

When Jesus Wept over Jerusalem

Luke 19:41-44

Introduction:

- A. Only two recorded times when Jesus wept:
 - 1. Over his beloved friend —Lazarus (cf. John 11:35)
 - 2. Over his beloved city — Jerusalem.
- B. Jesus knew the future of Jerusalem (vv. 43-44).
- C. Jesus may have been saddened by the conditions that would bring destruction as destruction itself.

Discussion:

I. They Had Rejected His Offers of Salvation (Matt. 23:37).

- A. Had neglected or rejected all his efforts.
 - 1. His preaching.
 - 2. His signs
 - 3. His patience.
- B. We must not neglect or reject his efforts toward us (Heb. 2:3).
 - 1. His love and sacrifice (John 3:16).
 - 2. His apostles.
 - 3. The Scriptures
 - 4. Providential efforts of other interested parties.

II. They Had Become Blinded to Their Need of Salvation (v. 42).

- A. Blindness often follows rejected opportunities.
 - 1. Those who rejected Jesus as light (John 12:35-41): Opportunity (vv. 35-36); rejection (vv. 37,38); blindness (vv. 39, 40).
 - 2. Those who do not love truth (2 Thess. 2:10-12).
 - 3. Those who depart from the faith (1 Tim. 4:3; cf Eph. 4:17-19).
- B. Blindness can often be detected by asking:
 - 1. How do you feel about the story of Jesus — his love, sacrifice, etc? (Cf. Acts 2:36)
 - 2. How do you feel about his death for you? (Heb. 5:8, 9).
 - 3. How do you feel about the need to obey him?
 - 4. How do you feel about the prospect of heaven?
 - 5. How do you feel about the threat of hell?

III. They Had Brought on Their Own Destruction.

- A. Jesus would have, but they would not (Mt. 23:37).
- B. We can only blame ourselves for destruction (cf. 2 Pet. 2:1).
 - 1. Destruction that defied God's longsuffering (2 Pet. 3:9).
 - 2. Destruction worse than Jerusalem's in A.D. 70 (Heb. 10:26-29; Mark 9:43-48).

Conclusion:

- A. How do you suppose Jesus would react to our situation?
- B. How do we plan to escape if we neglect our opportunities?
- C. What is there to keep us from becoming hardened?
- D. Who can we blame if we are destroyed?