

Discussion & Reflection Questions

Pentecost 23C 13th of November 2022

Read: Luke 21.5-19

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶ 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.' ⁷ They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' ⁸ And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them. ⁹ 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' ¹⁰ Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹² 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. How do you deal with the troubles of our world & our times?
2. How much have you thought about or reflected on Jesus coming again or "end times"? Do you have a view on it?
3. If the troubles of Jesus time were similar in type & magnitude to the troubles of our times, does that say anything about human nature? Does it say anything about God?
4. The temple was important for Jewish identity. How important is Jesus for your identity?
5. What is about who Jesus is & what Jesus did that you find hardest to live up to in your life?
6. How can you look for Jesus at work in our everyday life & in larger global events?
7. How can you use what is going on in our world to think more about who God is & how God could be at work?

Prayer

Lord God of all the ages,
the One who is, who was, and who is to come:
stir up within us a longing for your kingdom,
keep our hearts steady in times of trial,
and grant us patient endurance until the Sun of justice dawns.
We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.