



Good News for All People Jerusalem Awakening

Jerusalem, the city of the Great King

Matthew 5:34-35 (NIV)

³⁴ But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or **by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.**

Psalm 48:1-2 (NIV)

¹ Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in **the city of our God, his holy mountain.** ² It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth. Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King.

Psalm 125:2 (NIV)

² As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore.

Zechariah 12:1-3 (NIV)

¹ This is the word of the LORD concerning Israel. The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares: ² "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem." ³ On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. **All who try to move it will injure themselves.**

I. Opportunities Lost

Luke 19:41-44 (NIV)

⁴¹ As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it ⁴² 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." ⁴³ 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. ⁴⁴ 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."

A. Asleep

1. Unaware ---reality suspended (rip van winkle)
2. Unconcerned
3. Uninvolved

B. Awakened

II. Jerusalem, chapter 2—an awakening

Acts 2:36-41 (NIV)

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

A. How? What was the catalyst?

John 14:12 (NIV)

¹² **I tell you the truth**, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. **He will do even greater things than these**, because I am going to the Father.

1. Person & work of the Holy Spirit

--- Ministry of the Church begins with the arrival of Holy Spirit

John 16:12-13 (NIV)

¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.

Jesus ministry begins with the descent of the Spirit

Luke 3:21-23 (NIV)

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." ²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli,

2. Miraculous

---there is no church without the miraculous

Acts 3:6-8 (NIV)

⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

Acts 5:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴ Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. ¹⁵ As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits, and all of them were healed.

3. Persecution re: Jesus

Acts 5:40-42 (NIV)

They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. ⁴² Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 8:1 (NIV)

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

B. Review

1. Begins in Jerusalem
2. Opportunities missed
3. Story of restoration
4. Person & work of the Holy Spirit
5. Miraculous
6. Persecution
7. New opportunities

Prayer

Psalm 122:1-9 (NIV)

¹ I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together.

⁴ That is where the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.

⁵ There the thrones for judgment stand, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

⁷ May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels."

⁸ For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."

⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.