But of wonder. That he is exercising that almighty power now through a very unimpressive thing. A man standing before a congregation of people reading and explaining a very old book.

And yet we know he's a consuming fire. And he's using that power to preserve you. Christ's word is more enduring than heaven and earth heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. These words prove true for the apostles. We won't take the time it's outside of the passage, perhaps we should have gone back and and picked up the whole.

But he says before all these things and he's talking about things that are not signs of the end, we'll just go go ahead and pick it up. Verse 8, he said take heed that you not be deceived from any will come in my name saying I am he in the time has drawn near.

I still do that, of course. They do that from pulpits. Therefore, do not go after them. But when you hear of wars and commotions. Do not be terrified for these things must come come to pass first but the end will not come immediately. And he said to them nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom and there will be great earthquakes and various places and famines and pestilences and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

These are the things that are gonna fill the the age of the that to which you refers in verse 24 is the times of the Gentiles but he says but before all of these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you delivering you up to the synagogues in prisons, you will be brought before kings and rulers for my namesake is obviously talking to the apostles very few relatively speaking believers in the history of the Church of had the privilege of standing before kings and rulers.

But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore several it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer you are not an apostle this verse is not for you. You are to be always ready to give an answer for the hope that is in you when you are persecuted.

They were to be settling it in their hearts not to be ready because they would be given an immediate answer. Now the Holy Spirit who works through the one works through the other. You are not preparing to be ready to give an answer because the Holy Spirit is going to abandon you.

But because the means by which you will sustain you if you ever come to have to give an answer is through his having sustained you in meditating upon the word. Therefore settle in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer for. I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.

Exhibit a the books. Where you have Galilean fishermen who are talking in a way that all of the religious and theological experts of the Jews can't resist and what do they say well they took note that they had been with Jesus. And then you have in the synagogue of the Freedmen which was Paul's home church dining Stephen is just been ordained as a deacon one of the one of the first deacons ever one of seven and he's going not just to Christian church on the first day of the week, but he goes to Jewish church on the last day of the week, he goes to synagogue and he reasons with them.

And all of the best theologians in Paul's own church and Paul was no theological slouch and himself they cannot resist the spirit of the. Week with which Steven speaks. One to whom the the apostolic ministry has been divided at that point unto the deacons and and as churches are planted it will also be given to elders.

Which. You are not those of you who are elders, they're not elders in the apostolic time YouTube or to study and meditate upon the word of God. And then the apostle Peter later and the apostle Paul especially for the whole last half of the book of Acts. This came true.

You know, what else came true? You will be betrayed. Even by parents and brothers relatives and friends, that will put some of you to death. And you will be hated by all for my namesake. But not a hair of your head shall be lost. Says that exactly one and a half versus after saying some of you will be put to death.

Meaning at the time all of them, but John.

Is talking about resurrection there and then by your patients by your endurance and perseverance possess your souls. It came true Christ's word proved to true for the apostles. Christ's word proved true. For the Jedi in church. So, that's the apostolic period. The time of the fall drizzle, but when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies.

Then know that it's desolation is near. Now this happened in one sense quickly, but in once in slowly but in another sense very quickly this paid the Jews rebelled against Rome in AD 66 and rebelling against Rome as a bad idea, especially if it comes in the province of God designed to take his vengeance upon you for having executed not just every prophet that has been sent from able to Zachariah and really that's from.

Genesis 4 to the end of second chronicles, which in your Hebrew Old Testament are the first and last books. Okay. And God is taking vengeance upon Jerusalem for all of the blood of the prophets that has been shed from Genesis 4 to the end of Second Chronicles, but especially for the murder of his son and Rome is the weapon in the hand of Almighty God.

That's what's being described by Jesus throughout his ministry. We see him refer to that and chapter 19 towards the end there versus. One through 44. And he says when you see Jerusalem surrounded by arms. So Rome immediately invades and there's a general named Vespasian but he's not able to accomplish it and another general has to come in AD 70 named Titus.

So there's kind of this three three and a half year period. But when Titus begins to lay siege to Jerusalem itself it took three days. It took three days for the Roman army to build a wall in circling the entire city. So that the majority of those who came and and tried to make their way over the wall they executed but some.

They would name and send back into the city. To terrify those who are still in there.

