

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

Luke 17:11-37
February 23, 2022

1

Concerning the Kingdom
Luke 17:20-37

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.”

2

Concerning the Kingdom
Luke 17:20-37

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).

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Concerning the Kingdom
Luke 17:20-37

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

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Concerning the Kingdom
Luke 17:20-37

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.

Concerning the Kingdom
Luke 17:20-37

- Matthew 12:38-45 – “**Generation**” used four times. Jesus spoke of that present generation.
- Matthew 16:4 – Similar to earlier verses of Matthew 12.
- See also Matthew 17:14-18, especially verse 17.
- Matthew 23:36 is practically identical to Matthew 24:34, and as it stands in its context, no other generation could be meant but the one living at the time of Christ.
- Thus the understanding common to all the passages in Matthew where the word “generation” appears is that of a contemporary race, people living at the same time of Christ, the generation then living. It is further emphasized by the demonstrative pronoun “this.” It is **THIS generation**, not a generation or generations in the future. 6

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

Destruction of Jerusalem.

1. All the verses of Matthew 24 up to verse 34 depict the destruction of Jerusalem.
2. "All these things" were to come upon "**this generation.**"
3. John the Baptist warned the nation that the ax was laid at the roots. Matthew 3:10
4. Jesus further emphasized this prophecy by stating, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matthew 24:35.

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

- Matthew 23 – Jesus denounces the hypocrisies of the scribes and Pharisees.
- Matthew 23:32 – Jesus exhorts them, "Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers." Jesus was speaking of the cup of iniquity of the Jewish nation.
 - The cup was filled to the brim when the Jewish nation crucified the son of God and persecuted the apostles and prophets.
- Now note Matthew 23:35-36

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

NOTE:

- In Jerusalem, speaking about this same judgment, He said, "Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon **this generation.**" Matthew 23:36
- "Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass away, till all these things be accomplished.**" Matthew 24:34; Luke 21:32

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

- All of this is set in the context of Jesus' statement, "But when **ye see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that her desolation is at hand.**" Luke 21:20
- Matthew 24:15, "When therefore **ye see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let him that readeth understand)**" (cf. Daniel 9:27; 11:31)

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

The sign was to be the **ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION.**

- Luke tells us in the parallel passage that this refers to the Roman army. Luke 21:20-21.
 - Therefore, when they saw the city of Jerusalem encompassed with soldiers they were to flee to the mountains.

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

Corroborating Texts.

The sign was to be the **ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION.**

- "The word '**abomination**' in Daniel has a definite connection with idolatry."
 - "The same word is used in 1 Kings 11:5, 7 in reference to the idols of the Ammonites and the Moabites. (See also 2 Kings 23:13; Jeremiah 4:1; 7:30; 13:27; Ezekiel 5:11). In all these passages the word '**abomination**' has reference to idolatrous worship."
 - "It cannot be denied that the idolatrous ensigns of the Romans fit very well into the biblical significance of the term '**abomination.**'" (J. Marcellus Kik, *Matthew Twenty-Four*, page 46.)

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

What would the fall of Jerusalem be like?

Luke 17:26-27, “*And as it came to pass in the days of Noah, even so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.*”

- Note: Genesis 6; Matthew 24:37-39
- Same flood that destroyed the wicked, delivered the righteous. Hebrews 11:7; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

What would the fall of Jerusalem be like?

Luke 17:28-30, “*Likewise even as it came to pass in the days of Lot; they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but in the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all: after the same manner shall it be in the day that the Son of man is revealed.*”

- The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Genesis 19; see also Deuteronomy 29:23; 32:32-33; Isaiah 1:10; Jeremiah 23:14; 49:18; Lamentations 4:6; Ezekiel 16:46-52
- Note how righteous Lot was “*vexed*,” “*sorely distressed by the lascivious life of the wicked ... from day to day with (their) lawless deeds*” (2 Peter 2:6-9; Jude 7).

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

What would the fall of Jerusalem be like?

Luke 17:31-32, “*In that day, he that shall be on the housetop, and his goods in the house, let him not go down to take them away: and let him that is in the field likewise not return back. Remember Lot’s wife.*”

- No value to possessions! Matthew 6:19, 33.
- Do not return to the world! 1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4
 - Genesis 9:26 – Lot’s “*wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.*”
 - Luke 9:62, “*No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*”

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

What would the fall of Jerusalem be like?

Luke 17:33, “*Whosoever shall seek to gain his life shall lose it: but whosoever shall lose (his life) shall preserve it.*”

- Apply to Lot’s wife.
- Apply to the audience of Jesus.
 - Matthew 10:34-39
 - Luke 9:23-25; Matthew 16:25; John 12:25

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Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

What would the fall of Jerusalem be like?

• **Luke 17:34-36**, “*I say unto you, in that night there shall be two men on one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. There shall be two women grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. (There shall be two men in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.)*”

- One is preserved having been taken in safety from the ruin and destruction of judgment into the care of the Lord.
- One is left to remain in the trials and suffering of destruction.

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