

# **The Life of Christ**

Lesson 11

Luke 21:5-37

March 21, 2021

## **Before All This**

### **Introduction**

Every time a significant world event takes place, many Christians around the world begin to wonder, “Is this it? Is this the time when Jesus will return?” Many even started to make this claim at the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Ever since Jesus ascended to heaven, there have been groups of Christ-followers who are obsessed with the timing of Jesus’ return.

However, Jesus laid out some precursor events before the significant event of His return. And even before those signaling events, Jesus gave His followers a warning, “But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you” (Luke 21:12a). Why? “All on account of me” (Luke 21:12d).

As Christians, we must always be prepared to face persecution and suffering. However, we do not go at it alone. We will have God’s Holy Spirit guiding us, guarding us, protecting us, and enabling us to serve Him and speak His Gospel while we are persecuted. And so, we stand firm knowing that Christ will win the victory for us.

***Memory verse: “Everyone will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. Stand firm, and you will win life.”—Luke 21:17-19***

Pray and read Luke 21:5-37. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

## **What does the passage say?**

1. What was Jesus' response to the disciples of when the destruction would take place? (Luke 21:8-11)
2. What will happen before this destruction? How will they know the destruction is at hand? (Luke 21:12-20)
3. What should those in Jerusalem do? (Luke 21:21)
4. What will happen to the people who remain in Jerusalem? (Luke 21:23-24)
5. What are some other signs of this event coming? (Luke 21:25-26)
6. Who will come on the cloud? (Luke 21:27)
7. What should the disciples do when this happens? (Luke 21:28)
8. What should the disciples do while they wait for this day to come? (Luke 21:34-36)

## **What does the passage mean?**

1. The timing of the end is not for us to know, but only for the Lord. Why is it important that we don't know the timing of the end? (Matthew 24:14, 36, 44-47; Luke 21:36; 1 John 2:28)
  
2. Persecution is guaranteed for Christians, according to Jesus in this passage. Why will Christians be persecuted? (John 15:18; 1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Timothy 3:12)
  
3. Jesus told His disciples not to be afraid of the events described before He returns. Why does He say that? (Proverbs 16:4; Isaiah 46:10; Jeremiah 32:27; Lamentations 3:37; Luke 21:27-28)

4. Jesus said in verses 15-16 that we do not need to be afraid of how to defend ourselves because He will give us the words to speak. Why is this the case? (John 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:26; 2 Timothy 1:7)

### **Applying the passage**

1. Jesus made it clear in Luke 21:8 not to follow those claiming to be Him or who claimed to know when the end will come. Have you struggled with getting caught up in figuring out when the end would come, rather than focusing on the mission at hand to share the love of Jesus?