Eventually no one no one escaped. After that wall started to be built. Eventually everyone. The whole city was killed during the siege, they killed and date one another and all manner of horror and wickedness. The judgment or not really hell is the judgment that sinners deserve. But hell on earth as always a reminder of that judgment.

Who wasn't in the city when that wall was built? Everyone. Who believed in Jesus Christ not only as their priest who had offered once for all sacrifice of himself and his blood to take away their sin not only as their king. Who first subdued them and captured their hearts so that instead of being slaves to themselves, they would be the liberated slaves of Jesus Christ.

Everyone's a slave. Why is there nothing wrong with slavery because everyone is a slave? Oh, there's lots of wickedness that has done in the name of slavery. But you are either a slave to your sin the slave to someone else or the only way to genuinely be free liberated slave of the Lord Jesus Christ offering the members of your offering all that you are to him as slaves for righteousness.

Lord Jesus, you are the king is captured me as your slave. Here's my mouth. It's your slave too. Here's my heart. It's your slave too. Here on my hands in my feet, here's my time, here's my wealth everything. I am your slave my king. You know askings do. They don't just to do their subjects.

They're destroy their enemies. It's King Jesus with Roman his hand. King Jesus who wept over his enemies who insisted on being destroyed. King Jesus who before his incarnation by his spirit cries out in Ezekiel. Why will you be destroyed to Israel? Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked turn and live?

And then when he comes in his human nature. Not just now both in anticipation of the destruction that will come in the Babylonian exile. But an anticipation of what will come upon them for what they are doing to him end of 19 or obviously not finishing day, we can spend more time on everything.

Chapter 19 verse 41. Now as he drew near he saw the city and wept over it. Saying if you had known even you especially in this your day the things that make for your peace, but now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment to run to you.

Direct prophecy of the wall itself surround you and close you in on every side. And level you. And your children within you to the ground. And they will not leave in you one stone upon the other. Because you did not know the time of your visitation. The king who defeats enemies over whose devastation, he weeps.

Is weeping Jesus says those words in Luke 19:41 through 44 his cheeks are wet.

And yet. The vengeance is necessary not only for his own glory, but also for avenging what has been done to his people we just spent several weeks hearing about that in Joel.

For these verse 22 now back in sorry verse 21 back in Luke 21 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, but those who are in the midst of her depart and let not those who are in the country enter her. It wouldn't closing in and and you know that it's bad news wouldn't it be nice if you had divinely inspired instruction about where it will be safe to go?

You might think the most fortified city in the land. Is a place to go or to stay. Jesus says, no if you're in the country, you don't go to Jerusalem, you go towards the mountains. If you're in the city, you leave the city. The Christians did this you see us as history records for us that they went and established a brand new city.

Those of you who are interested in such things as I guess as the first attempt to establish Christendom, but the city of Pella did not. Expand and fill the earth. So that's not how that happens. It is about 50 miles north of Jerusalem. It's a little bit southeast of Galilee very importantly, it's outside of the the Roman regions referred to as Judea and Samaria and then there's one for you as this way.

Until the northeast called Decapolis and the the Christians who fled Jerusalem and Judea by the time AD 70 comes along, they have established a new city called Pella. In the decapolis and they're safe because they obeyed the Lord Jesus the Lord Jesus who weeps over his enemies the Lord Jesus who is speaking in compassion you you can see the compassion with which.

Verses 20 through 23, especially in first half of verse 24 is spoken by what he says in verse 23 but word to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days. He's the people of the earth when they think about the possibility of coming dreadful war.

They think about how those who are the wealthiest and those who have the most what they consider essential jobs can hide under a mountain until the, Radiation has dissipated enough for it to be safe. When Jesus talks about escaping the vengeance of God at the hand army, he says.

He's thinking especially about. The pregnant moms. And the moms who are nursing their babies and the babies in their arms. You see the compassion of the Lord Jesus as he thinks about and prophesying the siege and destruction of Jerusalem. You see the compassion of the Lord Jesus as he tells the disciples what they will need to do because they assumed that this is a day of military victory for them.

When the kingdom comes and they're now on top says, it's not like that at all and he wants them to be spared and he wants them to escape. He tells him you run. Luke 21 is spoken in compassion by him who is not just our priest and our king but our prophet who by his word wants to prepare us for what will come upon us.

He prepared the apostles for what would come upon them. He prepared the Judean and Jerusalem by Christians for what would come upon them. And from here until the until verse 36, he is preparing all Christians in all ages come upon us. So that the day that we appear before him or it will happen suddenly will not catch us unprepared.

