

INTRODUCTION

- * Jesus has been teaching and interacting with those who are following Him - the multitude, the disciples, the apostles, and even those who are looking for reasons to accuse - the Scribes and the Pharisees. Today, we see this as well.
- * Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem and has just past through Samaria. Yet, topically, this section ties back to 16:14-17 when Jesus responded to the derision of the Pharisees and declared that since John the Baptist "the Kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it."
- * Jesus fields a question from the Pharisees regarding the Kingdom of God, addresses their unbelieving hearts, and then provides additional information to His disciples regarding God's Kingdom plan.

INSTRUCTION**I. THE I _____ WITH THE P _____ (v. 20-21)****A. The Pharisees' Q _____ (v. 20)****B. The Messiah's R _____ (v. 21)**

1. THE S _____ REIGN OF CHRIST (Colossians 1:12-14; 1:27; 1 Corinthians 15:23-25)
2. THE P _____ REIGN OF CHRIST (cf. Revelation 11:15; Genesis 1:26; 11:1-9; Zechariah 14)
3. THE P _____ REIGN OF CHRIST (cf. Zechariah 14; Revelation 20:1-6; Luke 19:11; 21:31; 23:51)

II. THE I _____ TO THE D _____ (v. 22-37)**A. The Environment of His Return (v. 22-29)**

1. IT WILL BE MARKED BY D _____ (v. 23-24)
 - * cf. Matt 24:5,11,23-26; 2 Cor 11:3-4,13-15; 1 Tim 4:1-3; 2 Tim 4:3-4
2. IT WILL BE MARKED BY D _____ (v. 26-29)
 - * cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; 2 Peter 3:3-7
3. IT WILL BE MARKED BY D _____ (v. 26-29)
 - * cf. Genesis 6:5-8; Genesis 18:20-19:29; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

B. The Exhortation of His Return (v. 30-37)

1. HIS R _____ BY THIS GENERATION (v. 25)
2. HIS R _____ IN THAT DAY (v. 24; Matthew 24:27-31; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
3. HIS G _____ OF THE SAINTS (v. 34-37)
 - a. The Warning (v. 32; cf. Genesis 18:32; 19:12-16, 26; Luke 9:62; 2 Timothy 4:9-10)
 - b. The Paradox (v. 33)
 - c. The Proclamation (v. 34-37)

INTROSPECTION

- * Are you looking toward Jesus' return, or will you be caught unawares because of your infatuation with the world?
- * Have you received the free gift of salvation in Christ?
- * Is He reigning in your heart? Is there evidence, or fruit, in your life that would testify to that?
- * Are you trusting in man to transform this nation/world, or are you seeking God's intervention and interaction?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How do we find the proper balance between planning for the future and yet living as if Christ is coming today?