

**A Historical Study On The Book Of Luke**  
**Teaching #24: Jerusalem's Redemption: Part One**  
**Luke 2:38**

In the next several teachings, we will be examining the redemption of Jerusalem, Daniel 2, the Four Kingdoms of the Statue, and the Fifth Kingdom that crushes the feet of the Statue. Additionally, we will begin examining the stone cut out of the mountain that becomes a mountain that fills the whole earth. This study will continue through several parts. This is PART ONE.

**Luke 2:38**

[Anna] *Coming up to them* [Mary and Joseph at the temple in Jerusalem] *at that very moment* [when Simeon was speaking to Mary], *she* [Anna] *gave thanks to God and spoke about the child* [Jesus] *to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.*

In addition, to Anna, the redemption of Jerusalem is mentioned two other times in Luke.

**First Mention – By Jesus**

**Luke 21:28**

[Jesus said,] *“When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”*

**Second Mention – By The Two Men On The Road To Emmaus**

**Luke 24:21**

*“...we [the two men on the road to Emmaus] had hoped that he [Jesus] was the one who was going to redeem Israel.”*

**What did Anna, Jesus, and the two men on the road to Emmaus mean by the redemption of Jerusalem/Israel?**

Let's begin with defining the word redemption.

Redemption means to be:

- RESCUED from bondage
- DELIVERED from bondage
- FREED from bondage

**What was the people of Israel in bondage to?**

**Bondage #1:** The people of Israel were in bondage to the law – they CHOSE to disobey the law.

Jeremiah the prophet spoke about the people breaking the law.

**Jeremiah 31:31-32 (585 BC)**

*“The days are coming [the days of Jesus, specifically the death of Jesus],” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant [a new way of relating to God...a new testament...a testament of grace established in the blood of Jesus...see Matthew 26:28; Luke 22:20; Hebrews 2:9; 8:6; 12:24] with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant [of law] I made with their ancestors [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy] when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt], because **THEY BROKE THE COVENANT.**”*

-The Jewish Scriptures record the Jewish **PEOPLE** breaking the covenant (testament) of law.

-The Jewish Scriptures record the Jewish **PROPHETS** speaking to the Jewish people about breaking the law.

**Bondage #2:** The people of Israel were in bondage to their **sins** – they **CONSISTENTLY** broke the covenant of law.

-The Jewish Scriptures record the Jewish people **SINNING** by breaking the law.

- The Jewish Scriptures record the Jewish prophets **SPEAKING** about the sins of the Jewish people.

**Bondage #3:** The people of Israel were in bondage to their **enemies** – they were **CAPTURED** by foreign nations (Rome, during the time of Anna, Jesus, and the two men) because they broke the covenant of law.

Through Moses, God told the nation of Israel that **if they broke the law**, the judgment against them for breaking the law would be other nations coming against them (Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28).

- The Jewish Scriptures records the Jewish prophets **WARNING** the people about the judgments to come because they broke the law.

- The Jewish Scriptures records other nations **WAGING** war against the nation of Israel as judgment upon them for breaking the law.

Let’s look in the Law of Moses about other nations being used as judgment against the nation of Israel for breaking the law.

The law included the **BLESSINGS** and **CURSINGS** for disobeying the law (see **Leviticus 26** and **Deuteronomy 28**).

**INTERESTING NOTE:** The judgments upon the people of Israel contained in Leviticus 26 are the basis for the judgment to unbelieving, Jesus-rejecting first century Israel in **Revelation 6**.

To learn more about this, click here to [\*\*watch Zach Davis teaching\*\*](#).

Let’s look of the blessings and curses associated with the law contained in Deuteronomy 28.

Deuteronomy 28 is based on Leviticus 26.

### **Deuteronomy 28:1-3**

*If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God: You will be **BLESSED** in the **CITY** and blessed in the country.*

### **Deuteronomy 28:15-16**

*However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you: You will be **CURSED** in the **CITY** and cursed in the country.*

### **Deuteronomy 28:49-50**

***The Lord will bring A NATION AGAINST YOU from far away**, from the ends of the earth, like an eagle swooping down, a nation whose language you will not understand, a fierce-looking nation without respect for the old or pity for the young.*

During the days of Anna, Jesus, and the two men on the road to Emmaus, the nation of Rome occupied the land of Israel because Israel had broken the covenant of law. Consequently, they were living under the judgment (curses) of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.

### **How did this occupation happen?**

The **Book of Daniel** gives us insight into how the land of Israel became occupied by the Romans.

