

Jesus Magnified

Luke 21

Lesson 18

FIRST DAY: Read Luke 21

Change can be so disconcerting, and yet the world around us is constantly changing. Businesses, countries, systems, and institutions that seem so permanent disappear within moments. In 2 Corinthians 4:18 Paul the apostle wrote, *While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

As Jesus visited the temple with His disciples, He warned them about upheavals and changes that *must come*. At the same time, however, He equipped them with the attitude and demeanor they were to have in the midst of perilous and changing times. The same preparatory instructions Jesus gave His disciples two thousand years ago are valid for believers today. Observe these timely instructions as you study Luke 21 this week.

*Ask the Lord to prepare you by His Word
for all the changes ahead.*

SECOND DAY: Read Luke 21:1-4

1. As Jesus was speaking in the temple, He *looked up and saw* people contributing to the *treasury*. From Luke 21:1-2 note what Jesus observed about:
 - a. *The rich* (verse 1)

 - b. *The widow* (verse 2)

2. What did Jesus declare about this *widow*? Luke 21:3
 - a. What do you find remarkable about this statement?

 - b. What contrast did Jesus make about how they gave? Luke 21:4

c. According to commentators, a *mite* was worth one percent of a day's wage. Yet this was *all* that the *widow* had. How does this speak to you?

d. Link this with the following Scriptures and share your thoughts:

(1) 1 Samuel 16:7b

(2) 2 Corinthians 9:7

e. When it comes to giving, what matters most to God?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from your study today?

THIRD DAY: Read Luke 21:5-19

1. According to Luke 21:5, what did *some* point out as they *spoke of the temple*?

a. What statement did Jesus make concerning the *temple* in Luke 21:6?

(1) The *temple* was a source of pride and stability for the Jews; in fact, for many it was an idol. With this in mind, what impact do you think this statement might have had on the disciples?

(2) Identify a false source of pride or stability that you have put your faith in.

2. From Luke 21:7 record the two questions Jesus' disciples asked Him concerning end times.

3. Jesus answered their first question concerning *signs* in Luke 21:8-19. Fill in the chart to document what He said concerning:

SIGNS	RESPONSE	GOD'S PURPOSE
Verse 8b	Verse 8a, c	X
Verse 9a, c	Verse 9b	X
Verse 10	X	X
Verse 11	X	X
Verse 12	Verse 14	Verses 13, 15
Verses 16, 17	Verse 19	Verse 18

a. The Greek word for *patience* implies *strong endurance*. How does this speak to you? Luke 21:19

4. Using the chart above, summarize the attitude believers are to have during these tumultuous times.

a. Link this with Psalm 46:1-3, 5 and share how you can apply this.

FOURTH DAY: Read Luke 21:20–24

1. Jesus then spoke specifically about what would happen to Jerusalem. From Luke 21:20–24 note and comment on:

a. What would signal Jerusalem's *desolation* (verse 20)

b. What the people should do (verse 21)

c. What *these things* meant (verse 22)

(1) Some say *the days of God's vengeance* is a reference to what Jesus described in His parable in Luke 20:16. Link this with Romans 12:19. What do you see?

d. What would happen to those who stayed in the city (verses 23--24)

(1) Luke 21:24 was fulfilled in A.D. 70 when Titus destroyed Jerusalem. Although Israel has become a nation again, parts of Jerusalem are still under Gentile rule, and thus *trampled by Gentiles*. This prophecy will be fulfilled a second time before the return of Christ. What do you find fascinating about this?

(2) We currently live in *the times of the Gentiles*, which means that God's offer of salvation is going out to all nations. Link this with Acts 28:28 and Romans 11:25 and share your thoughts.

2. How does Jesus' description of Jerusalem's destruction underscore His lament in Luke 19:41-44?

3. What stands out to you from your study today?

FIFTH DAY: Read Luke 21:25-33

1. Jesus continued to expound upon what would happen after *the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled*—particularly the *signs* surrounding His Second Coming. This period is known as the Great Tribulation. In Luke 21:25a He spoke of *signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars*. Use Isaiah 13:10-11 and Revelation 6:12-13 to describe *these things*.

2. What did Jesus say would happen *on the earth*? Luke 21:25b
 - a. How will this affect mankind? Luke 21:26
 - (1) Contrast this *expectation* with the conduct of God's people in 2 Peter 3:11-14. How does this speak to you?

3. Who will all mankind *see* at this time? Luke 21:27
 - a. Use Revelation 19:11-16 to capture the *power* and *glory* of this moment.

4. According to Luke 21:28, *when these things begin to happen*, what are believers:
 - a. To do

 - b. To expect

- (1) Note that Jesus addressed believers about the beginning of *these things* before they actually took place. As a believer, what is your reaction as you see *these things* already beginning to happen?
5. In Luke 21:29–30 Jesus used a parable to answer the question, *When will these things be?* (Luke 21:7). What did He use as His illustration?
- a. According to Luke 21:31, how does this practical illustration relate to what Jesus said in Luke 21:28?
6. In Luke 21:32 Jesus referred to a *generation* that will not *pass away*. What did He say about this?
7. From Luke 21:33 print the declaration of Jesus.
- a. In light of your study today, why is this critical to remember?

SIXTH DAY: Read Luke 21:34–38

1. In light of the imminence of the things Jesus spoke of, He gave sobering directives to His disciples. Use Luke 21:34–35 to record and comment on Jesus':
- a. Instruction (verse 34a)

(1) Link this instruction with the following verses and share your thoughts:

(a) 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

(b) 1 Peter 5:8

b. Warnings (verses 34b, 35)

(1) Link this with Matthew 24:36-44 and note your discoveries.

2. According to Luke 21:36a, what are we to *always* be doing?

a. What do the following phrases from Luke 21:36 convey to you about God's will:

(1) *Counted worthy*

(2) *Escape these things*

(3) *Stand before the Son of Man*

b. Connect this with 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 and Revelation 3:10-11. How are you comforted by this reality?

3. From Luke 21:37-38 document Jesus' activity during this time.

