

Week 31 March 1, 2026: Luke 13:1-35 Warnings by Jesus (Communion)

Luke 13:1-5 Repent or Perish, Jesus mentioned two disasters

Luk 13:1 There (were some who) were present, at that season (on that occasion), some who told Him(Jesus) about the Galileans, whose blood, Pilate (their governor had shed, and) had mingled with their sacrifices (Temple sacrifices).

These evidently were Jews who had come to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices at the temple. They probably were identified as rebels and were executed outside the temple complex after they had offered their sacrifices.

Luk 13:2 And Jesus answered, and said to them, "Do you suppose (or think) that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things (this way)? No

Luk 13:3 "I tell you, no; but unless you repent (of your sins and turn to God and live a changed life by faith), you will all likewise perish (also).

Luk 13:4 "Or those eighteen, on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners (and therefore more guilty), than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? No

The Tower of Siloam that fall was in Jerusalem, near the Pool of Siloam in the City of David area, just south of the Old City walls. It sits at the end of Hezekiah's Tunnel, which carried water from the Gihon Spring into the city (2 Kings 20:20). No further details regarding this tragedy are recorded.

Many visitors to Jerusalem come visit this pool to see steps made out of stone from the Second Temple period (time of Jesus). Excavated sections of the ancient pool are often going on. Some may take a walking tour through Hezekiah's Tunnel, water can be 2' -4' high in the tunnel.

The pool of Siloam is also mentioned in John 9, where Jesus healed the man born blind. Jesus spit on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, then Jesus told the man to wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam came back seeing.

Luk 13:5 "I tell you, no; but unless you repent (turn from your sinful ways and turn to God by faith and trust Him) you will all likewise perish."

Repent means to turn from your sinful ways and turn to God and live a changed live by faith

Horrible Tragedies that happen are not proof someone was a worse sinner than others. A common belief which is false.

Everyone needs repentance, death can come suddenly often without notice, be spiritually ready.

Application: Don't be so worried about what is happening with other people and not what is happening within your own life and heart. Those who lived Jerusalem who had not repented and turned to Jesus perished in the future destruction of Jerusalem

Luke 13:6-9 The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

Luk 13:6 He(Jesus) also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.

Luk 13:7 "Then he(owner) said to the keeper of his vineyard (vinedresser), 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none (no fruit). Cut it down; why does it use up the ground (waste or deplete the soil from its nutrients)?'

Luk 13:8 "But he (keeper of his vineyard) answered and said to him(owner), 'Sir, let it alone this year also (give it one more year, one more chance), until I dig around (loosening soil to help) it and fertilize it.

Luk 13:9 'And if it(fig tree) bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.' "

Jhn 15:1 (Jesus said)"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

Jhn 15:2 "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

What fruit is God looking for? Gal 5:22-23: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Luke 13:10-17 A Spirit of Infirmity

Luk 13:10 Now He(Jesus) was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

Luk 13:11 And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity (**disabling illness caused by a demon spirit. Lit: a spirit of sickness**) eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up.

Jesus was casting out a demon, and after the demon left the mute spoke

Luk 11:14 And He(Jesus) was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled.

Luk 13:12 But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "**Woman, you are loosed (freed, released) from your infirmity (disability, sickness).**"

Luk 13:13 And He(**Jesus**) laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight (**stood erect**), and glorified (**praised**) God.

Act 9:17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him(Saul) he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Act 9:18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.

An Example of Jesus many miracles

Mat 8:2 And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."

Mat 8:3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Luk 13:14 But the ruler of the synagogue (**synagogue official, pastor**) answered with indignation (**angry**), because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he(**ruler**) said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day."

Jesus constantly healed on the Sabbath. Showing the religious leaders He was not violating any OT commandment, nowhere in scriptures is it a violation to heal on the Sabbath, it was only later Jewish traditions and customs added foolish manmade rules.

