

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 07 Mar 2021..... Luke 10-13.....Neighbors?
- 2) 14 Mar..... Luke 14-16.....Celebrate?
- 3) 21 Mar..... Luke 17-18.....Worthy?
- 4) 28 Mar..... Luke 19:28-48.....Worshipped**
- 5) 04 Apr..... Luke 24:1-12.....Resurrected
- 6) 11 Apr..... Luke 19:1-27.....Sinners?
- 7) 18 Apr..... Luke 20-21.....Cornerstone
- 8) 25 Apr..... Luke 22:1-30.....Remembered
- 9) 02 May..... Luke 22:31-53.....Willing
- 10) 09 May..... Luke 22:54-71.....Denied
- 11) 16 May..... Luke 23.....Sacrificed
- 12) 23 May..... Luke 24:13-35.....Revealed
- 13) 30 May..... Luke 24:36-53.....Commissions

INTRODUCTION

- The final countdown to the cross begins. With days to go to His Crucifixion, Jesus enters Jerusalem; chases profiteers out of church; and continues teaching those who want to learn.

Passage	Comments
Luke 19:28-40	<p>Jesus Enters Jerusalem One Final Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus' riding on a colt was in fulfillment of Zech 9:9 and signified He was the legitimate Son of David who could rightfully sit on David's throne – to the delight of the crowd • v38. The people shouted praises! But mobs are an erratic bunch. They will soon shout "Crucify Him!"
The Ugly Side of Mobs	<p>Most of the Time Believers Do Not Do Well with Mobs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses tangled with mobs of malcontents amongst his own people for 40 years. Sometimes he won, one time he lost bad (Meribah). • Christians have not fared much better: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Stephen got stoned to death; Paul was almost stoned to death ♦ Even Jesus had to escape from a mob of His own church peeps (Luke 4:16-30), only to die at the hands of a mob who shouted at their Redeemer, the King of kings and Lord of lords, "Crucify Him" • Mobs don't think logically – led by emotions, they want their way NOW. The simple-minded believe everything..... Pr 14:15 • Mobs are often irrational. Caught up in the frenzy – they can react violently (street mobs) and unbiblically (church mobs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Illustrations: Salem witch trials, race riots, pastoral firings • Even in Christian churches, crowds can be spun up by manipulative means, such as by emotional appeals & politicking • Logic goes out the window, and chaos reigns. BUT, remember, God is not the author of confusion..... 1Cor 14:23
The Good Side of Mobs	<p>Mob Rule Can Work in Favor of the Believer Sometimes a few sound voices can restore order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah's Rule of Thumb for dealing with crowds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Don't Buckle Under Pressure.....Jer 26:8-16 • Nehemiah used mob intimidation to make things right. He set up a great assembly against the rich rulers.....Neh 5:16-13 • Church troubles allow good ones to rise to the top..... 1Cor 11:19
19:41-44	<p>Jesus Weeps for Jerusalem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v41-44. Jesus weeps over their self-induced blindness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Jesus was willing to forgive and restore, but they were unwilling to repent..... John 5:40 ♦ What makes people blind to their own pending demise? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pride? <input type="checkbox"/> Willful Ignorance and/or Unbelief? <input type="checkbox"/> Other
19:45-46	<p>God's House of Prayer Needs Spring Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall God's House was to be a joyful House of Prayer for all nations, where God's people would confess their sins and repent and seek His blessings.....Prov 15:8; Isaiah 56:7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Several times God's House became a House of Healing for the blind, lame, and demon-possessed and oppressed.....Mat 12:10; 21:14; Luke 4:31-37; 13:11-14 • Jesus cleanses the Temple of profiteers, similar to Nehemiah throwing Tobiah's personal stuff out of the Temple and into the street..... Nehemiah 13:7-8 • Who should have been responsible to keep the Temple clean from misuse and fulfilling its intended purpose? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Answer: The Priests, Levites, and civic rulers. But they were a big part of the problem because of GREED ♦ Even God preferred to have someone shut the doors of His House to keep out irreverent worshippers..... Mal 1:10

Passage	Comments
What should a House of Prayer look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is our church a house of prayer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If not, what needs to change, and who should lead the charge, and when should it happen? • How much praying should occur in a House of Prayer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> One person opens and another closes in prayer <input type="checkbox"/> We pray for our friends and family, our leaders, for witnessing opportunities, for God to receive all glory <input type="checkbox"/> We labor in prayer till we receive direct answers from God <input type="checkbox"/> Other praying scenarios?
19:47-48	<p>Jesus Taught Daily – and the People Hung on His Words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What made Jesus' teachings so appealing and interesting? • Was it His oratory skills? His humor? His miracles? • Or was it the content of His message → Good News → Good News that was truthful and trustworthy → Heavenly Truth → ...and Heavenly Truth that was Available to ALL • Notice Jesus did not PREACH daily. HE TAUGHT daily <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Good teaching is not a one-way monologue, but a two-way dialogue. Good teaching engages with the audience ♦ Good teaching poses questions, raises questions, and answers questions ♦ ...and Jesus TAUGHT with Authority. IOW. He knew what He was talking about.....Mat 7:29
What Makes a Good Teacher?	<p>A Good Teacher Passes the Psalm 119 Test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God's people rejoice when they see you because you confidently know God and His word.....Psalm 119:74 • God's people turn to you to learn His ways.....Psalm 119:79

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- If we can fully grasp this concept of why it is important for us to be in church with the attitude of anticipation, thanksgiving, praise, and excitement, and to enthusiastically participate in the worship activities (e.g., teaching, praying, singing, fellowshiping) we would truly be joyful in God's House of Prayer, we would look forward to going every time the doors are open, even during stressful times, and during times of persecution or COVID.....**Ps 42:4; Ps 100:4; Ps122:1**
- **COVID Impact.** "Govt shutdowns have precipitated a mental health crisis we've never experienced before. Depression, addiction, and domestic violence are increasing, and in some communities spiraling out of control. In hindsight, it is becoming clearer what happens when government dismisses the essential role of the church." (Source: [KentuckyToday-2020-12-11](https://kentuckytoday.com/2020/12/11/))
- **Church Impact.** Per a recent Gallup study, only those who frequently attend church report improved mental health in 2020. (Source: [KentuckyToday-2020-12-12](https://kentuckytoday.com/2020/12/12/))

NEXT WEEK: Luke 24:1-12. If the Resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith, why would so few details be provided in the Gospels?



WHEN CHRISTIANS AND SOCIETY TREAT GOD'S HOUSE OF PRAYER WITH CONTEMPT AND NEGLECT, GOD HELP US ALL.