



**Not a Threat Just a Blessing You Can't See
(Palm Sunday)**

Date: April 5, 2020 (Palm Sunday)

Big Question: What is your big threat and how should you manage it?

Introduction: Many Christians believe we should never have anything that really threatens us.

Text: Luke 21:8-18

I. Five Threats and One Promise

1. The Threat of Misrepresentation (Luke 21:8-9, NKJV)

- 8 And He said: "Take heed that you not be deceived. **For many will come in My name,** saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore **do not go after them.** 9 But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately."

2. The Threat of War (v10)

- 10 Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

3. The Threat of Natural Disasters

- 11 And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

4. The Threat of Personal Persecution (v12)

- 12 But before all these things, **they will lay their hands on you and persecute you,** delivering you up to the synagogues and **prisons.** You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake.

5. The Threat of Family Persecution (v16-17)

- 16 You will be **betrayed** even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to **death.** 17 And you will be **hated** by all for My name's sake.
 - A. Betrayal
 - B. Death
 - C. Hated

6. The Promise of a Testimony (v13-15,18)

- 13 But **it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony.** 14 Therefore settle it in your hearts **not to meditate beforehand** on what you will answer; 15 for **I will give you a mouth and wisdom** which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.
- 18 **But not a hair of your head shall be lost. 19 By your patience possess your souls.**



II. Five Results of Not Seeing the Blessing (John 11:45–55, NKJV)

Honorable Mention:

- Luke 21:11 And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

1. They Investigated Him (John 11)

- 45 Then many of the **Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed** in Him.

2. They Feared Him

- 46 But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. 47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, “**What shall we do?** For this Man works many signs. 48 **If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him,** and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.”

3. They Spiritualized Him (Religious people often find spiritual ways to justify their behavior)

- 49 And one of them, **Caiaphas**, being high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you consider that **it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish.**” 51 Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

4. They Plotted Against Him

- 53 Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. 54 Therefore **Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness,** to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples.

5. They Plotted in a Season That Represented Him

- **55 And the Passover of the Jews was near...**

Next Time: Ready or Not Hear IT Comes (Managing a New Dream)

Read Ahead: Matthew 25:1-46

Big Point: Jesus lays out three important conversations we all need to have

1. He wants to talk about your personal responsibilities for your future (v1-13)
2. He wants to talk about the financial responsibilities you must manage (v14-30)
3. He wants to talk about the tough days ahead that we must prepare for (v31-46)