

Today's passage outline (19:45-21:1-37)

What's before in Luke 19

To seek and to save the lost

King Jesus arrives in
Jerusalem

He wept and pronounced
judgment over the city

What did Jesus came to do in Jerusalem?	Why did Jesus do that?	How is Jesus preparing his disciples nearing his death
<p>Jesus seek the lost tirelessly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To teach & preach the good news (Luke 19:47, 20:1, Luke 21:37) • To clean up the temple (Luke 19:45) • To repel the religious leaders threat (Luke 19-20) • To pronounce judgement (Luke 20:14-19) 	<p>The religious leaders were fruitlessly toxic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were corrupted and rebellious (Luke 19:45-47) • Failed to recognize the messiah (Luke 20:9-19) • Attempted to discredit Jesus (Luke 20:20-44) • Failed to put God first (Luke 21:1-4) 	<p>Jesus warns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning them of the teachers of the law (Luke 20:45 to 47) • Warning them of temporal and eternal judgment (Luke 21:5-6) • Warning them of persecution ahead and how they should live (Luke 21:8-34)

The religious leaders failed to recognize their sinful rebellion (19:45 – 21:38)

45 When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. **46** “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be a **house of prayer**'; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”

47 Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the **chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders** among the people were trying to **kill** him.

Jesus quoted Isaiah 56:7 and Jeremiah 7:11.

- Religious hypocrisy
(mixing religion with commercial profits)
- Deterring other nations
(context of Isaiah 56:2-12 is that God's temple is for anyone from any nation – as long as they submit to God)
- Disobeying God
(The context of Jeremiah 7:1-15 suggest they dishonour and disobey God)



The religious leaders failed to discredit Jesus's authority (Luke 20:1-8)

One day as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple courts and proclaiming the good news, the **chief priests and the teachers of the law, together with the elders**, came up to him. ² “Tell us **by what authority** you are doing these things,” they said. “Who gave you this **authority**?”

³ He replied, “I will also ask you a question. Tell me: ⁴ John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

Jesus answered the Jewish religious leaders with a rhetorical question.

- If they said “from heaven,” then they would condemn themselves, because John had pointed to Jesus as the Messiah. In other words, Jesus is going to say, “Why don’t you then believe what John said about Me?”
- If they said “manmade,” and that John was not really a prophet of God, then they feared being stoned to death by the people for the sin of blasphemy. Even some of the Pharisees thought highly of John.



The religious leaders failed to recognize judgement is looming (Luke 20:9-19)

⁹ He went on to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a **vineyard**, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰ At harvest time he sent a **servant** to the **tenants** so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants **beat** him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ He sent another servant, but that one also they **beat** and treated **shamefully** and sent away **empty-handed**. ¹² He sent still a third, and they **wounded** him and **threw** him out.

¹³ “Then the **owner** of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my **son**, whom I **love**; perhaps they will respect him.’

¹⁴ “But when the **tenants** saw him, they talked the matter over. ‘This is the **heir**,’ they said. ‘Let’s **kill** him, and the **inheritance will be ours**.’ ¹⁵ So they **threw** him out of the vineyard and **killed** him.

“What then will the **owner** of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and **kill** those tenants and **give** the vineyard to others.”

When the people heard this, they said, “**God forbid!**”

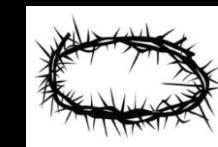
Let's identify the characters in the parable

1. Tenants (the vineyard keepers) = The religious leaders
2. Vineyard owner = God
3. Son = Jesus
4. Vineyard = Israel (God's nation)

- God expected spiritual fruit from His religious leaders - but there was no fruit. They even persecuted the prophets, and spare not even His beloved son.



- The son will be killed, a clear prediction by the Jesus that He would be killed by the leaders of the Jewish nation.



- Jesus again predicted the divine judgment on Jerusalem in 70 A.D from Verse 16: “He will come and destroy those tenants



- And God would give the vineyard to others (Referring to a believing nation of God in the future, the church)



The religious leaders failed to recognize what the messiah could do (Luke 20:9-19)

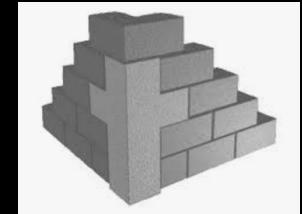
¹⁷ Jesus looked directly at them and asked, “Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

“The **stone** the builders rejected has become the **cornerstone**’?

¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be **broken** to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be **crushed**.”

Jesus quoted Psalm 118

- The son that was rejected in the parable and eventually killed by the tenants wasn’t the end of the story.
- Jesus makes the connection he would rise to become the chief cornerstone.
- Jesus is warning against opposing Him, the Messiah. Defying Jesus is like hitting against a solid rock.



