

He is jealous for his church. (Luke 19:41-48)

Happy new year. I'm happy to see you here. We will continue to study the Gospel of Luke. Today we will look at 19:41-48. The title is "He is jealous for his church."

## 1. The Lord's city

### 41-44

<sup>41</sup> As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it <sup>42</sup> and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup> They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

Luke says in his gospel that Jesus had one direction. "He was heading for Jerusalem." (9:53)

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to God according to the Law of Moses. (2:22) Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. It is natural to think they also brought Jesus with them. (2:41-43) When Jesus was 12 years old, he stayed behind alone in the temple in Jerusalem. He was aware that he was "in his Father's house." (2:49)

Now Jesus travels about from one town and village to another, throughout Galilee, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. (8:1, Matt 4:23)

### 9:51

<sup>51</sup> As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

### 13:22

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.

18:31

<sup>31</sup> Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem,

19:28

<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

And we reach Today's part.

19:41

<sup>41</sup> As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it.

As Jesus approached Jerusalem, he thought of the city and wept over it. It was not that he cried with the joy of arriving Jerusalem, a long-awaited city. On the contrary, the Lord was about to reach Jerusalem, but the city didn't know about it. She didn't know the Lord and was not prepared to receive him.

Zech 1:14

<sup>14</sup> ... This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion,

The Lord loves Jerusalem so much that He is jealous for her. Jesus had been heading toward Jerusalem all his life. As he approached Jerusalem step by step, his passion for her deepened. He continued his trip, looking forward to seeing her one day. But, when he reached her, the Lord found she took no notice of his coming. Her heart was occupied with other things, and she didn't care about the Lord at all. When the Lord saw that, he must have been very disappointed.

The Lord loves Jerusalem so much that He is jealous for her. He cannot leave Jerusalem like that. The Lord says he will send enemies against her and destroy her. That shows how strong and intense his love for Jerusalem is. And it is to recover Jerusalem and to restore her relationship with the Lord.

2 Chro 36:19-21

<sup>19</sup> Then they burned the house of God and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its fortified buildings with fire and destroyed all its valuable articles.

<sup>20</sup> Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they

were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia,<sup>21</sup> to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete. (NASB)

Here is written the destruction of Jerusalem, and also its purpose. It was done so that the land could enjoy its Sabbath rests.

The Lord destroyed Jerusalem using Babylonians. And He restored Jerusalem using king Cyrus of Persia. Indeed the city was rebuilt, but her heart was not with the Lord.

Jesus foretells here Jerusalem will be destroyed again. This history of Jerusalem is the shadow of the real Jerusalem that is to come in the future. That shows how strong and intense his love for Jerusalem is. The Lord cannot leave his relationship with her broken. No matter how many times she betrays him, he will not give her up. He will try to restore her, whatever the cost. He wants to recover her at any cost. The Lord loves Jerusalem so much that He is jealous for her.

## 2. The Lord's temple

### 45-46

<sup>45</sup> Then he entered the temple area and began driving out those who were selling. <sup>46</sup> "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be a house of prayer' ; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

First of all, we will look at about the temple. The original form of the temple is Tabernacle. After taking Israelites out of Egypt, God showed Moses about Tabernacle, and all the utensils, clothing for priests, and sacrifice. (Ex 25-31) And he said "See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." (Ex 25:9, 25:40, 26:30, 27:8)

What is God's purpose for the Tabernacle? What kind of place is the Tabernacle?

### Ex 29:42-43

<sup>42</sup> "For the generations to come this burnt offering is to be made regularly at the

entrance to the Tent of Meeting before the Lord. There I will meet you and speak to you; <sup>43</sup> there also I will meet with the Israelites, and the place will be consecrated by my glory.

It is the place for people to keep offering sacrifices to God. And it is the place for God to meet and speak to people. It is the place consecrated by God's glory.

When he entered the temple, Jesus said, "It is written, 'My house will be a house of prayer.'" It is written in Isaiah 56:7. The Lord's house is "the house of prayer." What kind of prayers are offered there?

