Kingdom Come

Luke 21:29-36

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Brady Bassett

The Big Idea: In light of Christ's return, believers are instructed to look for the signs of His coming and to live in light of His return.

Luke 21:29-36 (NASB)

21 [29] And He told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees: [30] as soon as they put forth *leaves*, you see for yourselves and know that summer is now near. [31] So you too, when you see these things happening, recognize that the kingdom of God is near. [32] Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all things take place. [33] Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

[34] "But be on your guard, so that your hearts will not be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that this day will not come on you suddenly, like a trap; [35] for it will come upon all those who live on the face of all the earth. [36] But stay alert at all times, praying that you will have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Signs of His Coming (Luke 21:29-32)

+ Is Jesus referring to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 or is He pointing ahead to His second coming? Both!
+ The signs of Jerusalem's destruction and Christ's return will be observable.
+ As believers, we should be able to look at the signs of the times and recognize that the Kingdom of God is near.
+ The generation in verse 32 is a reference to Christ's original audience

The Certainty of His Coming (Luke 21:33)

1. Just as every prophetic word was fulfilled in regards to Christ's first coming, the Lord sees to it that every prophetic word will be fulfilled in regards to Christ's second coming. Luke 21:33; Proverbs 30:5

2. God's Word has been tried, tested, and found without deceit or error.
   Psalm 12:6

3. "If He came to be nailed to the cross, much more may we expect that He will come in glory and wear the crown. He has said it, and He will do it!"- J.C. Ryle

4. The day of Christ's return is circled on Heaven's calendar and will surely come to pass. Revelation 19:11-16

The Church and His Coming (Luke 21:34-36)

- We should live every day with the eager expectation that Christ is on the way.
- Three things the church must do in light of Christ's coming:
  - Be on guard (Isaiah 35:3-4)
  - Keep on the alert
  - Pray
- All will stand before the Son of God!
- The Church should be in a state of "perpetual preparedness to meet Christ."
- The Book of Revelation was not given so that we might speculate but was given so that we would know that Christ reigns supreme.

Resolved, never to do anything, which I should be afraid to do,
if I expected it would not be above an hour,
before I should hear the last trump.
Jonathan Edwards