

LESSON 17: The Life Of Christ – Ten Lepers Healed and Concerning the Kingdom

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LUKE 17:11-37
FEBRUARY 16, 2022

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:20-21, "And being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God cometh, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo, here! or, there! for lo, **the kingdom of God is within you.**"

- **This is the principal teaching of the gospel! Titus 2:12**
- John 18:35-36, "Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, **My kingdom is not of this world:** if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."
- Romans 14:17, "... **the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**"

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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NOTE: The ministry of Christ begins and ends with teaching about the nature of the kingdom.

The Beginning Of His Ministry. John 3:1-16

Spiritual Entrance:

- ▶ "Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (verse 3)
- ▶ "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God!" (verse 5)

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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John 3:1-16

▶ Jesus taught five things about the kingdom of God.

1. The kingdom is not of "earthly things," but of "heavenly things." (verse 12)
2. The kingdom would come after he ascended up to "heaven." (verse 13)
3. The Son Of Man must be "lifted up" as Moses lifted the serpent. (verse 14)
4. The kingdom would consist of "believers" in Him, not of physical descendants of Abraham. (verse 15)
5. God was moved to establish this kind of a kingdom because of His love for "the world," not His love for Israel. (verse 16; cf. John 6:44-45)

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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The Close Of His Ministry Before Pilate. John 18:36

1. Jesus charged with intention to set up a kingdom in opposition to Caesar. (Luke 23:1-2; John 19:12)
2. NOTE AGAIN!

When Pilate asked, "Art thou the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Thou sayest" (Luke 23:3) ... "**My kingdom is not of this world:** if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight ... To this end have I been born, and to this end am I come into the world" (John 18:36-37)

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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The Close Of His Ministry Before His Ascension.

Acts 1:3, "To whom he also showed himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing unto them by the space of forty days, and speaking the things concerning the kingdom of God"

Acts 1:6 – The apostles asked Him, saying, "Lord, dost thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you ..." (cf. Mark 9:1)

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:22-23, "And he said unto the disciples, *The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it. And they shall say to you, Lo, there! Lo, here! go not away, nor follow after (them)*"

- ▶ The day would come when their beloved Jerusalem would be destroyed. Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21
 - ▶ As the Jews were expecting the Messiah to set up a political kingdom, the power of any political leader would be enhanced by claiming he was the Christ cf. Matthew 24:4-5.
 - ▶ See the language of [Isaiah 39:6](#) and [Jeremiah 7:32ff](#)
 - ▶ Specifically see the warning of Matthew 24:23- 26; and Mark 13:21.

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:22-23, "And he said unto the disciples, **The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it.** And they shall say to you, Lo, there! Lo, here! go not away, nor follow after (them)"

- ▶ Perhaps the days they would long for, were the days when the mercy of the Lord was extended.
 - ▶ The message was repentance.
 - ▶ By John. Matthew. 3:2
 - ▶ By Jesus. Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:3, 5
 - ▶ Great Commission. Luke 24:47
 - ▶ By Disciples. Mark 6:12
- ▶ Now it is too late! Cf. Deuteronomy 1:19-45

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:24, "For as the lightning, when it lighteneth out of the one part under the heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall the Son of man be in his day."

- ▶ The "**day of the Lord**" (and similar expressions) may relate in other passages to the second coming of Christ at the end of earth time (for example, 1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10)

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:24, "For as the lightning, when it lighteneth out of the one part under the heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall the Son of man be in his day."

- ▶ However, "here refers to His coming in temporal judgment to deal with national Israel (as the phrase is used in Isaiah 2:12; 13:6-9; Jer. 46:10; Ezek. 7:19; 13:5; 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11; Amos 5:18-20; Obad. 1:15; Zeph. 1:7; Zechariah 14:1; et.al)." (C.G. Caldwell, Luke, Truth Commentaries, page 930)

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:25, "But first must **he suffer many things and be rejected** of this generation."

Jesus had told them these things:

Luke 9:22, "The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day raise up."

Luke 9:44, "Let these words sink into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered up into the hands of men."

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:25, "But first must **he suffer many things and be rejected** of this generation."

This is what they did. They rejected the Son of God who had been sent to save their souls (READ ... Luke 23:18-21; John 1:10-11; 19:15; Acts 3:13-15; 7:51-52; 13:46; 28:25-28).

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:25, "But first must he suffer many things and be rejected of **this generation.**"

- ▶ Luke 7:30-34 – **This was an evil generation.** The Pharisees, lawyers, etc.
- ▶ The elders, chief priests, and scribes also identified in Luke 9:22 were the officials and leaders of **this generation.**

NOTE: Luke 11:29-32; 50-51

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:25, "But first must he suffer many things and be rejected of **this generation.**"

NOTE: Matthew 24:34, "Verily I say unto you, **this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.**"

- ▶ Wherever the word "generation" is used in Mathew, it means a contemporary race, people living at the same time, the generation then living. It is from the Greek "genea" and refers to specific time periods or ages (i.e. the time ordinarily occupied by each successive generation. Thayer)
- ▶ Matthew 1:17 – Here the sense of the word is that of the average life-time of man. 30-100 years.
- ▶ Matthew 11:16-19 – Jesus speaking of those living in his day who criticized John for his fasting and Jesus for His eating and drinking.