Episode 65

"Then all the people would come early in the morning to hear Jesus in the temple."
– Luke 21:38

In my early twenties, someone suggested that I follow a daily Bible reading program that would help me read through the Bible in a year. These days, with the YouVersion bible app, keeping track of the chapters for the day has become far easier, but even still, it takes me way longer than a year to read through the Bible each time.

I mention this because the most remarkable thing about reading through the Bible is how timely each chapter seems to be. Even though I am reading through February's chapters in July, it is as if that chapter had to be read on that day to answer the pressing questions I have, or bring comfort right in the middle of that specific moment or speak peace in the midst of the chaos around me at that very time.

When I look at today's chapter, for example, it's filled with the destruction of the temple and the picture of not one stone being left on top of another. Then Jesus says that when we hear of uprisings, unrest and rebellion, we are not to be alarmed but to know that this will be an opportunity to bear witness. He also points out that nation will one day rise against nation, there will be turmoil and terror, factions and fighting, and in the midst of it, he calls us to be alert and constant in prayer.

Now, if you had read this a few weeks ago, I am not sure what you would have wrapped this chapter around? Probably some small incursion within your department? Instead, reading it today, with all that's going on in the country, God's word steps in to bring people to Himself and bring about transformation even in the midst of what some are calling 'our darkest hour'.

Jesus closes this chapter with the call to be on your guard so that your mind is not dulled from carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of life, or days like today will come on you unexpectedly like a trap. Rather, you are encouraged to be alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to endure in the midst of all these things that are going to take place.

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