

# Jesus Teaches About the Coming of the Kingdom




## Luke 17:20–37 – The Coming of the Kingdom and the Day of the Son of Man

### Context & Setting





Jesus addresses two groups:

- **Pharisees** (vv.20–21) – asking when the Kingdom will come
- **Disciples** (vv.22–37) – warning about sudden judgment and return of the Son of Man

### Verse-by-Verse Summary

 Verse	 Summary	 Key Insight / Word Study
<b>v.20–21</b>	The Kingdom of God isn't coming with visible signs—it's already <b>in your midst</b> .	Greek: <i>entos humōn</i> (ἐντὸς ὑμῶν) = within/among you (Jesus' presence = Kingdom now)
<b>v.22–25</b>	The days of the Son of Man will be longed for; don't be deceived by false messiahs.	Like <b>lightning</b> —visible, unmistakable. But first, the Son must <b>suffer</b> (v.25).
<b>v.26–27</b>	As in <b>Noah's day</b> : life was normal until the flood destroyed them all.	Life-as-usual blinds people to <b>impending judgment</b> .
<b>v.28–30</b>	As in <b>Lot's day</b> : life continued until fire rained from heaven.	Parallel to Son of Man's return— <b>sudden and final</b> .
<b>v.31–33</b>	Don't go back for possessions. <b>Lot's wife</b> is the warning. Lose life to save it.	<i>Clinging to life = losing it</i> . Let go and trust.
<b>v.34–36</b>	Two people side by side— <b>one taken, one left</b> .	Word study below: refers to <b>sudden separation</b> at judgment.
<b>v.37</b>	"Where?" – "Where the corpse is, the vultures will gather."	A <b>proverb</b> : Judgment's effects will be visible and unavoidable.

### Historical Parallels – Days of Noah, Lot, and the Son of Man

 Theme	 Noah	 Lot	 Son of Man
<b>Reference</b>	Genesis 6–9	Genesis 19	Luke 17:30
<b>Lifestyle</b>	Eating, drinking, marrying	Eating, drinking, buying, selling	Normal life continues
<b>Warning?</b>	Yes – Noah preached	Yes – Angels warned	Yes – Jesus warns now
<b>Judgment</b>	Global flood	Fire from heaven	Sudden, visible return
<b>Rescued</b>	Noah's family	Lot and daughters	Followers of Jesus
<b>Main Point</b>	Sudden destruction during normalcy	Same	Same – <b>be ready</b>

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## Scripture References





### Noah


- **Genesis 6:5–13** – Earth corrupted
- **Genesis 7:11–24** – Flood destroys all
- **Matthew 24:37–39** – Parallel teaching
- **2 Peter 2:5** – “Preacher of righteousness”
- **Hebrews 11:7** – By faith, Noah built the ark

### Lot






- **Genesis 19:1–29** – Angels warn Lot; wife looks back
- **Luke 17:32** – “Remember Lot’s wife”
- **2 Peter 2:6–9** – God rescued righteous Lot
- **Jude 1:7** – Sodom as example of fire judgment


## vs “On That Day” and “On That Night”

 Time Phrase	 Verse	 Context	 Meaning
“That day”	v.31	Don’t turn back for anything	Urgency during visible judgment
“That night”	v.34	Two in bed – one taken	Judgment spans globe – day and night occur at once









 **Implication:** The Son of Man’s return will be **global**, **sudden**, and **final**.

## Word Study: “Taken” and “Left” (vv.34–36)

 Word	 Greek	 Definition	 Usage	 Meaning Here
<b>Taken</b>	<i>paralambanetai</i> (παραλαμβάνεται)	To take along, receive	John 14:3 (positive); Matt 24:40 (judgment)	Likely <b>taken in judgment</b> (cf. Noah, Lot)
<b>Left</b>	<i>aphietai</i> (ἀφίεται)	To be left, abandoned	Used for release or forgiveness	Likely <b>spared</b> , not swept away

 Since the context is **judgment (Noah/Lot)**, the ones **taken** are likely those judged, not rescued.

## Final Summary Chart

 Theme	 Explanation
 <b>Kingdom</b>	Already present in Jesus, not coming with visible signs (vv.20–21)
 <b>Return of Son of Man</b>	Sudden, visible, like lightning (v.24); after suffering (v.25)
 <b>Historical Warning</b>	Days of Noah and Lot – normal life, then swift judgment (vv.26–30)
 <b>Don’t Look Back</b>	Lot’s wife is the warning—don’t cling to the past (v.32)
 <b>Separation</b>	One taken, one left—each judged individually (vv.34–36)
 <b>Judgment Revealed</b>	“Where the corpse is...” – judgment will be obvious (v.37)