



LUKE 21:29-36

"ARE YOU READY?"

THE QUESTION

We ask a lot of questions about the end times — when it's going to happen, or if it's going to happen. But Jesus' question to His disciples isn't either of those. His question is: are you going to be ready when it happens?

WHAT TO DO (V.28)

When the signs Jesus describes begin to take place — the sun, moon, and stars shaken, the nations in anguish, people fainting from fear — everyone else's response will be to bend over in fear. Jesus tells His followers to do the opposite: straighten up and lift up your heads. That posture is what hope looks like. It takes faith — knowing God's promises, expecting Him to keep them, and believing He is faithful to do everything He said He would do.

WHY (VV.29-33)

Jesus explains this with the fig tree. When its leaves come out, you know summer is near — it's a sign you can count on. In the same way, when these signs happen, you know the kingdom of God is near. Jesus ties the command to a specific word: when. Not everyone in every era is being addressed here — the command belongs to whoever is alive to see the signs of verses 25-27 begin. Jesus says, "this generation will not pass away until all things take place" — meaning the generation that sees the signs is the generation that will see it all through. And He backs that up with the strongest guarantee possible: heaven and earth will pass away, but His words never will.

HOW (VV.34-36)

If you want to be the kind of person who is ready for that day, two things:

Watch yourself — specifically, watch your heart. Two things weigh a heart down and make it callous: dissipation and drunkenness (letting yourself become intoxicated by the world's pleasures), and the cares of this life (getting so consumed by everyday concerns, even legitimate ones, that you stop anticipating Christ's return).

Stay awake — by praying. The word Jesus uses means begging — continuously depending on God, pleading that you would be holy, that you would hate sin and love Christ, that you would have strength to persevere to the end and stand before the Son of Man.

THE POINT

The most important end-times question isn't about timelines or systems. It's this: are you the kind of person who is ready for God to keep His promises — anticipating it, looking forward to it, putting your hope in it? You began the Christian life depending on Jesus. Keep living it depending on Jesus.

**This handout (not the sermon in any way!) was AI-generated solely using the pastor's transcript as a help for the listener.*