

Insight into the Future Luke 21

I. Context of Discourse – 21:5-7

1. Viewing the Temple – 5
Leaving the Temple they spoke of its beauty
2. Jesus spoke of its destruction – 6
Not one stone left upon another
Compare what He said about the city – 19:44
3. Disciples ask “When?” – 7
When will this happen?
What sign will signal the end?

II. Characteristics of the Age – 8-19

1. Deceivers – False Christs – 8
Some will even claim to be Messiah
Some will claim the time is near – set dates
Do not believe deceivers
2. Wars – trouble among nations – 9-10
These will continue
They do not signal the end
3. Natural disasters – 11
Great earthquakes in various places
Famines, pestilences, fearful things
Even great signs in the heavens
4. But first expect persecution – 12
You will be arrested & persecuted
From both religious & civil courts
You will suffer for Christ’s sake
5. Opportunity to testify – 13
Compare Paul in prison – Phil. 1:12-13
6. Enabled to speak – 14-15
Trust Christ to give you words
7. You may face betrayal & death – 16-18
Even family & friends may betray you
Some will be martyred
World will hate you for Christ’s sake
Christ will protect & deliver you
No one can take your true life
8. Suffer with patience & hope – 19
Your eternal soul is in God’s hands

III. Culmination of the Age – 20-33

1. Destruction of city & Temple – 20-24
Sign: When city is under attack
Romans under Titus in 70 A.D.
Flee to place of safety
Prophecy will be fulfilled
Difficult time for time for people of Israel
Many will be killed
People scattered into all nations
Jerusalem will be under Gentile control
Until the times of Gentiles be fulfilled
Word “until” gives hope of restoration
2. End of Age – Christ’s return 25-28
True signs of His Return – 25

- Change in sun, moon & stars
Distress among nations on earth
Change in the roaring sea
Men will be filled with fear – 26
As the powers of heaven are shaken
Compare Revelation 6:12-17
World will see His return in glory – 27
He comes with power & great glory
Humans will see Him for who He is
Our redemption will be complete – 28
Live now in light of this hope
3. Parable of the Fig Tree – 29-33
Fig tree & other trees are a sign of future
When they get leaves summer is near
So it is with signs of Christ’s return
Those who see signs will see His return
All will take place within a generation
God’s promises are absolutely certain
He will do what He says

IV. Challenge to His Hearers – 34-38

1. Live in light of His return – 34-36
Don’t be distracted with worldliness
Dissipation, drunkenness or worry
Don’t be taken by surprise
Like the unbelieving world
Focus on your walk with Christ
And on the glory that is ahead
Look forward to His coming – 2 Tim. 4:8
2. Like Jesus, continue on mission – 37-38
He continued to teach in the Temple
At night He spent time in Mt. of Olives