

**“Watch and Pray”**

**Luke 20:20--21:38**

Question of Paying Taxes to Caesar	20:20--26
Question of the Resurrection	20:27--40
Jesus asks a Question about Messiah	20:41--44
Warning Against False Religion	20:45--21:4
Destruction of the Temple prophesied	21:5--19
Destruction of Jerusalem prophesied	21:20--24
The Return of the Messiah	21:25--28
The Parable of the Fig Tree	21:29--33
The Call to Watchfulness	21:34--38

Setting—v. 20 (cf. v.19) Attempted set up, a trap

Spies—those lying in wait

Pretending to be righteous; hypocrites

Purpose: take hold of His word, with special purpose

---trying to catch one word gone astray

Hoped-for result: deliver Christ to authorities

Set-up—v. 21 *Flattery* Everything they said was true, except “We know.”

Question—v.22 “Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

MASTERful Answer—vv. 23--25

Why do you test Me?

Result—v.26 Could not catch Him in even one word

Setting –v.27

Sadducees deny a Resurrection

Elaborate Question—vv. 28--33 Deut. 25:5ff.

MASTERful Answer—vv. 34--38 (Deceived—Mt 22)

“This age” v. 34 marry/given in marriage

“That age” v. 35 not marry/not given

v. 36 cannot die

equal to the angels

sons of God

sons of resurrection

Proof of resurrection vv. 37--38

Pointed out by Moses Exodus 3

God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob

God of the living, not of the dead

Result vv.39—40

Luke 20:41---44

Jesus asks about Messiah

Here Jesus takes the initiative. The One Who was sought for answers now asks the question. As Omniscient God, He is not seeking information, not seeking to learn from His audience. Rather, His question is set forth to elucidate that His hearers have a faulty view of Messiah, and thus of *Him*, since He is Messiah.

Is Messiah (Christ) the son of David?

Is Messiah the Lord of David? (Ps. 110)

How can his descendant also be his Lord?

## Luke 20:45--21:4 Warning Against False Religion

- Spoken to disciples in the hearing of all
- Beware; be on guard for, be on the lookout
  - Seeking recognition of men
  - Seeking popularity
  - Seeking prominence above others
  - Desiring to be seen walking about in fine clothing
  - Wanting to be known among men
- Note their lifestyle v. 47
  - Devour widows' houses
  - Show off with long prayers
- The real-time illustration 21:1-4
  - This poor widow's house was being devoured by a false religious system which was based on external displays of righteousness, omitting matters of faith and heart
  - Cf. the context

## Luke 21:5-19 **Destruction of the Temple Foretold**

--The truth set forth by Christ 21:5-6

*Principle:* Colossians 3:1-4

--The questions of the disciples 21:7

When?                      What sign?

--Jesus answers His disciples--various occurrences  
before the end:

-PERSECUTION OF BELIEVERS vv.12—19

-an occasion for testimony

-betrayal by relatives and friends

-some will die for their faith

-hated by all for Christ's name's sake

-Many will come in My name

-Wars and commotions (*end not immediate*)

-Nation will rise against nation

-Great earthquakes, famines, pestilences

-Fearful sights and great signs from heaven

## Luke 21:20-24 **Destruction of Jerusalem Foretold**

Note: “not immediately the end” v. 9

“when you see Jerusalem surrounded....”

Know that its desolation is near v. 20

Instruction for the Jews at this time:

Get out of town! v. 21

Days of vengeance, woe, great distress and wrath

Many Jews will be killed, many taken into captivity

“Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” v. 24 (:22)

Cf. Daniel 9:24ff.

--Heavenly signs precede Christ's return

Signs in the sun, in the moon, in the stars

--Earthly signs precede Christ's return

Distress of nations, with perplexity

The sea and the waves roaring

Men's hearts failing them from fear and the

expectation of those things coming on earth,

*"for the powers of the heavens will be shaken"*

v. 26

--"Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a  
cloud with power and great glory"! v.27

When these things begin to happen, look up  
. . . because your redemption draws near! v. 28

Luke 21:29-33

Parable of the Fig Tree

The Parable vv. 29-30

The Meaning v.31

Further Elucidation vv. 32-33

Luke 21:34-38

The Call to Watchfulness

*Take heed to yourselves* v. 34

Cf. 20:46 and 21:8

lest your hearts be weighed down

with carousing

drunkenness

cares of this life

Cf. Prov. 4:23

*Watch*

*Pray always*

“that” --in order that

vv. 37-38 Our Lord’s “MO” during Passion Week