



Today's Message

Date: December 5, 2021

Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas

Title: ***The Rejected King will Return in Judgment***

Text: Luke 17:20–37 (ESV)

²⁰ Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, ²¹ nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

²² And he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. ²³ And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them. ²⁴ For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. ²⁵ But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶ Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷ They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸

Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹ but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—³⁰ so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. ³¹ On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. ³² Remember Lot’s wife. ³³ Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. ³⁴ I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. ³⁵ There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.” ³⁷ And they said to him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.”

Introduction: The Pharisees asked Jesus about the timing of the arrival of the kingdom of God. Jesus gave them a brusque answer and turned to instruct his disciples. He explained to them details about his return to establish the kingdom. The major theme in his explanation was *judgment*, an obvious rebuke to the Pharisees.

I. The promised kingdom is not what the Pharisees expected. 20-21

- A. The kingdom does not submit to their demands. 20
- B. Instead, they must submit to demands of the King. 21

II. But when the kingdom finally comes,

- A. The King will return according to God's timing. 22
- B. The King will return with visible, unmistakable glory. 23-24
- C. The King will return after his necessary rejection and suffering. 25
- D. The King will return to unleash his judgment: 26-37
 - 1. Unexpected, severe, and (almost) complete judgment 26-30
 - 2. Revealing judgment 31-33
 - 3. Dividing judgment 34-35
 - 4. Global judgment 37

Today's take-home truth: King Jesus is coming again; That day is the glorious hope of all who trust him, but it will be the first day of eternal sorrow for all who continue to reject him.