

## Sermon Series: Luke 21:5-38

### Grace to Stand When the World Is Falling

**Sermon Text:** Luke 21:20-33 The Grace of Trust Pt. 2

**Christ reveals God's sovereign, saving plan when considering the coming judgment, so that we will live with confident faith and hope in Him.**

#### 1) (Recap Last Week) Christ reveals God's sovereign, saving plan when considering the coming judgment.

- a) Jerusalem's/Rome's fall is part of God's plan of salvation through judgment.
- b) Jerusalem's fall is the exercise of Christ's universal dominion, which anticipates the final judgment/salvation of the nations.
- c) Jerusalem's fall is ironically Zion's redemption:
- d) **Application:**
  - i) Judgments are a part of God's government of the world and His plan of salvation. caution against specific interpretations of God's providence; should use "frowning providences" as reminders to examine ourselves
  - ii) Divine judgments within history herald a final judgment of all nations and individuals.
  - iii) Christ is the necessary and only way to be delivered from the judgment of God.

#### 2) Christ equips us to live with confident faith and hope in Him.

- a) Christ's instructions to that first generation of New Covenant people:
  - i) "flee" (21:21a)—do not resist Rome
  - ii) "let not those who are out in the country enter it" (21:21b)—don't trust Jerusalem
  - iii) "straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (21:28)—confident faith in Christ; knowing the Kingdom of God is not falling with the destruction of Jerusalem/Rome; but that God is vindicating His Christ and His people through His judgments (cf. Rev. 16:5-6; 18:19-20; 19:1-2)
  - iv) "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees." (21:29-31)—discernment from Christ's teachings
  - v) The early Christians, heeding the prophecy of Jesus, escaped Jerusalem's fall.
  - vi) Noah & Lot listened to God and were delivered when God's judgment fell
- b) Christ's word our confidence (21:33): ". . . but My words will not pass away."
- c) **Application:**
  - i) Seek first the kingdom of God . . ." (Matt. 6:33). Loyalty to Christ supersedes all other loyalties—Christ above country, family, vocation, "life." Be controlled by the love of Christ above all other loves (2 Cor. 5:13-14).
  - ii) Discern "news and events" theologically:
    - (1) with knowledge of God's revelation (21:33)
    - (2) with faith in God's providence
    - (3) with peace from God's goodness
    - (4) with hope from God's promises
  - iii) Jesus told His people to flee from the wrath to come, but Jesus went to Jerusalem to bear the wrath of God.

**Doxology:** Blessed be the LORD, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle; He is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield and He in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me. Psalm 144:1-2