



Lessons from Israel Attitudes that Bring Blessings

I. You Choose

A. Accusing Jesus

Mark 3:1-6 (NIV®)

¹ Another time he went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. ² **Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath.** ³ Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

⁴ Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent. ⁵ He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.

⁶ Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

- ❖ Prepared to receive
- ❖ Prepared to resist

B. Rebuke Your Disciples

Luke 19:37-44 (NIV®)

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, **the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:** ³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹ **Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"** ⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." 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."

C. Muttering About Jesus

Luke 19:5-8 (NIV®)

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. **All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'"** ⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

D. Self-Made Man

Mark 10:17-22 (NIV®)

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good t teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good--except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." ²¹ **Jesus looked at him and loved him.** "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." ²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

John 15:18-19 (NIV®)

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

Matthew 13:22 (NIV®)

²² The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful.

II. Great Outcomes

Luke 1:38 (NIV®)

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Acts 10:1-5 (NIV®)

¹ At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment.

² **He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.** ³ One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!" ⁴ Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. ⁵ Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

- ❖ He & family devout & God-fearing
- ❖ Gave generously
- ❖ Prayed regularly

Prayer

Heavenly Father give me an understanding heart that I may serve You. My desire is to be pleasing in Your sight. Deliver me from temptation. Guide my steps in paths of righteousness that I might dwell in Your presence. In Jesus' name, amen.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV®) are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.®. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.®. Use of either trademark requires the permission of Biblica, Inc.®.

Scripture quotations marked (NASB®) are taken from the New American Standard Bible ® (NASB), Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.
www.Lockman.org