

Further up, Further in

Resources for Continued Study



LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

“THE KING WHO WEEPS AND ROARS”

For individual study or group discussion

As we return to our studies in the *Gospel of Luke*, recall where we left off in Luke 19 with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem (vv. 28–40). As prophesied in Zechariah 9:9, Jesus is hailed as the long-awaited King whose coronation is a display not of pomp and power, but of humility and self-sacrifice as he rides through the gates of Jerusalem on the back of a colt. In Luke 19:41–48, **he is the King who weeps and roars** as we witness Jesus weeping when the religiously close are actually far off and in danger and roaring when the religiously close take over his house and push him out.

What makes Jesus weep? Jesus weeps when the religiously close are actually far off and in danger. (vv. 41–44)

Refer back to Luke 19:38 and note how the coronal praises of the crowd echoed the angels’ words at Jesus’ birth: “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!*” (Luke 2:14). In Isaiah 9:6, the Messiah would be called the “Prince of Peace,” and the kind of peace he brings would be our most pressing need: peace with God. As Jesus approaches Jerusalem, he weeps: “*Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes*” (v. 42). Because the people of God rejected the only way to be reconciled to God, they faced utter destruction (vv. 43–44). In his commentary, J. C. Ryle warns all those who are religiously close to God, “*The last day will probably show the world that there were seasons in the lives of many who died in sin, when God drew very near to them, when conscience was peculiarly alive, when there seemed but a step between them and salvation. Those seasons will probably prove to have been what our Lord calls their ‘day of visitation’ (v. 44). The neglect of such seasons will probably be at last — one of the heaviest charges against their souls.*”¹

- Read Jeremiah 7:1–11. How did Jeremiah challenge the religiously close and their external religion and ritual?
- Read Deuteronomy 32:29 and Isaiah 48:18. The people of Israel did not recognize their “day of visitation” either. What did they fail to understand? According to 2 Corinthians 3:14–15, what is the only way the religiously close can escape immanent danger and find peace?

What makes Jesus roar? Jesus roars when the religiously close take over his house and push him out. (vv. 45–48)

In today’s passage we witness the zeal Christ has for his temple. The temple mediated the presence of God to his people. But the religiously close had taken over his temple and pushed him out. They had taken what should have been a house of prayer and made it into a den of robbers (v. 46). According to the 17th century Puritan preacher Thomas Watson, believers must be on guard that their worship not become less about serving God and more about serving themselves: “*The temple of the heart must be kept clean. 2 Cor. 7:1 states, ‘Let us cleanse ourselves from all pollution of flesh and spirit.’ The dust of sin will be falling into this temple; sweep and wash it by repenting tears. Christ whipped the money-changers out of the temple. To these money-changers I compare the cares of the world; these will possess the heart. Now, get a whip made of the threatenings of the law—and drive them out! The temple of the heart, must not be made a worldly marketplace. We may use the world—but look that it is kept out of the heart. None may come to reside in this temple, but Christ!*”²

- For Christians today, where is the temple of God? See John 1:14, 1 Corinthians 3:16–17, Ephesians 2:19–22, and 1 Peter 2:4–5.
- Luke 19:46 has two quotes from the Old Testament. The first is from Isaiah 56:6–8. Read John 10:16. What do these passages say about God’s heart to welcome foreigners? The second quote is from Jeremiah 7:8–11. Read Micah 3:9–11. What do these passages say about those who are outwardly religious?

DATE: September 1, 2024

SPEAKER: Brian/John Mark

SERIES: The Gospel of Luke

PASSAGE: Luke 19:41–48

RENEW: 31 Days of Prayer

DAY 1: Pray that we would be a church that exalts Christ wholeheartedly.

PRAYER:

O great God, you alone are worthy of our worship. You have created us for you. Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Yet relentlessly and tragically, we exchange the truth for a lie as we place created things above you in our hearts and lives. Forgive us for the ways in which we make good things ultimate. Give us fresh repentance for our forgetfulness, neglect, replacement, and disdain of you. Enliven us to see that our greatest idol is our self. We languish in the dependence, consumption, promotion, seeking, and love of self. In you alone we are satisfied. We ask that you, Lord, would help us this day to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, for this is the first and greatest commandment. Guard us from idols, and triumph over all that competes for our ultimate affection. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

Amani ya Juu, strategic partner ministry

PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Norma A., supported missionary partner

¹ Ryle, J.C. *Expository Thoughts on the Gospels, Volume 3*. <https://gracegems.org/Ryle/l19.htm>. August 26, 2024.

² Watson, Thomas. *The Mystical Temple*. https://www.gracegems.org/Watson/mystical_temple.htm. August 23, 2024.