



The Gospel According to Luke
Wk. 108 After Dinner Talk pt.3 "Our Part in Prophecy"
By Pastor Jody May

Luke 22:35-38 ESV

Scripture Must Be Fulfilled in Jesus

³⁵ And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing." ³⁶ He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷ For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." ³⁸ And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

Review:

Jesus has shown us over the last 5 weeks that all things work according to His plans. We have seen the sovereignty of God displayed as the Father has lead Jesus through His life to the moment in the upper room where Jesus would fulfill His destiny as the "Lamb of God" ([John 1:29;36](#)). We also have witnessed that even when it comes to people and the trouble they bring; they represent that He can work through that as well. He worked through a betrayer to get the meeting He wanted with the Sanhedrin and Pilate, He worked through disciples that cared more about their identity among the people to get Him to Jerusalem, He mastered the Devil and defeated Him before He even got to the cross ([John 16:11](#)), and the leader of the disciples, Peter, would break and run on Him and Jesus would still use him, restore him, and love him into the leader of the first church.

That night, before leaving that Upper Room, Jesus is going to show us one more time that He is in control of all things when **He works through the TROUBLE of the WORLD and its' attitude against Him to accomplish His will.** We will see that the world's perception of Jesus was even foretold in the OT, and that God would use the disdain of His people to make a way of Salvation for all.

Now this is good news isn't it!? We all need to be Saved from our sins, from eternal death, from a life of emptiness, from a life of falsehood; yes, Salvation is good, but have you ever stopped and thought about **what that means for you?** We always think of what it cost Jesus, and for the most part theoretically we understand that



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it means we are changed in some way, **but have you ever thought about the process that God is going to take you through to change you, to SAVE you?**

Intro:

Romans 8:29-30 ESV

²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed** to the **image** of his **Son**, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Paul is relating the same process of events for every Christian that is living or has ever lived in these 2 verses. This path to glorification starts with **BEING CONFORMED** into the image of Jesus. That is to be forcibly shaped into the form of Christ. Think of it like this, Jesus said Narrow is the door ([Luke 13:23-27](#)) and we are to strive, work at it, to enter it. Jesus has also mentioned in the scripture that He is the only way to get to God and eternal life ([John 14:6](#)). That means that in order to fit through this narrow door, we must be shaped that is **CONFORMED** into the image/form of Christ or else we don't make it through.

Christ our Lord has a very specific shape if you would. On earth this shape made Him popular, adored, and praised **UNTIL, just by Him being Him**, He caused enough dissent that it led to His death. Even though nothing about Him changed the world's interpretation of Him changed. Jesus' life and teachings meant that **everyone would have to change for none were good enough in God's sight**. So, just like Jesus' parable of the vineyard ([Luke 20:9-19](#)), the world decided to kill the messenger, God's only begotten son, so they could keep the vineyard (Points to the Garden).

His Popularity became infamy, being adored became being despised, being praised was replaced with curses. What Jesus did and how He did it never changed but **what changed was the world's perception of their hero**. Jesus became the most dangerous man in Jerusalem, to both the Jews in power (the Sanhedrin) and the Romans. He was a danger because He could change culture, change social



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structure, change pecking orders, change everything because ultimately what He represented was the coming of a new Kingdom as He is the true King.

Now, here's the catch today. The disciples up to this point had been enjoying Jesus' popularity. Just imagine right now **if you were a close friend of Tom Brady in the Tampa Bay Area, you pretty much get what you want.** This is how it was for the boys with Jesus in Israel BUT that was all coming to a halt. What this means now is that **when Jesus takes on the disdain of the world then those that were His followers would do so as well.** They too would become the infamous, despised, and cursed of Jerusalem, the scapegoat if you will for their people.

Today we are looking at **Jesus preparing the disciples for that time**, and not just the twelve but us, for **when the world would hold His followers in contempt.** He prepared them and He prepares us for what it means to be **CONFORMED into His Image**, to get into the shape that is needed to fit through that narrow door. We are going to let His last words from the Upper room prepare us for the days ahead as we may soon start struggling in a land that really does not like the church that much anymore. Why? Because we remind them, just by being us (the church), that no one is worthy coming to the Father on their own.