Did you realise?

They knew that Jesus was talking about them as He told this parable but yet....

- The interesting thing is that the religious leaders don't think :
 - they're not listening to God.
 - they're rejecting God.
 - they are deaf to God's Word and rejecting God's messengers
- They are rejecting God but they do not realize it.

What about us?

The religious leaders failed to trap Jesus politically (Luke 20:9-19)

²³ He saw through their duplicity (craftiness) and said to them, ²⁴ “Show me a denarius. Whose image and inscription are on it?” “Caesar’s,” they replied.

²⁵ He said to them, “Then give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

²⁶ They were unable to trap him in what he had said there in public. And astonished by his answer, they became silent.

- Jesus saw through their scheme
- The coin has Caesar’s image.
- Where is God’s image?



The religious leaders failed to ridicule Jesus with theology (Luke 20:27-39)

²⁷ Some of the Sadducees, who say there is **no resurrection**, came to Jesus with a question.....

³³ Now then, at the **resurrection** whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?".....

- Sadducees tried to **trip** the Lord up by coming up with a **hypothetical situation** (based on **Deuteronomy 25**)
- With their hypothetical case, they ridiculed the concept of the resurrection
- **Jesus corrects their misunderstanding of resurrection life by showing it is life of an entirely different order.**
- **Jesus proves the resurrection from the Scriptures that there is life beyond**



The religious leaders failed to recognize the messiah(Luke 20:41-44)

“The **Lord** said to my **Lord**:
“Sit at my right hand
⁴³until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.””^[c]
⁴⁴David calls him ‘**Lord**.’ How then can
he be his son?”

- Jesus quoted from Psalm 110 to teach the Messiah would be both human (a descendant of David), and the divine Lord
- He got to the heart of the matter: “**do you really know who I am?**”
- He asked them to consider that they may not know everything about the Messiah



Jesus preparing His disciples for dangerous times ahead (Luke 20:45-21:37)

“**Beware** of the teachers of the law”

“Watch out that you are **not deceived**.”

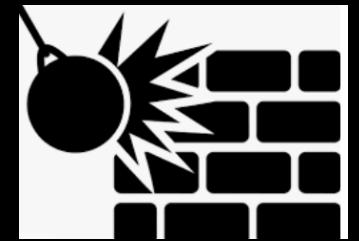
“But before all this, they will **seize** you and **persecute** you.”

“**Stand firm**, and you will win life.”

“Be always on the **watch**”

whenever the Bible begins to talk about prophecy, prophecy of the future, its concern is present. It's not speculative; it's about how we're supposed to live right now.

- Beware of the religious hypocrisy
- Do not follow false leaders, do not be frightened,, persevere animosity and persecution, bear testimony and take a firm stand for Jesus
- Be watchful on the last days

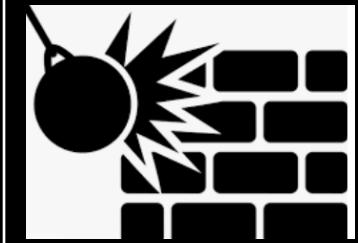


Jesus preparing His disciples for destruction ahead (Luke 20:45-21:37)

²⁰ “When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. ²¹ Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. ”

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

- i. Regarding the destruction of Jerusalem, those who listened to and obeyed Jesus **can escaped** the horrible destruction that came upon the city. (temporal judgement)
- ii. Regarding the far greater destruction that is coming upon the whole earth, those who listen to and obey Jesus **can escape** the horrible destruction that will come. (eternal judgement)



Reflective discussions 1

The religious leaders were toxic

- The religious leaders failed morally (Luke 19:45-47)
- The religious leaders failed to acknowledge Jesus's authority (Luke 20:1-8)
- The religious leaders failed to recognize judgement is looming (Luke 20:9-19)
- The religious leaders attempted to discredit Jesus's integrity (Luke 20:20-26)
- The religious leaders attempted to ridicule Jesus with theology (Luke 20:27-44)
- The religious leaders failed to put God first and care for their people (Luke 21:1-4)

And they knew Jesus spoke against them

Yet they did not realize their rebellion.

Can you remember a time you were “blinded” too?

Reflective discussion 2 & 3

2. The religious leaders possesses wealth, external look (beautifully adorned temple) , social status, religious titles and we learnt these are not indicators of spiritual righteousness before God. How would you then describe a person who walks right with God?

3. The religious leaders were so caught up with the ownership of the temple, power and influence, governing processes of their time. That they lose sight of God.

How can we ensure we do not get caught up with the checklist of our time, that we lose sight of God?