



glimpses of glory

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## Enjoying God's Kingdom in Eternity Requires Allegiance to King Jesus Now! Luke 13:22-35

#### **Review**

- The Kingdom proclamation inherently presents a choice. (Luke 12:51)
- The Kingdom of God expands by its very nature. (Luke 13:18-21)
- Loyalty to Jesus is proved by following what he says. (Luke 6:46)

#### Kingdom citizenship requires strenuous loyalty because...

**Luke 13:22** He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. **23a** And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?"

1. ...delayed loyalty won't be received once judgment comes.

**Luke 13: 23b** And he said to them, **24** "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. **25** When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.'

**John 6:28** Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

**Isaiah 55:6** "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; 7 let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. ...false familiarity won't erase wicked rebellion.

**Luke 13:26** Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' **27** But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!'

**Luke 11:23** Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

3. ...trusting loyalty-not ethnicity-identifies Kingdom citizens.

**Luke 13:28** In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. **29** And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. **30** And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

**John 8:39b** Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, **40** but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.

### The center of God's earthly rule rejects the "Blessed" One's arrival.

1. Jerusalem will be the site of Jesus's Kingly triumph.

**Luke 13:31** At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." **32** And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. **33** Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.'

Jerusalem's rejection of God's salvation shows the tragedy of unrepentance.

**Luke 13:34** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! **35** Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

# **Reflection/Discussion**

- 1. What obstructions to entering the kingdom did Jesus's hearers "strive" against? How are these similar or different from obstructions people face today?
- 2. Reflecting on verse 29, what's one area of your life in which God's generous welcome to you can make you more welcoming and generous? What's a concrete step you can take to keep God's welcome to you front and center?

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