

Hvornår kommer det?

Prædiken 25. søndag e. trinitatis 17.11.2024. LGJ
Tillæg 4: Hos dig er glæde. Tillæg 1 Alt mit håb. 231, 190 // 232, 430. 631

Evangelium: Lukasevangeliet 17,20-33

Da farisæerne spurgte Jesus, hvornår Guds rige kommer, svarede han: "Guds rige kommer ikke, så man kan iagttage det; man vil heller ikke kunne sige: Se, her er det! eller: Se dér! For Guds rige er midt iblandt jer."

Men han sagde til disciplene: "Der skal komme dage, da I vil længes efter at se blot én af Menneskesønnens dage, men I skal ikke se den. Man vil sige til jer: Se, dér er han! eller: Se her! Men gå ikke derhen, og følg ikke efter. For som lynet lyser fra den ene ende af himlen til den anden, når det lyner, sådan skal Menneskesønnen vise sig på sin dag. Men først skal han lide meget og forkastes af denne slægt.

Og som det var i Noas dage, sådan skal det også være i Menneskesønnens dage: De spiste og drak, giftede sig og blev bortgiftet lige til den dag, da Noa gik ind i arken, og syndfloden kom og udslættede dem alle. Eller som i Lots dage: De spiste og drak, købte og solgte, plantede og byggede; men den dag, da Lot forlod Sodoma, regnede ild og svovl ned fra himlen og udslættede dem alle. På samme måde skal det være den dag, da Menneskesønnen åbenbares. Den, som den dag er oppe på taget og har sine ting nede i huset, skal ikke gå ned og hente dem, og lige så lidt skal den, der er ude på marken, vende hjem igen. Husk på Lots hustru! Den, der søger at redde sit liv, skal miste det, men den, der mister det, skal vinde det."

1.

Spørgsmålet: Hvornår kommer det?

Jesus havde sagt igen og igen: "Omvend jer for Guds rige er kommet nær." Nu havde de set hans undergerninger og hørt hans forkyndelse og undervisning i snart 3 år. Hvornår kommer det så, det Guds rige, som du taler om?

Sådan kan vi også spørge: "Hvornår kommer det!" Hvornår får vi noget af det at se, som vi længes efter? En kristendom, som er mere håndgribelig, mere konkret. Noget med magt og herlighed, så vi kan vide, at her, lige her er Gud. Lige her er der en kristen menighed. Lige her er Gud hos mig og med mig. Lige her. Jesus svarer: "**Guds rige kommer ikke, så man kan iagttage det. Man vil heller ikke kunne sige: "Se, her er det, eller Se dér. For Guds rige er**

When will it come?

Sermon 25. Sunday after Trinity 17.11.2024. LGJ
Hymns: #4, #1, 231, 190 // 232, 430. 631

Gospel Luke 17:20-33

20 Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; 21 nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!' For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst." 22 And He said to the disciples, "The days shall come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. 23 "And they will say to you, 'Look there! Look here!' Do not go away, and do not run after them. 24 "For just as the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day. 25 "But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. 26 "And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. 28 "It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; 29 but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 "It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed. 31 "On that day, let not the one who is on the housetop and whose goods are in the house go down to take them away; and likewise let not the one who is in the field turn back. 32 "Remember Lot's wife. 33 "Whoever seeks to keep his life shall lose it, and whoever loses his life shall preserve it.

1.

The question: When will it come?

Jesus had said again and again: "Repent, for the kingdom of God has drawn near." Now they had seen his miracles and heard his preaching and teaching for almost 3 years. When will it come, the kingdom of God that you speak of?

In this way, we can also ask: "When is it coming?" When will we see something of what we long for? A Christianity that is more tangible, more concrete. Something with power and glory, so that we can know that here, right here is God. Right here there is a Christian congregation. Right here God is with me and with me. Right here. Jesus answers: "**The kingdom of God is not coming so that it can be observed. Nor will**

midt iblandt jer." Svaret er, at de ikke kan ses, så mennesker bliver imponeret.

