



Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Lesson 21 – Luke 21

People — Who is involved?

*A widow at the Temple giving two mites.
Some at the Temple who asked Jesus questions.
Jesus answering their questions.*

Places — Where does it happen?

Jerusalem at the Temple.

Pearls — What information will help me to understand better?

Vs 1 – The “treasury” appears to have been a place where the Jews brought monetary offerings to God. It could refer to receptacles into which the money was dropped. There were thirteen of them, shaped like trumpets, each marked with a Hebrew letter to indicate the purpose of the gift.

Vs 2 – A “mite” or “lepton” made of brass was the least valuable coin (like our penny) used by Jews. It took eighty of these to make a denarius (the common laborer’s daily wage).

Vs 4 – The people brought money to the temple to pay tithes, taxes, offer special gifts, or fulfill vows.

Vs 5 – The first Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587/86 BC. The Temple had been rebuilt by Zerubbabel (completed in 515 B.C). The Temple they beheld was renovated by Herod the Great and his successors (20 BC to A.D. 63).

Vs 6 – Jesus said it would be totally destroyed. That actually happened in A.D. 70.

Vs 7 – The actual questioners were Peter, James, John, and Andrew (Mark 13:3). They asked “When?” And, “What signs will there be when these things are about to take place?”

Vs 8 – Sign #1 – False Christs and disasters (wars, earthquakes, famines, pestilences, etc.).

Vs 12 – Sign #2 – Persecutions (saints delivered to synagogues, prisons, rulers, etc, and betrayed).

Vs 20 – Sign #3 – Jerusalem surrounded by armies; people called upon to flee).

Vs 25 – Sign #4 - International distress and the Son of man coming in judgment (see Isa. 13:1-10 for similar apocalyptic language. Remember here, he is talking about the destruction of the Temple.

Vs 31 – The fig tree was a parable showing that they would see the rule of God in judgment.

Vs 32 – All that Jesus spoke of in this conversation would come to pass in that generation.

Vs 36 – The people of that day could escape the trials of this judgment if they were counted worthy.

Vs 37 – Apparently this is referring to Jesus’ teaching the next day in the Temple.

Perspectives – What may I learn from this chapter?

- 1. The widow gave little in monetary value, but she gave more than others who only gave part of their possessions.*
- 2. The fall of Jerusalem should be symbolic to us of what will happen to the nation that rejects God.*
- 3. All should watch and pray and be ready whenever God’s judgment comes.*