#### Ps 118:26

<sup>26</sup> ... From the house of the Lord we bless you.

There will be prayer to bless people in the house of the Lord. It fits with the covenant for Abraham. God promised him that God will bless him and he will be a blessing for all nations. (Gen 12:1-3, 18:18, 22:18, 26:4, 28:14)

Let's look back what we have seen so far. In conclusion, the Tabernacle is the place where people keep offering sacrifices to God. The Lord's house is the house of prayer where prayers to bless people are offered.

And yet, when Jesus entered the temple, what was happening? People have made it 'a den of robbers.' Robbers don't 'offer' things, but they 'rob' people. They don't bless others, but they only work for their own gain. They don't listen to God and do what God tells him to do it. On the contrary, if possible they would even use God in order to accomplish their own business. The temple was occupied with people like that. It was turned into a place totally opposite to its original purpose. There was no way to call this place a place consecrated by God's glory.

Here we can see why Jesus wept when he saw Jerusalem. As he loves Jerusalem so much that He is jealous for her, he cannot overlook this situation. He chose to destroy her in order to restore her. We can feel the pain of the Lord when he wept.

Jesus called the temple "my house". For Jesus, temple is not other people's business, but his own business. He can't overlook it.

we studied earlier the history of Jerusalem is the shadow of the real Jerusalem that is to come in the future. The temple in Jerusalem is also the shadow of the true temple, the true house of God, the temple of the Holy Spirit.

### Heb 3:6

<sup>6</sup> But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

In this age of New Testament, we are the God's house. Each one of us is the stone which makes up the temple of God. (1 Peter 2:5) We are combined to one another in the Lord and make up the temple of the Holy Spirit. (Eph 2:21-22)

### Jam 4:5

<sup>5</sup> Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"? (NASB)

God jealously desires the Spirit which He has given to dwell in us. What about us? What kind of relationship do we have with the Holy Spirit as His temple?

We, church need the Holy Spirit. Church cannot be church without the Holy Spirit. The Spirit makes the church the church: the dwelling place of God, the body of Christ, and the family of God. The Spirit inspires the church in worship, leads the church to holiness, and equips the church for ministry.<sup>1</sup>

God jealously desires the Spirit which He has given to dwell in us. What kind of relationship do we have with the Holy Spirit? Are we not grieving God's Spirit? (Eph 4:30)

The Holy Spirit is powerful, but he is also a quiet gentleman. He lives in us and speaks to us quietly. The Holy Spirit leads us into all truth. (John 16:11) Are we longing to hear his voice and let him lead us? Do we spend quiet time with Him in order to hear from Him? Surely we pray, but often we are so busy talking about our desires and requests and rarely stay in his presence in order to hear from Him. As soon as we finish saying all we want to say, we stand up and leave.

Do we welcome the Holy Spirit's work within us? The Holy Spirit gives us

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<sup>1</sup> Ivan Satyavrata, *The Holy Spirit: Lord and life-giver*, Inter Varsity Press, 2009, pp.134-149

the power. He gives us gifts. But He is not just a power or a gift, but He is God of trinity. He is God, so we must receive Him as our Lord and welcome him to work within us.

Sometimes I think like this, "Dear Holy Spirit, please give me more power, then I can continue this work." This prayer is not totally wrong. But if I have this idea that I am the one who do it, and the Holy Spirit is there to give me strength, and he can withdraw after giving me strength, then this prayer of mine is foolish.

"Dear Holy Spirit, give me a gift, then I can work more effectively and bear more fruit and bless more people." This prayer is not totally wrong. But if I have this idea that the Holy Spirit is there to give me tools for God's work, and I am the one who do it, then this prayer of mine is foolish.

It is the gift of the Spirit. It is the gift of the Spirit Himself and the work of the Spirit Himself. We are only vessels. It is the fruit of the Spirit. It is the fruit that the Holy Spirit bears. We are just branches.

