

Luke 19:45-21:38 - Perdition or Preservation? Where do you stand with Jesus?

Context:

Three themes:

1. The increasing animosity of the religious leaders with murderous intent toward Jesus
2. Rejection of Jesus will bring destruction upon oneself because He is God's chosen Messiah
3. Those who stand with Jesus must be totally devoted, testify for Him and be ready for His return

The Drama unfolds:

Act 1 – Murderous intent against Jesus set

- Cleansing of the temple (19:45-48)
- Questioning of Jesus' authority (20:1-8)
- Parable of the tenants (20:9-19)

Act 2 – Unsuccessful attempts to trap Jesus

- Setting traps for Jesus: political & theological (20:20-40)
- Jesus turned the table upon them (20:41-21:4)

Act 3 – Judgement is coming

- Temporal judgement: The destruction of Jerusalem (21:5-24)
- Eternal judgement: The coming of the Son of Man (21:25-28)
- Respond rightly: trust Jesus words and watch our lives (21:29-36)

Closing: Luke 21:37-38

Reflection:

1. Has my Christian life sometimes been a pretense or a costly devotion? In what ways have I tended toward the former; in what ways have I exhibited the latter?
2. Deriving principles from these verses in Luke 21:12-19, how do they shape the way we look at and do evangelism?
3. Practically, what does it mean for me to watch my life to be ready for Jesus' return?