

"Second Return of Christ / Judas Betrays Jesus"

Luke 21-Luke 22 is very interesting! <u>It actually covers a few topics</u> on The Destruction of Jerusalem in 70AD, the 2nd Return of Jesus Christ and Judas' betrayal of Jesus!

1. Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21 gives 10 main signs BEFORE Christ's 2nd Return:

- <u>Deception</u> People trying to deceive others by a false gospel and lies! False Messiah!
- Major Conflict Wars and rumors of wars!
- <u>Catastrophe</u> Earthquakes, Plagues, Famines etc..! (These will increase big time)
- <u>Persecution</u> True Believers will face intense!
- <u>Abandoning the Faith</u> Many people's faith will grow cold!
- **<u>The Gospel will be Preached</u>** By people and by Angels!
- <u>The Anti-Christ will be revealed</u> He will set himself up to be worshiped!
- <u>Great Tribulation</u> The worst Judgments and demonic torment!
- Darkness The earth will be dark and cold! (Stage is set for Jesus to return)
- Jesus He is the last Sign! Revelation 1:7!

A. Let's look at Luke 21:34-36!

- These few verses in this chapter was not only a warning for Israel...<u>it is a warning for us</u>!
- Verse 34 "Watch out! Don't let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life!"
- Watch out for sin and all sin! Guard your heart! Proverbs 4:2
- Romans 3:23 We all have sin! But, I John 1:9-10 tells us that IF we repent and ask for forgiveness, that Jesus will forgive us! Psalm 103:12!
- But, if not, SIN GAINS POWER! It gets worse! Psalm 19:12-14 (Downward Spiral!)
- The penalty...death, and yet the answer is death! Jesus' Death for us! Romans 6:23
- Notice <u>WHY</u> we need to watch out...Luke 21:34 "<u>Don't let THAT DAY catch you</u> unaware!"
- 2. We are in the Church age right now! The "Time of the Gentiles"...a time of God's grace and mercy being shown! But, realize that the CLOCK will strike MIDNIGHT (Matthew 25:6) when Christ returns!
 - But, the future will have the Anti-Christ, Great Tribulation, Return of Christ, 1000 year reign, Judgment Day, New Heaven and New Earth etc. (Lots of things coming!)
 - What does Jesus say? Watch out! Be ready! Why? Luke 21:35 "like a TRAP"

- Notice this is not just Jerusalem 70AD...this is talking about the END! Luke 21:35 "For that Day will come upon EVERYONE LIVING on the earth!"
- Luke 21:36 Keep alert at ALL TIMES / Pray ALWAYS / That you MAY have the STRENGTH!
- See, prayer makes the difference! Jesus told Peter to WATCH and PRAY so that he may not or would not fall into temptation! Matthew 26:41
- A prayerless man is a Powerless man! A praylerless woman is a Powerless woman! A prayerless teenager is a Powerless teenager!

3. What are we watching out for? The same thing that Judas did...betraying Jesus Christ in our own life!

- Luke 22:1-6
- There are <u>two times</u> that Satan gains direct control of Judas and his life! Luke 22:3 and John 13:27! (During the Last Supper while eating with Jesus and before the betrayal)
- Luke 22:47-48 a kiss was a greeting in this day. Different customs for sure! But, this
 was the signal from Judas to the soldiers that the one that Judas kissed on the cheek
 was Jesus!
- FOR WHAT??? 30 pieces of silver! Matthew 26:14-16
- A kiss is a sign of affection! It is a greeting of respect! But, the kiss of betrayal was Judas' affection for selfish gain, greed, prestige and money!
- See, Judas may have followed Jesus everywhere He went, but Judas never gave Jesus his heart! Mark 12:30
- Many people can say they are a Christian, show up to church and even go to all of the events, give finances, serve in a ministry YET never give Jesus their heart!!!
- You may say "No...that's not possible Jerry and Greg!"
- Well...look at Judas!
- FACT Somewhere along the way, Judas had grown bitter toward Jesus!
- In Judas' eyes, did Jesus rob Judas' life of 3 years of money making potential when Jesus asked Judas to follow him??? Did this make Judas bitter?
- Remember John 12:5 when Mary's gift to Jesus was expensive and extravagant...who complained that she gave it? JUDAS!!! Why? John 12:6
- There is the MOTIVE! The self-gain and greed!
- <u>Remember this today</u>...The evil Pharisee's NEVER approached Judas about betraying Jesus...it was Judas who approached them!
- What does this tell us? Satan was working in Judas and the Pharisee's!!!
- Birds of a feather flock together!

<u>Closing: What's the goal?</u> Luke 21:36 - "And stand before the Son of Man...Jesus" FORGIVEN!

- See, you don't stand when you are full of shame or guilt...you hide!
- Luke 22:21-23 Jesus gives a very serious warning about Judas!
- How serious? Acts 1:25 'He went to where HE BELONGS!"
- That would be Hell!