The Gospel According to Luke-Part 6

TITLE: CHRIST'S CARE

PART 7

He desires to protect and love

READ LUKE 13:31-35

INTRODUCTION

There are a couple prophecies that Jesus mentions in this short passage that are interesting to take note of. He mentions Herod and that he will eventually take part in Jesus' death. (rf. 32) Herod would be the one who ultimately sends Jesus to be crucified by the people and Jesus knew this at this point but was unwilling to be controlled by the fear of His demise. He knew that His purpose on earth was about to be fulfilled in His death and He was not afraid of what any man might do to Him. He would not be dissuaded from His Father's purpose. That is an encouragement to us as well. We should be honored to follow the Father's will even when His will leads to our earthly demise. His will is better in every situation and we can know that He will care for those who He loves and are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

A second prophecy that Jesus mentions here is a little more obscure. In verse 34 He references the fact that Jerusalem had killed many of the prophets that He had sent to her and it is an ironic thing that He would also be killed. The greatest prophet who ever walked on earth (being God Himself) would be sent to a sinners cross because the people would be offended by what He had to say. He was seeing that His time was coming to an end soon and He wanted to reach more people before the end and He mentions here how His heart ached over the people and their tendency to be so lost. He yearns for the opportunity to protect and care for His children. That is the character of Christ.

Finally, there is one more mention of a future event that would happen in Christ's life; His triumphal entry. At the end of verse 35 He mentions that the people would welcome Him by praising Him and blessing His name. This was literally a few days before the same crowds would cry out to Herod to crucify Him and to see Him hang on a cross. He was saying in verse 35 that He would not see Jerusalem until that day and that it would be towards the end of His life on earth that He would enter into Jerusalem once again. They would not see Him. We must be careful that we look for Jesus and that we do not become blind to His coming. He yearns to take care of us and to have relationship with us.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

DISCUSSION OUESTIONS

- 1. Why were the Pharisees trying to seemingly protect Jesus by warning Him about Herod? What was the benefit to them if He left their area?
- 2. What does it mean to "be about the Father's business"? How can we be about God's business in our own lives and model what it looks like to follow Him?
- 3. Why do you think Jesus was mentioning His entrance into Jerusalem? What was so significant about that event?
- 4. Why were the Jews known for killing prophets sent by God? How can we sometimes react to things in Scripture that tell us to live differently? What stops us from following His commands more closely?
- 5. What does it mean to lament over something? What does Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem indicate about His heart? How can we take that as an encouragement?

WRAP UP

Jesus desires close relationship with all of His children. We need to look to Him but also we need to follow His commands. He laments over Jerusalem because He was right there in their midst and they were ready to crucify Him. He wants to be everything in our lives not just to be an add on that takes part in them. We need to lay everything at His feet and allow Him to protect us and gather us close to Him so that we may have relationship and growth with Him.