God jealously desires the Spirit which He has given to dwell in us. And not just that:

### 2 Chro 7:16

<sup>16</sup> I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

The Lord says, "My eyes and my heart will always be there." The Lord's attention is always there. A temple is a place like that. The Lord never forgets about it, His eyes are always on it.

That is, when we say we are God's house, the temple of the Holy Spirit, we are the ones God jealously loves in a double meaning. How can he leave it if the temple has a crack? How can he leave it if the temple leans to one side? How can he not care if we become ignorant of his voice? How can he overlook if we grieve the Spirit?

When Jesus visited Jerusalem, the temple appeared great, splendid and spectacular with many people visiting there. But actually it was turned into a den of robbers. It had lost its nature. The Lord cannot leave it as it is. He violently began to drive out those who were selling. It shows how intensely he loves the temple.

The temple in Jerusalem is the shadow of the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' attitude toward the temple in Jerusalem shows his desire for the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Lord can never leave the temple broken. No matter how many times he had to be betrayed, he will never give it up. He will try to restore it at any cost. He will try to rebuild it no matter how much he has to pay for it.

The Lord says, "My eyes and my heart will always be there." The Lord jealously desires us who are His house, the temple of the Holy Spirit.

### 3. The Lord's death

#### 47-48

<sup>47</sup> Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. <sup>48</sup> Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

The chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill Jesus. Did Jesus come to Jerusalem because he didn't know about it? Did he teach in the temple because he was not aware of their intention? If he teaches in the temple, of course the chief priests, the teachers of the law will see it. Did Jesus never imagine that they were trying to catch him to kill him?

When he started his journey toward Jerusalem, he called his disciples and said like this.

#### Luke 18:31-33

<sup>31</sup> Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. <sup>32</sup> He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. <sup>33</sup> On the third day he will rise again."

Jesus knew it very well. Yet, he was still going up to Jerusalem. Once, he also said, not to his disciples, but to the Pharisees;

#### Luke 13:33

<sup>33</sup> In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

Jesus was captured in Jerusalem, and killed there. But it was not that he was deceived by the cunning trick of the chief priests and captured and killed, giving up his will. No, he chose to die on the cross.

#### John 10:18

<sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

Why did Jesus choose to die on the cross? Why did Jesus keep heading toward Jerusalem to offer his life there?

#### Rev 21:9-10

<sup>9</sup> One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." <sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

In the vision, the angel said to John, "I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And what did the angel show him? That was the Holy City, Jerusalem.

The Holy City, Jerusalem symbolizes the Church, the bride of Christ. The Lord jealously loved Jerusalem. Why? Because she is his bride, his wife.

Jesus said, "I will build my church." (Matt 16:18) To build church; that is the passion of Jesus.

Without the cross, Church cannot know the love of Christ. Without the cross, Church cannot be connected to Christ as His bride. Without the cross, disciples cannot forgive and accept one another, love and be connected to one another, and become church. Without the cross, there is no church. That is why Jesus chose the cross. The cross of Jesus, that is the love for his bride.

#### Eph 5:25-27

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup> to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup> and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or

wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

The Lord's eyes and his heart will always be on the temple. The Lord's attention is always on us, because we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Lord never forgets us, His eyes are always on us. That is because we, church is His bride.

The Lord himself will remove any stain, wrinkle, distortion or crack that were in church by his bloodshed on the cross, and his loving and graceful words. He will not just cover our blemish with a patchwork, but he will make us totally new. He will make us a glorious, holy church without any blemish. In order to accomplish this, he chose the cross.

The cross of Jesus shows he truly loves us, church and his love for us never changes.

Would you like to receive his care in your life? Would you like him to remove any stain, wrinkle, distortion or crack in your life and also in your relationship?

In this new year, 2015, every one of us will experience him more than before and be transformed more like him. And through us, people will experience him and their lives will be changed. He is jealous for his church. "Experiencing the Life, changing lives" that's us, NLIF.