Hvor er så? Det er midt iblandt jer! Hvad mener han? Han mener jo, at Guds rige er, hvor han er. Det var jo det, han sagde: *"Omvend jer, for Himmeriget er kommet nær!"* Det var, når han var kommet, at Himmeriget var kommet. Sådan begynder evangeliet: *Jomfruen skal blive med barn og føde en søn, og man skal kalde ham "Immanuel", det er "Gud med os" (Matt 1,23).* Og Jesus sagde: *"Hvor to eller tre er forsamlet i mit navn, der er jeg midt iblandt dem" (Matt 18.20).* Og da han befalede disciplene at døbe i Faderens og Sønnens og Helligåndens navn og at lære disciplene alt, hvad han havde befalet dem, da lovede han: *"Og se, jeg er med jer alle dage, indtil verdens ende" (Matt 28,20).* Og han forsvandt for deres øjne, men var nu hos dem alle dage indtil verdens ende. Ved dåben, undervisningen, i nadveren, og når de hørte evangeliet!

Det betød for dem og betyder for os: Guds rige er midt iblandt os, når vi har dåben og bruger den. Guds rige er iblandt os i os, når vi har hans ord og lærer at holde af det og holde fast ved det. For sådan giver Guds Ånd os tro og tillid, tilgivelse og håb. Det er usynligt. Og alligevel mærkes det i hjertet ved Ordet!

Eksempel: Når de i Korinth ville have tegn og undere, skrev Paulus til dem: *Husk på, hvordan det var ved jeres kaldelse. ... Det var Jesus som korsfæstet, jeg prædikede.* Sådan fik de troen. Han var hos dem. Sådan får vi troen. Jesus er hos os. ... Paulus sagde også til dem: *Jøder kræver tegn og undere, og grækere vil have filosofi og visdom. Men vi prædiker Jesus som korsfæstet – jeres Frelser, som redder jer fra synd, fra død, fra dom.*

2.

Hvorfor er Evangeliet om Jesus ikke nok for mennesker?

Hvorfor er det ikke nok? Hvorfor er det nødvendigt for Jesus at advare os, som han jo gør: **Man vil sige til jer: Se, dér er han! eller: Se her! Men gå ikke derhen, og følg ikke efter.** Vi mærker jo også, at vi let kan drages bort fra sandheden i Guds ord efter det, som ser ud af noget, som menneskeligt talt kan virke meget tiltrækkende, spændende og fyldt med oplevelser og nydelser. Det beskriver Jesus. Han siger: **"Og som det var i Noas dage, sådan skal det også være i Menneskesønnens dage: De spiste og drak, giftede sig og blev bortgiftet lige til den dag, da Noa gik ind i arken, og syndfloden kom og udslættede dem alle. Eller som i Lots dage: De spiste**

you be able to say, "Look, here it is, or Look there. For the kingdom of God is in your midst." The answer is that they cannot be seen, so people are impressed.

Where is then? It is in your midst! What does he mean? He believes that God's kingdom is where he is. That is what he said: *"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."* It was when he had come that the kingdom of heaven had come. This is how the Gospel begins: *The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and he will be called "Immanuel", that is, "God with us" (Matt 1:23).* And Jesus said, *"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matt 18:20).* And when he commanded the disciples to baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to teach the disciples all things that he had commanded them, he promised, *"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the world" (Matt 28:20).* And he disappeared before their eyes, but was with them all the days until the end of the world. At baptism, teaching, in the sacrament, and when they heard the gospel!

It meant to them and means to us: the kingdom of God is in our midst when we have baptism and use it. The kingdom of God is among us in us when we have His Word and learn to love it and hold fast to it. For this is how the Spirit of God gives us faith and confidence, forgiveness and hope. It is invisible. And yet it is felt in the heart by the Word!

Example: When they in Corinth wanted signs and wonders, Paul wrote to them: *Remember what it was like at your calling. ... It was Jesus crucified that I preached.* That's how they got the faith. He was with them. This is how we get faith. Jesus is with us. ... Paul also said to them: *Jews require signs and wonders, and Greeks want philosophy and wisdom. But we preach Jesus as crucified – your Savior, who saves you from sin, from death, from judgment.*

2.

Why is the Gospel of Jesus not enough for people?