In Daniel 2, Daniel prophesied, through the interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the Jewish people and land would be taken captive by **Babylon**, **Medo-Persia**, **Greece**, and **Rome**.

When Jesus was born, the Jewish people were living under the authority of and in bondage to the Romans.

This is in fulfillment of the curses of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.

Let's look at the prophecy in **Daniel 2:26-49**.

The prophecy is given in the form of a **STATUE** that represents **FOUR KINGDOMS**.

**Kingdom #1:** Gold Head – Babylon (605 BC to 539 BC)

**Kingdom #2:** Silver Arms and Chest – Medes and Persians (539 BC to 332 BC)

**Kingdom #3:** Bronze Waist – Greece (332 BC to 62 BC)

**Kingdom #4:** Legs of Iron (Rome) and Feet Mixed With Clay (the corrupt leadership of Israel mixed in with the leadership of Rome) – Rome and Israel (63 BC to 70 AD)

Note: Dates on the start of the Fourth Kingdom vary – but the Fourth Kingdom was firmly in place when Jesus was born (see Luke 2:1-7 – Jesus was born during the reign of the Caesar Augustus of Roman).

Note: Clay is symbolic for Israel. God often addressed Israel as clay: see Isaiah 45:9-11; 64:8; Jeremiah 18:6; Ezekiel 4:1.

The identity of the first three Kingdoms are identified by name later in the Book of Daniel.

Rome was not identified by name in the Book of Daniel, but the kingdom is explained by Daniel later.

### **How do we know the Fourth Kingdom is Rome?**

We know the Fourth Kingdom is Rome because in world history Rome defeated Greece and became a world empire.

It was during this time that the leadership of Rome and the corrupt leadership of Israel mixed together to form **the Fourth Kingdom of Iron Mixed with Clay**.

### **How do we know the leadership of Israel (clay) was corrupt?**

#### **Corruption Among The Jewish Leaders (clay) During The Life Of Jesus**

- Jesus revealed the corruption in Jerusalem when he turned over the tables at the temple (**Matthew 21;12-23**).
- Jesus identified Satan as the father of those who provided leadership over Israel from Jerusalem (**John 8:44**).
- Jesus identified the corruption we he pointed out the self-righteousness of the Pharisees and accused them of being like their ancestors who killed the prophets (**Matthew 23**), because they were wanting to kill Jesus.
- As we read through **Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts**, we see the corrupt relationship between the leaders of Israel and the leaders of Rome, and we also see the conversations between Jesus and the corrupt leaders.
- The leaders of Israel, headquartered in Jerusalem, demonstrated their corruption by the words they spoke to Jesus and their rejection of Jesus as the Messiah/Christ.
- They consistently tried to trick him through their questions.
- They consistently tried to arrest him through their planning.

## THE SANHEDRIN (the clay of the Fourth Kingdom) during the life of Jesus

- The **Sanhedrin** (the assembly Rome allowed to rule over Israel – it consisted of Pharisees, Sadducees, Priests, and other Jewish religious leaders) was constantly seeking to arrest Jesus and put him to death.
- **Matthew 26:59** (see also Mark 14:55; 15:1; John 11:47)
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*The chief priests and the whole **Sanhedrin** were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death.*

- Eventually, Jesus was arrested, tried, and crucified.

## Corruption Among The Leaders Of Israel (clay) After The Ascension of Jesus

- **Peter** and **John** were arrested, brought before the **Sanhedrin**, and flogged (Acts 4-5).
- The **Sanhedrin** (the Ruling Assembly of Israel) had **Stephen** stoned to death (Acts 6-7).
- **Paul** (Saul), before he believed in Jesus as the Christ, secured papers from the high priest granting him permission to investigate the synagogues in Damascus so that if he found believers in Jesus (the Way) they would be arrested and brought back to Jerusalem to be imprisoned.

We read about this in Acts 9:1-2.

### Acts 9:1-2

*Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to **the high priest** and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.*

In a twist of irony, Paul, after he became a believer, was arrested through the collusion of Israel leaders and Rome's leaders, where he was eventually taken to Rome, imprisoned, tried, and beheaded (**Acts 21:27**). Paul, who was once a part of the Iron Mixed With Clay (Fourth Kingdom), became a part of The Way – a believer in Jesus.

### This takes us back to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Part of the redemption of Jerusalem would be Jesus' judgment of Rome and the corrupt leaders within Jerusalem in AD 70.

## The Judgment of AD 70

- Jesus spoke about this in **Luke 19:41-44; Luke 21; Matthew 24-25; Mark 13**.
- Before this judgment, there would be an exodus of believers who would flee Jerusalem which Jesus talked about in **Luke 21:21**.

