

JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Luke 17:20-37 - Pastor Mike Medeiros

Arrival of God's Kingdom

Kingdom Principle #1

Exhortations to disciples about Jesus' return:

1. Be _____

2. Be _____

3. Be _____

Kingdom Principle #2

We need to be disciples who are _____
_____ and _____
for Jesus' return.

Take Home Truth

How we _____ determines
how we _____.

Today's Core Practice:

Eternity: I believe that there is a heaven and a hell and that Jesus Christ is returning to judge the earth and to establish his eternal kingdom. *(from John 14:1-4)*

Today's Actions:

1. Consider how you live out the Kingdom Principles discussed today.
2. Complete today's Deeper Connection Study.

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Guidelines for Godly Living

July 8, 2018 - Luke 17:20-37

When you were younger, did you ever go on a long car ride and ask your parents, “Are we there yet?” Aside from the predictable response - “Not yet” - I sometimes heard my dad say, “Just around the corner.” *Really?* Sometimes that corner seemed 100 miles long! Today this scenario might not seem all that different - a friend texts you, “Almost there.” *Really?* How long is “almost” and is that code for “just around the corner?” I’m still perplexed.

In our passage today, we’re not talking about a destination, but the arrival of the Kingdom of God. It is not a question of, “Are we there yet,” but, “Is it here yet?” Jesus speaks about his first advent while also revealing something about his second coming. Both the Pharisees and Jesus’ own disciples seem a bit perplexed about the timing and appearing of God’s kingdom. George Ladd referred to God’s kingdom reign as “already-but not yet” and people today still wonder about when Jesus is coming back. I blush to admit it, but it’s just around the corner...

Deeper Connection

The Pharisees ask Jesus when the Kingdom of God will come. They have already indicated a difference of opinion with Jesus regarding this and other matters. Jesus answers them and then takes the opportunity to teach his disciples about the coming kingdom.

Today’s Core Belief discussed: Eternity.

Read Luke 17:20-37 (cf. Matt. 24:23, 27, 37-41)

1. How does Jesus respond to the inquiry of the Pharisees (vv. 20-21)? What does he reveal about their expectations?
2. What is the Kingdom of God and how would you describe it to someone?
3. What does Jesus mention about how he will make his return (vv. 22-24)? What must precede this event and why does Jesus emphasize this to his disciples (v. 25)?
4. What are some of the attitudes of present-day churches concerning eschatology [end times]? What are the extremes and how can we have a biblically balanced mindset?
5. Why does Jesus allude to the days of Noah and Lot (vv. 26-29)? How important is Jesus’ warning about Lot’s wife (vv. 30-33; cf. Gen. 19:17-25)?
6. Are you prepared for Jesus’ return? Why or why not? Are you looking forward to it? How does his promised return affect the way you live your life?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God that Jesus is coming back! Praise God that he is our shelter and Deliverer. Thank God for the encouragement of his Word and Presence. Pray for discernment and wisdom regarding how to live in these difficult days.