

LESSON 11

OPPOSITION

LUKE 19:28—21:38



1 What motivational sport slogans have you heard?

2 What are some possible reactions to overwhelming opposition?



Read Luke 19:28—21:38 and the following notes:

- ☐ 19:38 ☐ 19:47 ☐ 20:1–8 ☐ 20:9–16 ☐ 20:21 ☐ 20:27–38
☐ 20:41–44 ☐ 20:47 ☐ 21:7ff ☐ 21:12, 13 ☐ 21:14–19 ☐ 21:28
☐ 21:36

3 What people opposed Jesus (19:39, 47; 20:1, 19, 27, 46)?

4 What tactics did the religious leaders use to try to trap Jesus (20:1–8, 19–40)?

5 What kinds of persecution did Jesus tell his followers to expect (21:5–19)?

6 Why did the religious leaders try to trap Jesus instead of admitting that he was the Messiah?



After Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the opposition intensified. The Pharisees, teachers of religious law, Sadducees, and leading priests united against him and used a variety of tricks and traps to find some legal way to apprehend him. Jesus eluded their verbal traps while continuing to fascinate the crowds. But the opposition was real and would eventually lead to his arrest.

Jesus warned his followers to prepare themselves for similar treatment. Following him, he told them, would invite persecution from all sides, even from those closest to them. It would take a conscious effort for them to stand firm in their devotion to Christ. Following Christ today invites persecution just as surely as it did then. Knowing this is the first step in standing firm against opposition to our faith.

7 How did Jesus’ warning in 21:17 come true for the disciples?

8 Why was persecution a positive sign?



9 How are true believers persecuted by religious leaders today?

10 How are Christians persecuted by the government? family? friends?

11 Where might you face opposition (even persecution) for what you believe?

12 Describe a time when you were tempted to be silent or to compromise your faith because of opposition.



13 What truths will help you remain loyal to Christ when people oppose you because of your faith?

A What is the significance of the following events of Jesus' triumphal entry (19:28–46)?

- His entering the city on a colt
- The people joyfully praising God
- Jesus' telling the Pharisees that if the crowd was quiet, the stones would burst into cheers
- His weeping over and words about Jerusalem
- His driving the merchants from the Temple

B How did the religious leaders react when Jesus said, "The stone rejected by the builders has now become the cornerstone" (20:17)? How should they have reacted? What can you do to avoid making the same mistake as the religious leaders?

C What lessons can we learn from the poor widow's offering (21:1–4)? How does her example challenge you to handle your finances differently?

D What signs will signal the end of this age (21:8–31)? What can we do in the meantime (21:34–36)? What will you do to prepare for this time?

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