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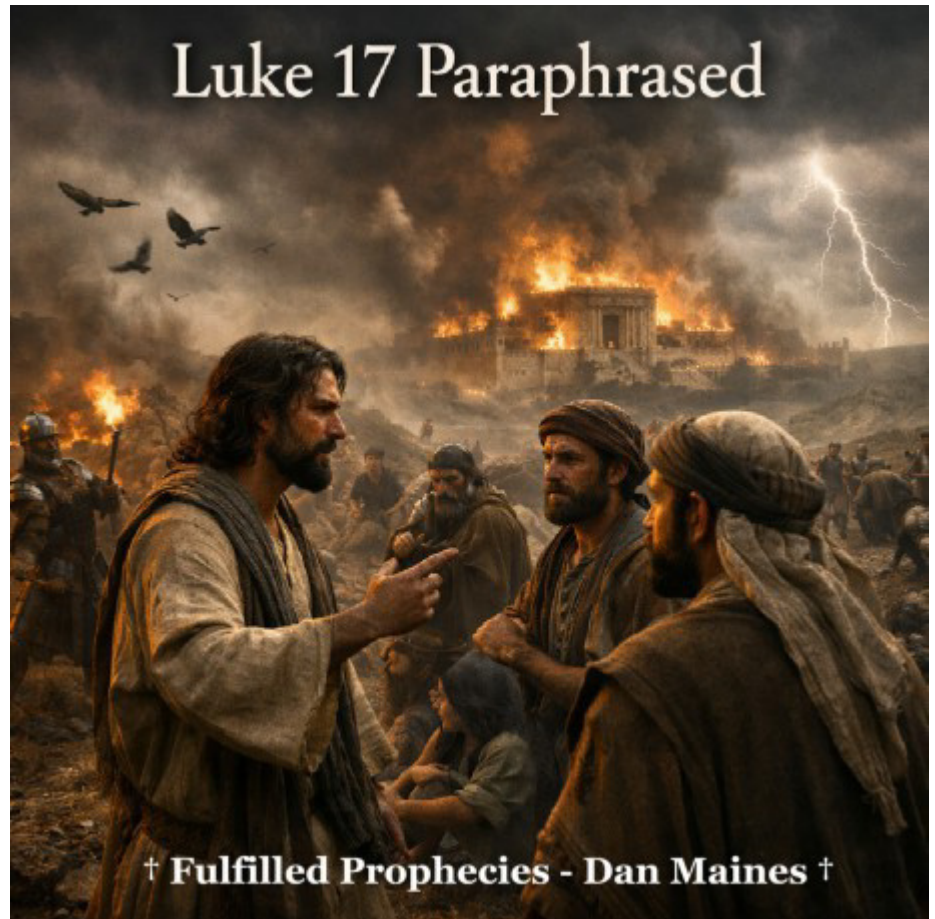
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Luke 17 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

Luke 17 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Jesus continues addressing His disciples, warning about stumbling others, emphasizing forgiveness, and revealing the nature of faith and the coming judgment in their generation

† The focus stays on accountability, humility, and recognizing the timing of the kingdom that was about to be revealed in judgment and fulfillment

† This chapter ties directly into the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the separation between the faithful and the

unfaithful

Luke 17:1

It is impossible for stumbling blocks not to come, but judgment is coming to the one through whom they come

† Offenses were inevitable in Israel, but responsibility still fell on those causing them (Matthew 18:7)

† This points to corrupt leaders leading people astray before judgment came in that generation (Matthew 23:13)

Luke 17:2

It would be better for him if a heavy stone were tied around his neck and he were thrown into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to stumble

† Severe warning against misleading believers, especially the weak (James 3:1)

† This reflects the coming destruction on false teachers in Jerusalem (Luke 20:46-47)

Luke 17:3

Be on guard, if your brother sins, correct him, and if he repents, forgive him

† Personal accountability and restoration were required among believers (Galatians 6:1)

† Forgiveness reflects God's covenant mercy toward His people

Luke 17:4

Even if he sins against you seven times in a day and returns saying I repent, you must forgive him

† Forgiveness is continuous, showing covenant grace (Matthew 18:21-22)

† This contrasts with the unforgiving leadership of Israel

Luke 17:5

The apostles said to the Lord, increase our faith

† They recognized their weakness in living out such demands

† Faith is essential to endure what was coming (Hebrews 10:37-39)

Luke 17:6

If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this tree be uprooted and planted in the sea, and it would obey you

† True faith isn't about size but trust in God (Matthew 17:20)

† This speaks of the power to overcome the coming trials

Luke 17:7

Which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he comes in, come sit down to eat

† Servants were expected to fulfill duty without special honor

† This illustrates humility before God

Luke 17:8

Will he not say prepare something for me to eat, dress yourself, and serve me until I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you may eat and drink

† The servant's role was obedience first

† Believers were to serve faithfully without entitlement

Luke 17:9

He does not thank the servant because he did what was commanded, does he

† Obedience is expected, not rewarded as extra

† This rebukes pride and self-righteousness

Luke 17:10

So you too, when you do all the things commanded, say we are unworthy servants, we have done only what we ought to have done

† True humility recognizes duty, not merit (Romans 3:27)

† This corrects the mindset of earning righteousness

Luke 17:11

While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing

between Samaria and Galilee

† Movement toward Jerusalem shows the approaching climax

† The focus is on the path to fulfillment

Luke 17:12

As He entered a village, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance

† Lepers were outcasts under the Law (Leviticus 13:45-46)

† This shows the broken condition of Israel

Luke 17:13

They raised their voices saying Jesus, Master, have mercy on us

† Recognition of Christ as authority

† Cry for mercy reflects spiritual need

Luke 17:14

When He saw them, He said go and show yourselves to the priests, and as they went they were cleansed

† Obedience preceded healing (Leviticus 14:2)

† This shows faith in action

Luke 17:15

One of them, when he saw he was healed, turned back glorifying God with a loud voice

† Only one returned, showing true gratitude

† This reflects the remnant within Israel

Luke 17:16

He fell on his face at His feet giving thanks, and he was a Samaritan

† A foreigner showed faith while many Israelites did not

† This shows inclusion beyond ethnic Israel

Luke 17:17

Jesus answered were there not ten cleansed, but where are the nine

† Most failed to respond rightly

† This reflects Israel's general rejection

Luke 17:18

Was no one found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner

† Faith was found outside expected boundaries

† This points to the inclusion of the nations

Luke 17:19

He said to him stand up and go, your faith has made you well

† Faith brought restoration beyond physical healing

† This shows spiritual salvation

Luke 17:20

Now having been questioned by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered the kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed

† The kingdom wasn't visible in outward spectacle

† It was already present in their midst

Luke 17:21

Nor will they say look here or there, for behold the kingdom of God is in your midst

† Christ Himself was the kingdom presence

† Fulfillment was already unfolding

Luke 17:22

He said to the disciples the days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it

† Refers to coming trials before judgment

† They would face hardship before fulfillment

Luke 17:23

They will say to you look there, look here, do not go away and do not run after them

† Warning against deception

† False claims would arise before AD 70 (Matthew 24:23)

Luke 17:24

For just like lightning flashing from one part of the sky to the other, so will the Son of Man be in His day

† The coming would be visible in judgment, not hidden

† Refers to the destruction of Jerusalem (Matthew 24:27)

Luke 17:25

But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation

† Direct statement of timing

† That generation would reject Him (Matthew 23:36)

Luke 17:26

Just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man

† Judgment pattern comparison

† Sudden destruction upon the unaware

Luke 17:27

They were eating, drinking, marrying, until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all

† Life appeared normal before judgment

† Same pattern before AD 70

Luke 17:28

It was the same as happened in the days of Lot, they were eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building

† Everyday life continued unaware

† Judgment came unexpectedly

Luke 17:29

But on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone and destroyed them all

† Escape of the righteous before destruction

† This parallels the flight from Jerusalem (Luke 21:20-21)

Luke 17:30

It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed

† The revealing is in judgment

† This happened in that generation

Luke 17:31

On that day the one on the housetop with goods inside must not go down to take them, and likewise the one in the field must not turn back

† Urgency to flee (Matthew 24:17-18)

† Historical fulfillment in AD 70

Luke 17:32

Remember Lot's wife

† Warning against hesitation

† Looking back leads to destruction

Luke 17:33

Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it

† Letting go of earthly attachment saves life

† Faith required trust in God's warning

Luke 17:34

I tell you on that night there will be two in one bed, one will be taken and the other will be left

† Separation during judgment

† Not rapture, but removal in judgment

Luke 17:35

Two women will be grinding at the same place, one will be taken and the other will be left

† Same theme of separation

† Judgment divides people

Luke 17:36

Two men will be in the field, one will be taken and the other will be left

† Consistent message of division

† Fulfilled in the destruction of Jerusalem

Luke 17:37

And answering they said to Him where Lord, and He said to them where the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered

† Symbol of death and destruction

† Refers to the Roman armies surrounding Jerusalem (Matthew 24:28)

Historical References

† Josephus describes the siege of Jerusalem and the sudden destruction in Wars of the Jews Book 5-6

† Eusebius records the Christians fleeing to Pella before the destruction in Ecclesiastical History 3.5

† Tacitus confirms the Roman devastation of Jerusalem in Histories 5.13

How It Applies To Us Today

† We are called to forgive continually just as God forgave us

† We must walk in humility, knowing we are servants, not masters

† We must stay alert to truth and not follow deception

† We live in the fulfilled kingdom, recognizing Christ's authority now

† We trust God's faithfulness and remain obedient in all things

Q & A Appendix

Q: What does the stumbling block warning mean

A: It warns against leading others into sin, bringing judgment on those who do so (Matthew 18:6-7)

Q: What does the mustard seed faith represent

A: True faith, even small, can accomplish God's will (Matthew

17:20)

Q: When was the Son of Man revealed

A: In judgment upon Jerusalem in that generation (Matthew 24:30, 34)

Q: What does one taken and one left mean

A: Separation in judgment, not a future rapture (Matthew 24:39-41)

Q: What do the vultures represent

A: The Roman armies bringing destruction on Jerusalem (Matthew 24:28)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Luke 17

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Tacitus, Histories

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