1. Remembering when you had it so good.

³⁵ And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing."

Illustration: Is there a time in your life that you can look back on, and remember, "Man I had it good, I just didn't know how good I had it when I did!" When my father was alive, while I was a young man, I could count on him for anything. If I needed something fixed, if I needed some manly advice, if I needed some assurance, if I needed to know that things would work out alright, all I had to do was walk in the room with him. Not because he was the most loving man around but because he was a **PROBLEM SOLVER.** Now that he is not here, I have had to learn to go without that sense of calm. I have had to learn to take some deep breaths, pray, and trust God (practice faith) whenever I run into a problem, and honestly, while I may not have liked the earthly alone feeling in the beginning it is the best thing for me, because it **forces me to rely on Christ.**



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Jesus is about to leave the disciples all alone and they too will know what it feels like to lose their sense of security, their sense of calm. Jesus takes this last moment before leaving the upper room, before heading to the Garden for His last time of prayer, to wait for His capturers to recall something He did with the disciples earlier in their career.

Luke 9:1-6 ESV

And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. ³ And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. ⁴ And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. ⁵ And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶ And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

Then in Luke 10:1-7 Jesus again sends out 72 and they had great results! **Upon hearing about their adventures Jesus has this comment:**

Luke 10: 19-20 ESV

¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Jesus warned them then and it is a good warning for us now, don't get caught up in celebrating that you had a victory in this world over the devil or over evil, BUT instead celebrate **WHY I gave you this authority** – it is **because your names are recorded in heaven; meaning you belong to me!**

There's a HUGE misconception we have in Christianity today. We tend to believe that our Salvation, our being right with God, having His acceptance, approval, love, and favor is **validated** when we have **victory in this world**. You will never have enough victory in this life if you are using it to tell yourself that God loves you. What tells you that God loves you is His sending you out into the world so that you may



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win/lose/draw in your battles but **more importantly** you will be **CONFORMED INTO JESUS' image** to get you through that narrow door. Rejoice not in your victories but rejoice that your name is written in heaven and that **God is the one working the process to get you there!**

Don't spend a huge amount of time daydreaming about yester year because it will get you transfixed on trying to make your todays' like yesterday. Instead know that God wants you to walk boldly into the future because He is going to meet you on the road, He will strengthen your faith so that you will reach your final destination that will make your yesteryears seem like prison sentences. Your best is yet to come, you have an eternity calling your name living in the presence of Jesus fulfilling your calling, spend time rejoicing in that! **Being conformed into Jesus' image is learning how to keep your focus on heaven** and what is to come not on this world and only what you can get now...

Now in order to help them get ready Jesus makes them a little list, travel items, that will need for their life:

2. Donning a Prepper's Mentality.

³⁶ He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one.

Jesus wants to make them ready for the trouble they are about to endure in life. You're going to need a **money bag**, meaning you will have to find a way to **support** for yourselves, I won't be there anymore, people most likely will not give to your cause as they did to mine. You will also need a **knapsack**, you will have to **supply** for your own needs, you will have to do the planning and packing for what you think the Father is calling you to do. Lastly you will need a **sword**, that is you will have to worry about your own **protection**, I won't be there to defend you.

Before we view this as a setback, we need to look at the same account of this moment in John 15, because Jesus does promise help. As a matter of fact, it is more help than what they were expecting or wanting.

You are not alone though Jesus is sending a helper:
John 15:26-27 ESV



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²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom **I will send to you** from the Father, the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.
²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

John 16:7-11 ESV

⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to **your advantage that I go away**, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.
⁸ And **when he comes**, he will **convict** the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Even though the world brings trouble, Jesus never leaves us alone, He provides us more help than what we could ever have had if He was with us in the flesh. We are to take our things, our preppers horde, and charge the world **because with it, the HS is going to do the work**. The Spirit does the convicting, not you, and again it doesn't mean that everyone that you share the gospel with is supposed to be saved. Jesus said the Spirit is going to convict about sin, righteousness, and judgment. He will call some to repentance and harden the hearts of others. You are to proclaim though no matter the outcome ([2 Cor. 2:16](#)).

