

## **JESUS IN THE TEMPLE**

Dear Prayer Partners,

**Luke 20:1** *“Now it happened on one of those days, as He taught the people in the temple and preached the gospel, that the chief priests and the scribes, together with the elders, confronted Him.”*

This **Sunday (8/25)** we turn our attention to **Luke 20:1-19**. **Jesus** had entered Jerusalem and then the Temple, with great fanfare and celebration. We traditionally know it as *“Palm Sunday”*. The crowds were massive. They were shouting “Hosanna, Hosanna,” while Jesus *“rode on colt the foal of a donkey”* (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:5). The multitudes were ascribing to Jesus the title of *“Messiah”*. Many believed He was the one that God had anointed to throw out the Romans and set up a government free of foreign tyranny.

After Jesus visited and cleansed the Temple, He left Jerusalem to spend the night in Bethany (Mark 11:19). The next morning, He traveled back to Jerusalem and entered the Temple a second time.

It’s interesting to note, that in spite of the Cross, which was looming over Jesus, He spent His final days in the Temple where, *“He taught the people and preached the gospel”* (Luke 20:1). This was the purpose of His coming and the desire of His heart.

He spent every moment sharing with people, in the Temple, that all of Scripture (Old Testament), spoke of His life, ministry, death, burial, and resurrection. That He was the one anointed, of God, to fulfill the more than 300 prophecies about the Messiah. And for them to know that, through Him and Him alone, a person was able to come to and have a personal relationship with God.

Also, please notice, “Jesus taught and preached the Gospel” in the Temple on a daily basis. It’s an exhortation that, as followers of Christ, He desires to know us, and for us to know Him. Jesus loves when His people gather to gather, in His name, to worship Him. And, He loves when each one of His sons and daughters come individually and daily to meet with Him.

There are at least two reasons why Jesus spent His final days the way He did. Primarily, it was to fulfill Bible prophecy. Every step of every day of Jesus earthly life, was ordered by God. There were no coincidences, or accidents.

In spite of the hatred of Jesus’ enemies, He was not a victim. Even though He was charged, as guilty, by the Jews, and crucified by the Romans, Jesus made it known that, *“No one takes My life from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again”* (John 10:18). And when He stood before Pilot, He confidently told him, *“You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above”* (John 19:11).

The events were prophesied and fulfilled, concerning Jesus first coming, so we may have absolute confidence, the prophecies, concerning His Second Coming, will also be fulfilled.

The second purpose for Jesus teaching and preaching to the people, daily, comes from His desire to equip His people to know, share , and when necessary, defend the truth of His Gospel.

As Jesus was teaching the people, His authority was challenged. It was demanded of Jesus, to tell everyone, who gave Him the authority to preach and teach. In other words, who was He representing, and who gave Him the right?

Jesus handled His enemies in a sure-handed fashion. He never became rattled, confused, or fearful. He simply confronted their hatred and unbelief with the written Word of God.

Earlier, in Jesus' ministry, He had warned His disciples, *"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles"* (Matthew 10:16-18).

Jesus knew His time on earth was coming to a close. He also knew, the hatred for Him was deep, and that His people would be in danger. His enemies would hunt them, persecute them, charge them unjustly, and put many to death.

Yet, In spite of the world's hatred, Jesus had not left His people defenseless. He had given them His Word, His Holy Spirit and the hope of spending eternity with Him. And, that His provision has been to given us, His beloved church, *"To Never leave or forsake us, so we may boldly say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear, what can man do to me'"* (Hebrews 13:5-6).

Please invite as many as you can (Sunday, 10:00 am). **Time is short. Jesus is coming** and the **harvest is plentiful.**

Hope to see you,

BE BLESSED,  
Pastor

**SUNDAY 08/25 OUTLINE:**

**GOSPEL OF LUKE**

“JESUS IN THE TEMPLE”

TEXT: LUKE 19:41-48

- **JESUS' AUTHORITY CHALLENGED (1-2)**
- **JESUS ANSWERS WITH A QUESTION (3-8)**
- **JESUS ADDRESSES THE PEOPLE (9-16)**
- **JESUS APPLIES SCRIPTURE (17-19)**