

### (30) Lessons on the Coming Kingdom (Lk. 17:20–37)

1. Themes from this message are repeated in the Olivet Discourse (Mt. 24; Mk. 13) but Luke's record here should be understood separately (Lk. 17:23; 21:8).
2. Kingdom doctrine must rightly develop Kingdom of God (66x: 4,14,32,2 in M,M,L,J; 6 in Acts, 8 by Paul), Kingdom of Heaven (32x all in Matt.), & Kingdom of Israel distinctions (1<sup>st</sup> Sam. 15:28; 24:20; Acts 1:6).
  - a. Related studies must develop Throne of God (Matt. 5:34; Heb. 12:2), Throne of God and the Lamb (Rev. 22:1,3), Throne of David (2<sup>nd</sup> Sam. 3:10; Isa. 9:7; Lk. 1:32) distinctions.
  - b. Related studies also must develop the Son of God (Jn. 3:18), Son of Man (Jn. 3:13,14; 12:34), Son of David (10x in Matt. incl. esp. Mt. 22:42) distinctions.
3. Pharisee questions persisted even in His efforts to remain incognito (Lk. 17:20a). Jesus offers them a cryptic answer:
  - a. Jesus tells the Pharisees there will be no observations (παρατήρησις <sup>#3907</sup><sub>Hap.</sub>) of the Kingdom (Lk. 17:20b) despite the subsequent exhortation (Lk. 17:22–37) and many other messages and passages which demand numerous signs (Lk. 21:7ff. etc.).
  - b. Jesus affirmed that the kingdom was neither here nor there, but right where they were (Lk. 17:21). Literally “within you” means that the kingdom goes wherever kingdom citizens go.
  - c. This message reflects the delayed manifestation of the visible kingdom on earth in a similar way to His words for Pontius Pilate (Jn. 18:36).
4. The Lord then presented an eschatological prophecy for His disciples (Lk. 17:22–37).
  - a. A coming day of unseen eschatology (Lk. 17:22).
  - b. False Messiahs will arise, but will have finite geographic impact (Lk. 17:23).
  - c. When Christ returns, His arrival will be globally undeniable (Lk. 17:24 cf. Mt. 24:30).
  - d. The Kingdom is no longer at hand, as the rejection of the King requires a second advent and an intercalation between the two advents (Lk. 17:25).
  - e. The Days of Noah (Lk. 17:26–27) & Days of Lot (Lk. 17:28–29) teach important principles regarding kosmos societal conditions in the years prior to the second advent.
  - f. The Day of the Revelation of the Son of Man will be a day of sudden judgment. This suddenness of judgment will require immediate rapid evacuation (Lk. 17:30–33).
  - g. A global taking and leaving event (παραλαμβάνω <sup>#3880</sup><sub>49x</sub>, ἀφήμι <sup>#863</sup><sub>143x</sub>) occurs at the revelation of the Son of Man (Lk. 17:34–35).
    - 1) This is not a snatching event (ἁρπάζω <sup>#726</sup><sub>14x</sub>) and MUST NOT be confused with the Rapture of the Church (1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 4:17).
    - 2) The better identification is the removal of tares before the wheat is gathered into the barn (Mt. 13:24–30).
  - h. The Lord's reference to vultures makes clear that the taken ones are carrion (Lk. 17:37; Rev. 19:17–18).