Luk 13:15 The Lord then answered him(**ruler**) and said, "**Hypocrite (Jesus did not respond with gentleness but called them liars, leading people astray from God, pretenders of self-righteousness)! Does not each one of you (meaning all of you, work) on the Sabbath (set) loose (untie) his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it?**"

Jesus asked the question is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath

Luk 14:3 And Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"

Luk 14:4 But they kept silent. And He took him and healed him, and let him go.

Luk 14:5 Then He(**Jesus**) answered them, saying, "Which of you, having a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?"

Luk 14:6 And they could not answer Him(**Jesus**) regarding these things.

Mat 12:11 Then He(**Jesus**) said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out?"

Mat 12:12 "Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."

Mar 2:27 And He(**Jesus**) said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."

Mar 2:28 "Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

Luk 6:42 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the plank that is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Luk 13:16 "So ought not this woman, being a daughter (descendant) of Abraham, whom Satan has bound--think of it--for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond (bondage, infirmity) on the Sabbath?"

Not all Jews are saved only those who believe by faith like Abraham

Abraham faith was accounted to him for righteousness

Rom 4:9 Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness.

Rom 4:10 How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised.

Rom 4:11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,

Rom 4:12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who (all those who) also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.

Luk 13:17 And when He(Jesus) said these things, all His adversaries (all those living a hypocritical self-righteous life) were put to shame (sharing the truth will humiliate proud people who are lying); and all the multitude (entire crowd) rejoiced for all the glorious (wonderful) things that were done (and said) by Him(Jesus).

Mar 5:18 And when He(Jesus) got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him(Jesus) that he might be with Him.

Mar 5:19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He (the Lord) has had compassion on you (healed you from the demons)."

Mar 5:20 And he (formerly demon possessed man) departed and began to proclaim (his testimony) in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

Luke 13:18-19 The Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matt. 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32) Warning of evil workers in the kingdom

Luk 13:18 Then He(Jesus) said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it?

Luk 13:19 "It is like a mustard seed (bush), which a man took and put in his garden; and it grew and became a large tree (abnormal or miraculous), and the birds of the air (sky) nested (found shelter) in its branches."

In ancient Israel the mustard seed was the smallest known seed, and in rabbinic teaching the mustard seed was used as an example of something very small.

Quote from David Guzik

- a. **What is the kingdom of God like?** The traditional and often more familiar explanation of this parable is that it describes the growth and spreading influence of the church. Yet in light of both the parable itself and the context of the parables both before and after, this should be regarded as another description of *corruption* in the kingdom community.
- b. **It grew and became a large tree:** Many or even most regard this as a beautiful picture of the church growing so large that it provides refuge for all of the world. But this **mustard seed** plant grew unnaturally large, and it harbored **birds** — which, in some previous parables, were emissaries of Satan ([Matthew 13:4](#), [13:19](#)).
- i. **Became a large tree:** The mustard plant customarily never grows beyond what one would call a bush, and at its normal size be an unlikely place for bird's nests. The **large tree**-like growth from this **mustard seed** describes something unnatural.
- ii. Additionally, trees are sometimes used in the Bible to describe human governments, and evil governments at that. In fact, this tree reminds us of the one Nebuchadnezzar saw in his vision ([Daniel 4:10-16](#)).
- iii. "Close study of birds as symbols in the Old Testament and especially in the literature of later Judaism shows that birds regularly symbolize evil and even demons or Satan (cf. [Sanhedrin](#), 107a; cf. [Revelation 18:2](#))." (Carson)
- iv. This parable accurately describes what the kingdom community became in the decades and centuries after the Christianization of the Roman Empire. In those centuries the church grew abnormally large in influence and dominion, and was a nest for much corruption. "Birds lodging in the branches most probably refers to elements of corruption which take refuge in the very shadow of Christianity." (Morgan)

Luke 13:20-21 The Parable of the Leaven (Matt. 13:33)

Luk 13:20 And again He(Jesus) said, "To what shall I liken (or compare) the kingdom of God?"

