

**Daily Bread with Brother Hwa-Chi (Not reviewed by the speaker, for personal use only)**

**Luke 19:39-48**

Brothers and sisters, peace be with you, this is Hwa-Chi. Thank the Lord, it's time to read the bible again. We continue to read Luke chapter 19. Today we read verses 39 to 48.

Yesterday we read about Jesus coming to the last week of His earthly ministry. It should have been on the Sabbath Day. He entered Jerusalem as a King, riding on a colt. At that time, His disciples loudly praised Him, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

**Verse 39: "And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, 'Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.'"**

That is to say, these Pharisees wanted Jesus to tell His disciples to be silent. In Jesus' previous ministry, several times the crowds wanted to make Him king. Whenever such a situation occurred, Jesus would quietly withdraw because His time had not yet come. But this time, He knew the time had come. Therefore, His response was completely different from before.

**Verse 40: "But He answered and said to them, 'I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.'"**

Of course, Jesus spoke these words to the Pharisees at that time, but actually today they are also spoken to every child of God who has received grace and belongs to Him. Because the work of redemption has already been completed, every person who has received salvation, if they truly recognize how great the grace we have received is, we cannot keep silent.

How pleased our Lord is when every Lord's Day His children return to His house, gather around His table, and loudly praise and rejoice together. What a beautiful sight this is. At such times we should say to those silent saints: If you continue to keep silent, God will raise up stones to offer praise. Christians ought to be a group of thankful people. When you have received great grace, you cannot help but speak; praise naturally rises from your heart.

In the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry: On the first day, He entered Jerusalem as a King, riding on a colt, and was loudly praised by His disciples. In Mark 11:11, right after the disciples' praise, it says Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, looking around at all things. Afterward, because it was already late, He and the twelve disciples returned to Bethany.

On the first day, He entered the city as a King. Because that day was the Sabbath, He only entered the temple, looked around at all things, spoke nothing, and did nothing. In the evening He returned to Bethany, which should have been the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, and spent the night there. In Luke chapter 19 verse 41, when Jesus was near Jerusalem, it should refer to the second day, in the last week of His earthly ministry. On the first day, the Sabbath, He entered the temple as a King; on the second day, He entered the temple as a Priest.

**Verse 41: "Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,"**

A priest brings God to people and brings people to God. When He came to Jerusalem as a Priest and came to the temple and saw the corruption of the entire priestly system at that time, He wept over the whole city. The word "wept" here is a very strong expression, indicating deep sorrow in the heart and loud crying.

**Verses 42-44: "saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment**

**around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”**

Jesus knew that the city of Jerusalem was about to suffer calamity, yet the people in the city did not repent. He also knew that one day His enemies would come to destroy this city; therefore He wept over the city of Jerusalem. Although at that time the city of Jerusalem and the temple had been rebuilt magnificently and looked very prosperous on the outside, God does not look at the outward appearance; God looks at the heart. He knew that one day not one stone would be left upon another, because it did not know the time of its visitation.

Jesus is the Messiah. The Messiah came to His own capital, Jerusalem, yet His people did not recognize Him; therefore it would be destroyed. This is a reminder to every child of God. In our lives, sometimes we deviate from God's will, and God comes to us with His word. If we recognize God's grace and recognize God's coming, we should repent immediately. If we harden our hearts and do not recognize the time of His visitation, God will come to tear down the work we have done with our own hands. Just as when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem at that time, on the outside it looked very prosperous and everyone was very busy doing all kinds of business, yet they did not know that the Messiah had already come.

**Verse 45: “Then He went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it.”**

On the first day, Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem as a King on the Sabbath and entered the temple. Because it was the Sabbath, there was no buying and selling of any kind. On the second day, He entered Jerusalem again as a Priest and came to the temple again. As a result, the temple was filled with people buying and selling; this is also why Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem. The temple was originally a place where people should worship God, but now it had become a place where people did business. Therefore, Jesus came as a Priest to cleanse the temple.

**Verse 46: “saying to them, ‘It is written, “My house is a house of prayer,” but you have made it a “den of thieves.”””**

In the same way, today the church is a place where God’s children gather to worship God. We must maintain the purity of the church. The saints gather together to worship God, to pray to God, and to listen to God’s word, not to socialize or do business. From another perspective, every one of us who has received grace and been saved—our heart is also God’s temple. Is our heart often filled with all kinds of buying and selling? Jesus also comes to our heart to do the work of cleansing. Let Him be able to dwell in our heart, so that our heart may become a place full of praise and full of thanksgiving.

In the last week of Jesus’ earthly ministry: On the first day, the Sabbath, He entered the city as a King, riding on a colt; on the second day, He cleansed the temple as a Priest; from the third day onward, every day He came to the temple as a Prophet to teach the people.

**Verse 47: “And He was teaching daily in the temple. But the chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people sought to destroy Him,”**

To that rebellious generation at that time, Jesus issued the final warning, speaking to the people as a Prophet. Jesus combined the three offices of King, Priest, and Prophet in one person; and in the last week of His ministry, He still fulfilled the office of King, the office of Priest, and the office of Prophet.

In a rebellious age, they could not tolerate the word of God. When Jesus taught the people as a Prophet, it instead caused the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders among the Jewish people at that time to want to kill Jesus.

**Verse 48: “but they could not find what they might do to Him, for all the people were very attentive to hear Him.”**

Jesus knew that His time had come and that He was about to go to the way of the cross; therefore He no longer hid Himself. His words became very clear. Especially toward the ruling class at that time—the chief priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees—He also directly pointed out what was wrong with them. It was so then, and it is still the same today.

For every one of us who has received grace and been saved, Jesus is our King, reigning in our heart; He is our Priest, cleansing everything in our heart that does not please Him; He is also our Prophet, revealing God's will to us. Let every child belonging to Him, in daily life, through His grace, live out a life that is according to His heart.

Let us pray together: Lord, we thank You. You have already given us the grace of salvation, allowing us to know You and become Your children. We ask You to continue the work of restoration in our hearts and to speak to us personally every day. Help us to remove everything in our hearts that does not please You; let our daily life be under Your control, so that we may become more and more holy and more and more like citizens of the kingdom of God. Bless my life. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ.