**Luke 21:5-38**

**Forewarned to be Forearmed for Faithfulness**

1. **Jesus’ Sketched Timeline**

Signs End is near

Delay

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**7**

**5**

**6**

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1. **Persecution/betrayal and enabled irrefutable testimony**
2. **Destruction of Temple and Jerusalem**
3. **Gentile prominence**
4. **Temptation to be complacent during delay**
5. **Wars and revolutions**
6. **Natural and heavenly calamity**
7. **Jesus’ sudden redemptive return in the clouds**
8. **Jesus’ Warning of Four Discipleship Dangers**

According to Jesus, his disciples would encounter the dangers of fear, deception, worry and complacency, each one a threat to their faithfulness to him.

*Although we are already well into the timeline Jesus sketched, we face these same dangers that threaten our faithfulness to Jesus.*

1. **Jesus’ Absolute Word**
2. **Path to Expect**

Jesus’ absolute Word that forewarns about the necessary painful things they will encounter as his disciples forearms them to remain faithful through those very things.

*Knowing that the dangerous path ahead is an absolutely necessary part of our caring God’s plan of salvation gives disciples confidence that God remains in control, confidence that inspires continued faithfulness.*

1. **Pain to Avoid**

Jesus’ Word warned disciples to avoid Jerusalem’s painful judgment; Rome’s annihilating reprisal for an insurrection led by deceptive messianic figures who falsely claimed God’s support in throwing off Roman rule.

*Avoid unnecessary pain as disciples by not getting on the bandwagon of movements led by those who falsely claim they are fulfilling God’s will.*

1. **Promises to Embrace**

Jesus’ absolute Word gives promise of preserved life (protection, deliverance, life after death) to overcome fear, and promised enabling to give irrefutable testimony to overcome worry.

*Embracing the Lord’s absolute promises helps keep disciples faithful through the times of fear and worry that they will encounter on their own personal timeline that precedes their final redemption*.

1. **Prayer to Engage**

Jesus’ absolute Word expresses the necessity of watching out for and encountering the expected dangers to come with prayer for whatever is necessary to remain faithful until Jesus’ redemptive return.

*Watching out for expected dangers to faithfulness and responding to them with prayer requesting Gods’ grace and strength is indispensable in remaining faithful to Jesus throughout life.*

**Summary: Disciples who heed Jesus’ absolute Word gain the confidence, knowledge, promises, and prayer’s released power to overcome fear, deception, worry, and complacency to remain faithful till Jesus sudden redemptive return.**

**Questions**

1. God’s absolute Word identifies as false what others claim to be God’s will. What modern day bandwagons falsely presented as God ordained, that if jumped on, could be detrimental to faithful discipleship?
2. What are some additional biblical promises we can stand on to help us remain faithful to Jesus when fear and worry raise their ugly heads?
3. How can we specifically intercede for one another so that we will not become victims of complacency, or deception, or fear, or worry?

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1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **Destruction of Temple and Jerusalem**
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
6. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
7. **Jesus’ sudden redemptive return \_\_\_\_**
8. **Jesus’ Warning of Four Discipleship Dangers**

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