Luk 13:21 "It is like leaven (yeast), which a woman took and hid (mixed) in three measures of meal (unusually large amount of meal or flour), until it was all leavened (it permeated every part of the dough)"

Quote from Guzki on BLB website

a. **It is like leaven**: Jesus used a surprising picture here. Many, if not most, regard this as a beautiful picture of the kingdom of God working its way through the whole world. Yet **leaven** is consistently used as a picture of sin and corruption (especially in the Passover narrative of [Exodus 12:8](#), [12:15-20](#)). Both the content and the context point towards this being a description of corruption in the kingdom community.

Luke 13:22-33 The Narrow Way (Matt. 7:13-14)

Luk 13:22 And He(**Jesus**) went (**walked**) through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

Luk 13:23 Then one said to Him(**Jesus**), "Lord, are there few who are saved (**from the penalties of sin and the last judgment**)?" And He(**Jesus**) said to them,

Luk 13:24 "**Strive (make every effort) to enter through the narrow gate (force aside any false belief systems, any unbelief and any attractions to sin for there is only one way John 14:6), for many, I say to you, will seek (try) to enter (by their own works and ways) and will not be able.**

The Narrow Way

Mat 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

Mat 7:14 "Because (how) narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Jhn 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Luk 13:25 "**When once the Master (Head) of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door (again and again), saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from (you do not have a relationship with Me),'**

For many will seek to enter and will not be able, illustrated by being on the outside knocking trying to get in. Someday, the opportunity to trust in Christ will be taken away or closed.

Jesus Said You Will Know Them by Their Fruits

Mat 7:16 "You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? No

Mat 7:19 "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Mat 7:20 "Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Luk 13:26 "then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' (Psalm 118:26)

Listening to Jesus and fellowship with his people are not by themselves a guarantee of eternal life. It is not just head knowledge that saves you. Jesus said you must be born again Jn 3:3. Eternal life comes only through personal faith in Christ, Jesus.

Mar 1:15 Jesus saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Rom 10:9 (What does scripture say) that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Rom 10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Luk 13:27 "But He(Jesus) will say, 'I tell you, I do not know you, where you are from (we don't have a relationship). Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity (evil workers of unrighteousness).!'

Luk 13:28 "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth (sorrow, pain, grinding of teeth), when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God (representing all those Israelites who believe, Heb 11), and yourselves thrust out (being cast out and separated from God because of your unbelief).

Luk 13:29 "They (believers) will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down (recline at the banquet table) in the kingdom of God.

Luk 24:47 "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Act 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Luk 13:30 "And indeed there are (some) last who will be first, and there are (some) first who will be last."

Luk 13:31 On that very day (that very hour) some Pharisees came, saying to Him(Jesus), "Get out (leave) and depart from here, for Herod (Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee and Perea) wants to kill You."

Luk 13:32 And He(Jesus) said to them, "Go, tell that fox (metaphor for deceitful and cunning), 'Behold (Listen carefully), I cast out demons and perform cures (heal many people) today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected (complete my work, accomplish my purpose).'

Luk 13:33 "Nevertheless I must journey today, tomorrow, and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet should perish outside of Jerusalem (nothing will stop Gods plan, Jesus appears to be using an irony, Jerusalem was the most dangerous place for a true prophet of God).

Luke 13:34-35 Jesus Laments over Jerusalem (Matt. 23:37–39) (Luke 19:41)

Luk 13:34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those (messengers) who are sent to her (by God)! How often I wanted to gather your children together (to Me), as a hen gathers her brood (young ones) under her wings (to care for them), but you were not willing!

Luk 12:56 "Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern this time?

Luk 13:35 "See (Behold, Listen carefully)! Your house is left to you desolate (forsaken, abandoned by God and destitute); and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He, who comes in the name of the LORD!' "(Quote from Psa 118:26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.)

Parallel passage from Matthew's Gospel

Mat 23:25 (Jesus said) "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

Mat 23:28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Mat 23:31 "Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

Mat 23:33 "Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?

Mat 23:34 "Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city,

Mat 23:35 "that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

Mat 23:36 "Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

End