- The escape by believers in Jesus from the judgment is the **Second Exodus** or **Second Redemption**.
- The **First Exodus** or **First Redemption** was the exodus of the people of Israel out of Egypt.
- This judgment would end the **practice** of the old covenant law in Jerusalem and render the corrupt leaders of Jerusalem **powerless**. (This is the prophecy of Daniel 9 and the 70 weeks of Daniel).

### **The Second Redemption and Daniel's Statue**

We are studying **the Four Kingdoms of Daniel 2**.

During the time of Fourth Kingdom, Rome occupied Israel and Jerusalem as a result of the people of Israel breaking the law of Moses.

In the Fourth Kingdom, the corrupt leadership of Israel and Rome were all mixed together.

But there was a **Fifth Kingdom** (the kingdom of God/heaven) to come that was not part of the statue.

**Kingdom #5:** The Kingdom of God/Heaven – A Rock (Stone) That Become A Mountain And Fills The Whole Earth

This kingdom begins as a **Stone**.

The Stone comes crushes the feet of the FOURTH KINGDOM of iron mixed with clay, establishing a kingdom that grows to fill the whole world. We will see through a careful study of the Bible that the whole world is filled with God's grace. We will begin this study in Part One and continue it through the other parts.

This **STONE** becomes a **MOUNTAIN** that fills the whole earth with God's grace.

#### **Daniel 2:34-35**

*"While you [King Nebuchadnezzar] were watching, a **rock** [stone in most translations – this is Jesus] was cut out [a stone cut out from a mountain and used to build something – Jesus was cut out from the mountain of Israel by God – Israel is referred to as a mountain in Daniel – 9:16; 20; 11:45. Jesus became the chief cornerstone used to build the spiritual temple of grace], ***but not by human hands*** [human hands would not cut out this stone. This stone was cut out by God and used as the cornerstone to build the Fifth Kingdom. The Fifth Kingdom is the spiritual kingdom of grace built by God in contrast to physical kingdoms built by humans.*

Paul used this same contrast – ***not built by human hands*** – in 2 Corinthians 5:1 and Acts 17:24.

#### **2 Corinthians 5:1**

*For we know that if the earthly tent [physical body] we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God [spiritual body], an eternal house in heaven, **not built by human hands**.*

#### **Acts 17:24-26**

*"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and ***does not live in temples built by human hands*** [physical temples built by humans that involved effort, work, sweat]. And he is not*

served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man [Adam] he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth.” Just as God created all the physical people and all the physical nations through Adam, God, through Jesus, has now created a spiritual nation of grace that goes into all nations as it grows. We will see this as we continue this study.

We are examining the phrase – **not built by human hands** – referring to something that God builds spiritually.

Remember, **built by human hands** refers to a physical structure built through human effort, work, and sweat.

Let’s look at some other verses about ***not made or built with human hands***.

#### **Hebrews 9:11**

*But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here [the new testament of grace established in his blood for the forgiveness of sin], [with his blood] he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle [the heavenly, spiritual temple or the presence of God not made by human hands] that is **not made with human hands** [Note: the earthly, physical temple in Jerusalem was built by Moses and the people of Israel with their hands], that is to say, is not a part of this creation*

#### **Hebrews 9:24**

*For Christ **did not enter** [with his blood shed for the forgiveness of sins] **a sanctuary** [tabernacle, temple] **made with human hands** [the earthly, physical temple in Jerusalem built through human effort, works, and sweat] that [earthly, physical temple] was only a copy of the true one [the spiritual temple in heaven-the dwelling place of God not built by human hands]; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God’s presence [Jesus appeared for all people in heaven with his blood shed for the forgiveness of sins].*

What do we learn about the phrases **built by human hands** and **built NOT by human hands?**

***Built by human hands*** refers to a physical kingdom, building, or structure built by the effort, sweat and works of the physical efforts **of people**. Physical things built by human hands are temporal and **COME TO AN END**.

***Built NOT by human hands*** refers to a spiritual kingdom, building, or structure built only **by God**. Spiritual things built by God are eternal and **HAVE NO END**.

Through Jesus, the **STONE**, God is progressively building a spiritual kingdom that increases in size, becoming a **GROWING MOUNTAIN** that fills the who earth with God’s grace. This Kingdom of Grace has no end.

We will continue to examine the Kingdom of God’s grace in Part Two and how grace, as a mountain, fills the whole earth.

Thanks for being a part of this Bible Study!

*All verses are NIV unless otherwise noted.*

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