**An Encounter with Jesus about God’s Kingdom**

Luke 17:20-37

**Luke 17:20 (ESV)**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,

**Luke 17:21 (ESV)**nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

**Luke 17:22 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:23 (ESV)**And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them.

**Luke 17:24 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:25 (ESV)**But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

**Luke 17:26 (ESV)**Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man.

**Luke 17:27 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:28 (ESV)**Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building,

**Luke 17:29 (ESV)**but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—

**Luke 17:30 (ESV)**so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

**Luke 17:31 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:32 (ESV)**Remember Lot’s wife.

**Luke 17:33 (ESV)**Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.

**Luke 17:34 (ESV)**I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left.

**Luke 17:35 (ESV)**There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.”

**Luke 17:37 (ESV)**And they said to Him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.”

**The kingdom of God is the people of God, living under the rule of God.**

1. **Now: God’s Kingdom and the Current Reign of Jesus Christ**

**Luke 17:20 (ESV)**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,

**Luke 17:21 (ESV)**nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

**Mark 1:14 (ESV)**Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,

**Mark 1:15 (ESV)**and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

**John 3:3 (ESV)**Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

**John 3:4 (ESV)**Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

**John 3:5 (ESV)**Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

1. **Not Yet: God’s Kingdom and the Coming Return of Jesus Christ**

**1 Thessalonians 4:16 (ESV)**For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

**1 Thessalonians 4:17 (ESV)**Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

**Zechariah 14:4 (ESV)**On that day His feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.

1. ***His return will be unmistakable.***

**Luke 17:22 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:23 (ESV)**And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them.

**Luke 17:24 (ESV)**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.

**Luke 17:25 (ESV)**But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

1. ***His return will be sudden.***

**Luke 17:26 (ESV)**Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man.

**Luke 17:27 (ESV)**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.

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**Luke 17:31 (ESV)**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.

1. ***His return will be decisive.***

**Luke 17:32 (ESV)**Remember Lot’s wife.

**Luke 17:33 (ESV)**Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.

**Luke 17:34 (ESV)**I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left.

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