Why is it not enough? Why is it necessary for Jesus to warn us, as he does: **They will say to you, 'Look, there he is!' or, 'Look here!' But don't go there and don't follow.** We also notice that we can easily be drawn away from the truth of God's Word by what appears to be something that humanly speaking may seem very attractive, exciting and filled with experiences and pleasures. That is what Jesus describes. He says: **"And as it was in the days of Noah, so it shall be in the days of the Son of man: they ate and drank, married and were given in marriage, and were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood**

og drak, købte og solgte, plantede og byggede; men den dag, da Lot forlod Sodoma, regnede ild og svovl ned fra himlen og udsløttede dem alle. På samme måde skal det være den dag, da Menneskesønnen åbenbares."

Spise og drikke, ikke bare for at få kræfter til at leve efter skaberens vilje, gud til ære og mennesker til gavn. Men for at få nydelsen og have den som selve meningen med livet. Nydelse er livets mening. Gifte sig og bortgifte sig, ikke for at stifte familie, elske hinanden og sine børn, men for at nyde sig selv.

Hvad kan man så bruge spiritualitet og kirkegang til? Jo, til at få en social oplevelse om søndagen og god samvittighed til nyde mad og sex. Og derfor vælger mange kirker, som ændrer Guds bud.

Da kan man gøre som i Lots dage: *De spiste og drak, købte og solgte, plantede og byggede.* Det er jo ikke forkert i sig selv. Gud pantede også en have og satte Adam og Eva i haven for at de skulle passe den. Han gav dem mad, de kunne leve af og nyde. Og han gjorde dem frugtbare, så de kunne få børn. Adam og Eva levede hos Gud i trykthed.

Men - og det er problemet - på Noas tid og Lots tid i Sodoma levede man uden Gud. Og dommen kom og rev dem alle bort. Dommen rammer også os den dag, Menneskesønnen kommer igen.

Jesus fortæller det, for at vi må erkende vor synd og frafald, vor egenkærlighed og selvished og gudløshed. Det har han sagt, når vi lever i vore egne lyster. Apostlen Peter siger: *For først og fremmest skal I vide, at der i de sidste dage vil komme spottere, som følger deres egne lyster, og som hånligt siger: "Hvad bliver der af løftet om hans komme?"* Det vi har lyst til, vil vi gerne høre om og få lov til.

Det fortæller Jesus os, for at vi må blive grebet af rædsel i dag.

3.

Men Evangeliet er nok for os!

På den baggrund er det en stor glæde, at Jesus siger: **"Guds rige kommer ikke, så man kan iagttage det; man vil heller ikke kunne sige: Se, her er det! eller: Se dér! For Guds rige er midt iblandt jer."** Derfor råbe til ham om hjælp! Og han svarer med at fortælle os om, hvad der skulle ske med Menneskesønnen: **Han skal han lide meget og forkastes af denne slægt.** Og det gjorde han. Det er sket! Det er redningen. Han er redningsmanden.

Redningen er, at Gud blev menneske.

Redningen er, at Guds Søn tog vore synder på sig.

Redningen er, at han led straffen i vort sted.

came and destroyed them all. Or as in the days of Lot: They ate and drank, bought and sold, planted and built; but on the day that Lot left Sodom, fire and brimstone rained down from heaven and wiped them all out. In the same way, it shall be the day when the Son of Man is revealed."

Eat and drink, not just to gain strength to live according to the creator's will, to the glory of God and to the benefit of people. But to get the pleasure and have it as the very meaning of life. Pleasure is the meaning of life. Marry and marry off, not to start a family, love each other and one's children, but to enjoy oneself.

So what can you use spirituality and church attendance for? Well, to have a social experience on Sundays and a clear conscience to enjoy food and sex. And that is why many churches choose to change God's commandments.

Then you can do as in Lot's days: *They ate and drank, bought and sold, planted and built.* That is not wrong in itself. God also mortgaged a garden and put Adam and Eve in the garden to care for them. He gave them food they could live on and enjoy. And he made them fruitful that they could have children. Adam and Eve lived with God in safety. But - and that's the problem - in Noah's day and Lot's time in Sodom, people lived without God. And the judgment came and tore them all away. The judgment will also affect us on the day the Son of Man comes again.

Jesus tells us so that we may recognize our sin and apostasy, our selfishness and selfishness and godlessness. He has said this when we live in our own lusts. The Apostle Peter says: *Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?"* (2 Pet. 3,3-4). What we want, we want to hear about and be allowed to do.