Again, there is a misconception in Christianity especially concerning evangelism. Everyone can evangelize, no where have we seen that God only calls a few to speak for Him, if you are **being conformed into Christ's image** then one of the **areas that has to be molded is your responsibility to talking for Him**. The Bible says take your things and go, and when the opportunity presents itself the Spirit does the work.

Family, the world says that you have no right to speak to them about God and His ways, but **God says you don't have the right not to**, where are you with this? In case this sounds a little scary there is assurance in our last point this morning.

3. Victory through Christ's Association.



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³⁷ For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." ³⁸ And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

You will be without me, but it will make you focus on what's important, you will have to supply for your needs but it will build your trust in the Spirit, and here's why this will happen, I have to be marked as a sinner for you and those to come.

Who is He associating with and what does it do?:

Isaiah 53:12 ESV

¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Jesus has to leave them for His calling was to die, it wasn't an accident, His plans weren't spoiled, **this was the plan!** He has chosen to pour His soul out to death because He allowed Himself to be associated with sinners, you and me.

Transgressor in the Hebrew is the same word for rebel, that is someone who rebels against God. Jesus association is not the type of relationship that keeps Him separate, His association is to take on the guilt, the rep, the disdain of the lowliest.

Through the years people have always argued against Jesus' humanity because people don't like the fact that Jesus lived a perfect life because that means there is an expected measurement we are called to live against, life gives you a grade! And they don't like the historical fact of Jesus' death and its' attribution to the sin of man because it shows what is deserved if you miss just one answer.

According to the Nicene Creed he was judged in your place:¹

¹ Nicene Creed, *Christian Reformed Church*, <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/creeds/nicene-creed>, Web, 2021.



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Nicene Creed:

“For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was **made human**.
He was **crucified** for us under **Pontius Pilate**;
he **suffered** and was **buried**.”

Council of Nicea 325 AD

The Nicene Creed was written to protect and defend who Jesus was and what He did. This early creed shows that Jesus was judged by an earthly magistrate, to be proclaimed guilty in a court of law, Jesus would have to suffer the death and be sentenced to death under that verdict. **God is using the trouble the world brings to fulfill the prophecy of the suffering servant over 700 years earlier.** This is terrible and horrible news to hear but it is glorious and wonderful news to bear. For it means that Christ came, became a man, lived the only perfect life, then gave us all the credit of His name, He **IMPUTED** His Righteousness to us, and our sins were laid on Him. **(Sins are imputed to Christ and we are imputed His righteousness.²)**

“He therefore suffered under Pontius Pilate, and by the governor’s official sentence was reckoned among criminals. Yet not so – for he was declared righteous by his judge at the same time, when Pilate affirmed that he “found no cause for complaint in him” [John 18:38]. This is our acquittal: the guilt that held us liable for punishment has been transferred to the head of the Son of God [Isa. 53:13]. We must, above all, **remember this substitution, lest we tremble and remain anxious** throughout life-as if God’s righteous vengeance, which the Son of God has taken upon himself, still hung over us.”
– **John Calvin**³

If we don’t accept this we can’t be rid of guilt and if we can’t be rid of guilt, we won’t go into the world with what we can muster and if we don’t go and see what the Spirit has waiting for us, **we can’t be conformed and if we can’t conform, we**

² Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*, (The Banner of Truth Trust, Grand Rapids, Michigan: 2000), 377.

³ John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Volume I, Ed. John T. McNeill, (Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, London: 2006) 509-510.



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don't get through that narrow door. Family, are you letting Jesus bear your guilt, do you recognize He died in your place unjustly condemned as a sinner, do you see He was hated because you should have been hated? If you can't accept that you definitely can't get over your guilt.