But that we taking heed to ourselves lest our hearts be way down would think and live in a way that is always prepared to be met with the immediate presence of the Lord of the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Lord Jesus. In his glory. So Christ's warning his enemies even with tears he's showing compassion to his people and he's focusing upon his kingdom.

For these are days of vengeance, there's the wrath verse in the first half of verse 22 that all these things which are written that all things which are written sorry may be fulfilled. And then into verse 24 and Jerusalem will be trampled by gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

You see Jesus has the compassion of David without the compromise of David. Next week when Lord willing and God's providence, we hear the next portion of second Samuel read. David is going to weep and he's going to cry out absolutely my son. Absalom. And yet he has to be read the riot act, doesn't he by Joette to get in line and be the king and not betray God's people lest what comes upon him next be worse than everything that had come upon him that to that point.

Dave great. David's greater, son, the Lord Jesus has all of the compassion with none of the compromise. Everything that is written must be fulfilled the times of the Gentiles must be fulfilled what are those times well those are the times in which the gospel of the king is also a priest and sacrifices himself for those who were his enemies and in this is the love of God the love of God is shown is acting as a prophet terms of reconciliation.

Do not be destroyed be reconciled to God the apostle says the ambassador of Jesus Christ and second Corinthians 5, he who sin was made to be sin so that you may be righteousness of God in Jesus Christ, so when you trust in Jesus and you get his righteousness you don't get a nearly human righteousness you get the righteousness of a man who is God.

He says if you are going to come to this day when the son of man appears and it's going to be a day for you of hearts failing and distress and destruction but a day of lifting up your head for your attention has drawn here a day in which the son of man descends but you can stand before the son of man.

You're just going to be dressed in the righteousness of God having been attuned for and been united to Jesus Christ and that's the kinds of the Gentiles. That's the age of the Spirit that we saw at the end of Joel chapter 2. Christ focus. Is upon his kingdom. So that takes us if you've got the outline where as far as one sea.

Christ's word is more enduring than heaven and earth. He's shaking heaven and earth. They're not going to remain. You who receive His Word who don't refuse Him who speaks? For His blood speaks better than Abel. You will inherit an unshakable kingdom the day that the apostles asked about and we're all wrong about in Jesus' correcting all kinds of misconceptions, but the ultimate day when he returns in the clouds will be for you who receive the word of Jesus Christ and who cling to him by faith and are counted worthy in him.

With his worthiness. You alone will be able to stand before the Son of Man. For you alone it is a day. Of lifting up your heads, first 28. For your redemption has arrived.

When you die. Or if before you die Christ should appear. Which will it be for you?

That at which men's hearts have failed from fear just in the expectation. And it turns out to be. Worse than they could ever have imagined. Or for you. Will your redemption have arrived? And you lift up your head. And you stand before the son of man. Christ's word has proved true.

And it will prove true. Amen. Spring.

All Lord Jesus are. Lives are full of things. That many think are the sign of your imminent and immediate arrival. And the kinds of things that have been.

Terrifying unbelievers for thousands of years. Kinds of things that have been. Reminding believers of the greatness of the last day for thousands of years.

In our own day, there are many of these things so we pray that your spirit would help us. That he would stir up strengthen grow our faith. That that which terrifies others would fortify us.

That we would be sure of your word that we would be sure of you. Pray that you would help us in meditating upon the portion of your word that we have heard thus far help us as we look forward and think about. Taking heed to ourselves into our hearts and the kind of living that has done.

When we believe and hold to your word. But most of all we pray that we would hold to you. That we would hold to your word because it is yours that we would hold to you. That you might be ours that your sacrifice would be ours that your righteousness would be ours that your kingdom.

Would be our victory and our redemption that your return. Would be the day of our joy.

We pray Lord for those. Who despite? All that historically came true in your. Demonstrations of the certainty of all that you say. Resist you. Like. Irrational beasts. Before whom there are facts of reality and the, Just refuse. We pray for those over whom you weep though they be that enmity with you we pray.

Lord that you would subdue them.

That your spirit would bring them to wrestle with reality. Before it comes. So that they would be prepared.

Thank you for appointing your word by which you created. And by which you shake heaven and earth to be the word by which you save grant by the ministry of your spirit that it would be so for us for we ask it in your name. Men.