Jesus tells us this so that we may be gripped by terror today.

3.

But the Gospel is enough for us!

Against this background, it is a great joy that Jesus says: **"The kingdom of God is not coming so that it can be observed; nor will you be able to say: Look, here it is! or: Look there! For the kingdom of God is in your midst."** Therefore, cry out to him for help! And he responds by telling us what was to happen to the Son of Man: **He will suffer much and be rejected by this generation.** And he did. It has happened! That is the salvation. He is the savior.

Salvation is that God became man.

Salvation is that the Son of God took our sins upon

Redningen er, at han døde.
Redningen er, at han besejrede døden i påsken.
Redningen er, at han gav os dåben, hvor han renser os og genføder os.
Redningen er, at han gav os Evangeliet, så vi kan høre det.
Redningen er, at han giver os tilgivelse, så vi ved, at han tilgiver os personligt, når det lyder og bekræftes med håndspåleggelse.
Redningen er, at vi ser Korset i kirken og tror på evangeliet!
Redningen er, at han giver os sit legeme og blod under brødet og vinen, som han gør til sit legeme og blod med sine stærke ord.
Det er redningen.

4.

Længslen efter noget bedre

Hvad så, når vi alligevel længes efter noget andet og bedre? Som Lots hustru, som Jesus minder os om?

Jesus ved, at hans disciple dengang og vi i dag længes efter noget bedre. *"Der skal komme dage, da I vil længes efter at se blot én af Menneske-sønnens dage, men I skal ikke se den."* De ville længes efter at Jesus var fysisk hos dem – så de kunne føle og se ham. Men de ville ikke få deres længsel opfyldt. Det samme gælder os.

Og han fortalte, at de da ville blive fristet og lokket til at søge Jesus, hvor han ikke var: *Man vil sige til jer: Se, dér er han! eller: Se her! Men gå ikke derhen, og følg ikke efter.* Hvad han har givet os i Ordet og Dåben og Nadveren er vores vished om at han er hos os.

Vi får ikke noget bedre og mere sandt her i verden. Men i dødsøjeblikket får du del i herligheden, som røveren på korset. "I dag skal du være med mig i paradiset." Og vi, som lever, når Jesus kommer 2. gang, har dette løfte: **"For som lyset lyser fra den ene ende af himlen til den anden, når det lyner, sådan skal Menneskesønnen vise sig på sin dag."**

Ham længes vi efter. Vi længes efter fuldendelsen, frelsen, herligheden, den evige salighed. Og den kommer. Det har Jesus lovet. Og den får vi del i, fordi han har lovet os det. Amen.

Himself.
Salvation that he suffered the punishment in our place.
Salvation is that he died.
Salvation is that he defeated death at Easter.
Salvation is that He gave us baptism, where He cleanses us and regenerates us.
Salvation is that He gave us the Gospel so that we can hear it.
Salvation is that He gives us forgiveness, so we know that He forgives us personally when it sounds and is confirmed by the laying on of hands.
Salvation is that we see the Cross in church and believe in the gospel!
Salvation is that He gives us His body and blood under the bread and wine, which He makes His body and blood with His strong words. That is the salvation.

4.

The longing for something better

What if we still long for something different and better? Like Lot's wife, as Jesus reminds us?

Jesus knows that His disciples then and we today long for something better. *"There will be days when you will long to see even one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it."*

They would long for Jesus to be physically with them—so they could feel and see Him. But they would not have their longing fulfilled. The same applies to us.

And he told them that they would then be tempted and enticed to seek Jesus where he was not: *They will say to you, 'Look, there he is!' or, 'Look here!' But don't go there and don't follow.* What He has given us in the Word and Baptism and the Lord's Supper is our assurance that He is with us.

We will not get anything better and truer in this world. But at the moment of death, you share in the glory, like the thief on the cross. "Today you will be with me in paradise." And we, who are alive when Jesus comes the second time, have this promise: **"For as lightning shines from one end of heaven to the other, when lightning strikes, so shall the Son of Man appear in his day."**

We long for him. We long for perfection, salvation, glory, eternal bliss. And it is coming. Jesus has promised that. And we get to share in it because He has promised us that. Amen.