Jesus knows His guys need more sifting, He knows they need more conforming, He knows His death is going to affect them. They are going to feel the guilt of letting Him die as they **see Him crucified as a direct act of their abandoning Him.** It's going to scatter them, but Jesus is going to work through this trouble, He's going to use it to make them ready for their lives as the church fathers. Hear His prayer for His men from John 17. **[Jesus' prayer for His Disciples:]**

John 17:15-19 ESV

¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Why did He pray for them, He knew trouble was coming?

John 15:18-19 ESV

The Hatred of the World

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

Jesus consecrates Himself, He accepts the role that Isaiah said He would do, He bears the hate of the world having victory over it on the cross and it is such a condemning act that it will make people hate His followers. He is sending them into the world so that they may be sanctified in this truth; **that Jesus dies for sinners and anyone that believes in Jesus and truly follows Him will cause in people not the warm fuzzies but it will earn them the contempt of the world.**



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You see when someone believes in the cross and its' message it means that you see the worse in people, you believe that they can't save themselves, that they need a savior, and the last thing this world wants to hear is that they are not acceptable the way they are. The **cross is the most offensive standard in PC culture** of our day, and it will only get worse. The truth is that the disciples were about to be sanctified through persecution for preaching the message of the Cross but ironically the cross is the only thing that can save people! If they wanted to love God and love their neighbor with all they had they would have to preach a message that offends and condemns them as it condemned Christ. To be **conformed in His image** **Jesus is going to make them experience the same trouble** He had.

Jesus though doesn't stop there, He has a plan that is going to go past that current generation that will ensure His fame, God's glory, will be preached for centuries to come. **[Jesus has a prayer for you as well:]**

John 17:20-23 ESV

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those **who will believe in me** through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Jesus' prayer is so that we will be one, one what? That we would be united in our faith, in our cause, that we would take the message of the cross into the world, that we would witness that we indeed need the cross, that we are not good enough, that we needed His righteousness and we needed to let Him have our sin. That unity of thought is what tells people God is real and the world needs to repent.⁴

⁴ Carson, D. A. (1991). [*The Gospel according to John*](#) (p. 568). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans. – "Although the unity envisaged in this chapter is not institutional, this purpose clause at the end of v. 21 shows beyond possibility of doubt that the unity is meant to be observable. It is not achieved by hunting enthusiastically for the lowest common theological denominator, but by common adherence to the apostolic gospel, by love that is joyfully self-sacrificing, by undaunted commitment to the shared goals of the mission with which Jesus' followers have been charged, by self-conscious dependence on God himself for life and



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Family let me encourage you today with this. Although our culture is changing, although our country is challenging everything in its' DNA that smacks of God, it may possibly be the greatest time to be alive if we truly desire to see an awakening in our land. What must we do? Unite. Hold your ground, keep to the testimony of God's Word, live in godliness, love your neighbor well, seek peace with those in this room, speak out against evil, and if we stay united in that, the world will notice and to some it will make them mad and to others it will call them to God. You already have what you need: ³⁸ And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough." In verse 38 it means you are as ready as you will ever be.

Jesus has prayed for us already, dare we not believe that His prayer has not the power to deliver, dare we believe that it was a waste of time? Did we not see His prayer for His disciples birth the church in the first century changing the face of the known world? Why would we believe it can't be the same for us? Family this is what I am asking you to believe right now in this moment believe in the power of His prayer for you, stand in the presence of your enemies, and go and make a disciple...

In closing family, be at rest, for it is by this prayer that Jesus is going to **conform us, to ensure we get through that door**. Keep your eyes on the prize, the race is hard and long but the payoff, seeing Jesus face to face, is well worth it.

PRAYER

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

Go in the name of the Father, that has elected to have us conformed into the image of His Son, so that we may share in His glory.

Go in the name of the Son, that endured the cross, our sin, and shame imputing to us freedom, righteousness, and dignity.

Go in the name and power of the Holy Spirit, that opens our eyes to our need of the cross, unifies our spirit with the church, and emboldens us to proclaim the good news to others.

fruitfulness. It is a unity necessarily present, at least 'in nuce', amongst genuine believers; it is a unity that must be brought to perfection (v.23)."