

## Luke 17:11-37 Ten Lepers and the Return of the Lord

v11-19 In this section we see Jesus healing ten lepers. However, after the healings occur, only one comes back to thank him. The one who returns is a Samaritan - a 'foreigner'. The Jews and the Samaritans historically despised each other. The other nine do not come back and take their healing for granted. There is no record of them thanking or praising God. Notice that the lepers were obedient to the words of Jesus. As they stepped out in faith, it was their obedience which led to their healing.

Are you obedient to the words of Christ this morning?  
Has the Holy Spirit been asking you to do something?

"The lepers' response would have taught the disciples and everyone else present the importance of trusting and obeying Jesus' word." Constable, *Notes on Luke*

"The sin of unthankfulness is another peril in the life of the disciple." MacDonald, *Believers Bible Commentary*

The Samaritan throws himself at Jesus' feet which is an act of worship. Jesus commends him for having the right attitude of praise and thanksgiving.

Do you take the Lord Jesus for granted this morning?  
Do you thank and praise him when he answers your prayers?  
What can you thank him for today?

**Thank you Lord for \_\_\_\_\_. Praise your Holy Name.**

v20-37 Jesus predicts his 2nd coming.

v20-21 Jesus is telling the Pharisees that, 'the kingdom of God is within you.' Jesus as Messiah is right there among them yet they fail to believe in him because they are hard hearted and stubborn. Jesus is within their midst therefore the Kingdom of God is within their midst. Jesus is not saying that the Pharisees are saved!

v22-23 There are many false messiah's around today. You only have to look up the internet to find people who claim to be Jesus. They deceive people into following after them and it is nothing more than a cult.

v24-25 "For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other."

"This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. **8** He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might. **10** on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you." 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

You are going to know when Jesus comes back; there will be no doubt about it. You are not going to miss it and you cannot avoid it. This earth shattering event will happen. God has promised it and nothing can stop it!

"The Son of Man will not make secret appearances to only a few; his coming will be obvious to all...Like lightning, the Son of Man's arrival will be sudden, eye-catching, glorious, frightening, and celestial." Garland, *ECNT Luke*

You don't need to go looking for the day when the Lord Jesus Christ is going to return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. That would be a waste of your time.

**Do you waste too much time thinking about the end times?**

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." Matthew 24:36

Only God the Father knows the time of Jesus' 2nd coming. Leave it up to God.

v25 Jesus is referring to his crucifixion which will have to come first.

v26-30 Before the Son of Man returns, people will act like they did in the days of Noah and Lot; they were completely oblivious to the impending doom and destruction. When Jesus comes, it will be a total surprise and no one will expect it. Life will be going on as normal, people will be eating, drinking, getting married and going about everyday business.

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. **43** But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. **44** So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." Matthew 24:42-44

**Are you prepared for the 2nd coming of the Lord Jesus Christ?**  
**If Jesus were to return today, would he find you 'watchful' for him?**  
**If you knew he was coming next week, what would you change?**  
**As a Christian, have you become complacent regarding your faith?**  
**When Christ comes will he find you look warm or on fire for him?**  
**What are you doing to serve your King and build his Kingdom?**

"Christians do not prepare themselves by graphing out time charts and different scenarios. They do prepare themselves by their faithful witness and ethical conduct befitting their repentance." Garland, *ECNT Luke*

v31-35 Jesus is coming back to take the believers with him. We call this the rapture. Jesus is coming back for his bride. This is the church made up of believers; those who know Jesus personally as Savior. Believers who have confessed their sins and asked his forgiveness, recognizing that Christ paid the penalty for their sins on the cross at Calvary.

"**16** For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** After

that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

"so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him." Hebrews 9:28

"When the Son of Man appears in his glory, a complete and final separation will be brought about between the faithful and the unbelievers, and even the most intimate bonds between people will not prevent their being separated from one another, the faithful being taken up to meet Him and the unbelievers being left to undergo the judgment." Geldenhuys, *The Gospel of Luke*

If Jesus was to come back this morning would he take you with him or leave you to face judgment?  
How will he find you?

"Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son." John 3:18

v37 Jesus is vague here. Only God knows the time when Jesus is coming back and the exact location.

"Do not ask where the judgment will be, for it will be visible, and once it comes it will be too late. The time will be gruesome, like vultures gathered over dead bodies." Bock, *BECNT Luke*