

LUKE 21



In 5 minutes...

WHEN:

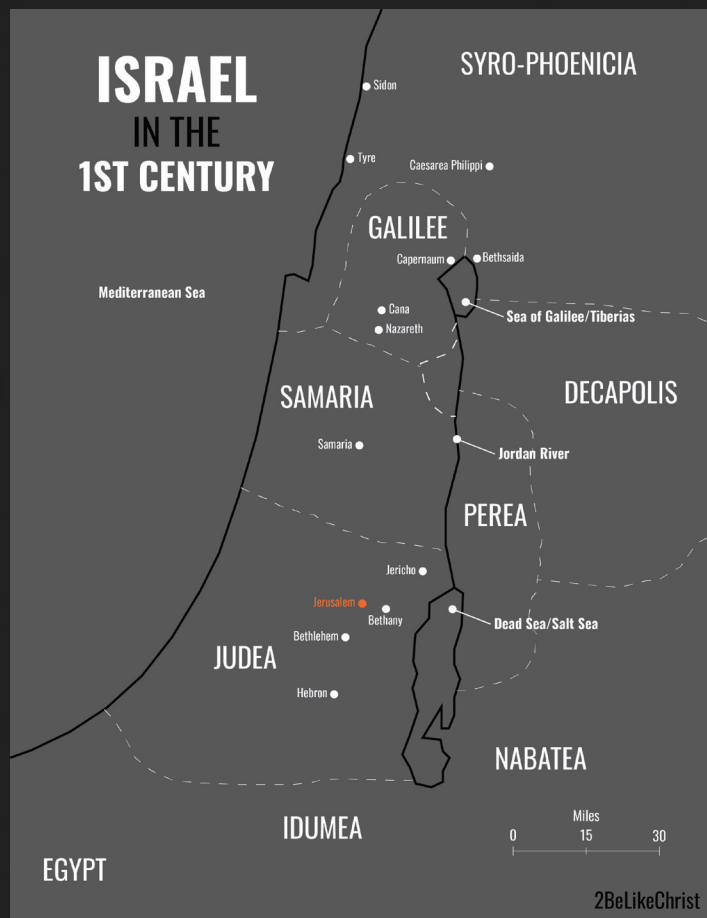
- The events of chapter 21 were part of Jesus' ministry on earth.
- These events took place approximately 30-33 A.D..

CHARACTERS:

- **Jesus** - The Messiah and Son of God.
- **12 Apostles** - Jesus' students and closest companions on earth.
- **Widow with 2 Coins** - A poor widow who Jesus observed near the Temple treasury.

WHERE:

- These events occurred in Jerusalem during the last week of Jesus' life.



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OVERVIEW:

- THE WIDOW WITH TWO COPPER COINS (21:1-4):
 - + Jesus was sitting by the Temple treasury and observed a poor widow offering two copper coins.
 - + He told His disciples she had given more than all of those who offered out of their riches and abundance.
- JESUS FORETELLS JERUSALEM'S DESTRUCTION (21:5-33):
 - + The Apostles were walking through the Temple and admiring its construction.
 - + Jesus told them a day was coming when the whole complex would be destroyed.
 - + The Apostles proceeded to ask Him, "when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?"
 - + Jesus told them wars, false messiahs, natural disasters, and persecutions would come before Jerusalem fell.
 - + In their persecutions, the Apostles were to bear witness of the good news of Jesus' life on earth.
 - + Eventually, Jerusalem would be surrounded by Gentile armies and destroyed.
 - + The disciples were to flee to the mountains for safety.
 - + Great distress would come upon the city, everything would be destroyed, and many would die.
 - + They would "see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."
 - + Just as the leaves on the fig trees indicated summer was around the corner, the signs described by Jesus would indicate Jerusalem's destruction was imminent.
 - + Jesus prophesied Jerusalem would be destroyed within the lifetime of His current generation.
- A WARNING TO BE WATCHFUL (21:34-38):
 - + Jesus told His disciples to be on the lookout for the signs of the cities demise.
 - + They would not want to be caught off guard when the opportunity to escape to safety presented itself.

BIG PICTURE:

- God was extremely patient with the Jews in the Old Testament, and even as they rejected Jesus during His life.
- The destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. was the tipping point.
- God's wrath was poured out on the city and its inhabitants as a result of hundreds of years of unfaithfulness.

TAKEAWAYS:

- Every time Jesus predicted the future His predictions were accurate.
- His prophecies weren't vague generalizations about the future, they were specific, detailed, and verifiable.
- God is very patient, but there is a limit to His mercy.
- If you are like me, it isn't hard to look back at your life and realize how patient God has been with you.
- God gives us abundant opportunities to seek Him out and to find salvation through His Son.
- But one day time will run out.
- When we die or when Jesus comes back, the time for repentance will be past and God will judge the world.
- Take advantage of God's patients while it is still available.