

THE JUDGMENT ORACLES OF JESUS¹

Leave the dead to bury the dead (Matthew 8:22/Luke 9:60)

Do not put the new wine into old wineskins (Matthew 9:17/Mark 2:22/Luke 5:37-38)

Israel is a lost sheep, with a shepherd (Matthew 9:36)

Those who do not repent will soon reach a time when it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah than for them (Matthew 10:15/Luke 10:12, Matthew 11:20-24/Luke 10:13-15)

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will welcome Gentiles into the kingdom, while the sons of the kingdom will be cast out (Matthew 8:11-12/Luke 13:28-29)

Israel must make friends quickly with her accuser, lest she be hauled off to prison (Matthew 5:25-26/Luke 12:58-59)

Israel is like salt which has lost its savour and is now good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot. (Matthew 5:13/Mark 9:50/Luke 14:34-35)

Whoever denies or is ashamed of the Son of Man, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed (Mark 8:38/Luke 9:26)

It is better to sacrifice precious parts of the body than to go whole into Gehenna (Matthew 5:29-30/Mark 9:43-48)²

There is a narrow gate that leads to life, and there are few that find it, but the gate to destruction is broad and well-travelled (Matthew 7:13-14/Luke 13:24)

Israel at present is like a field with wheat and weeds mixed, but there will come a day of separation and judgment (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)

Israel is like fish in a drag-net, good and bad together, and soon the net will be on shore and the bad fish thrown away (Matthew 13:47-50)

The master of the house will come and punish those servants who were not faithful (Matthew 24:45-51/Luke 12:42-26)

The first will be last, and the last first (Matthew 19:30/mark 10:31/Luke 13:30)

Nineveh will condemn this generation, because it repented at the preaching of Jonah, and a greater than Jonah is here (Matthew 12:39-41/Luke 11:29-32)

This generation will be like an exorcised man reoccupied by worse demons than before (Matthew 12:43-45/Luke 11:24-26)

¹ Excerpted from N.T. Wright's *Jesus and the Victory of God*

² Gehenna was Jerusalem's smouldering rubbish-heap, and thence became a metaphor for the place of fiery judgment after death.

Those to whom tragedies had occurred were not greater sinners than the rest; unless Israel repents, all will likewise perish, mown down by Roman guards or crushed under falling buildings (Luke 13:1-5)

Unless the tree bears fruit this year it will be cut down (Luke 13:6-9)

In the messianic banquet, those who insist on the best places will be humiliated (Luke 14:7-11)

In the coming great wedding feast, those invited were not worthy (Matthew 22:1-14/Luke 14:15-24/Thomas 64)

Jerusalem will end up like chickens without a mother hen, unprotected in the farmyard fire (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34)

The Temple has been abandoned by YHWH, and faces its fate unprotected (Matthew 23:38/Luke 13:35)

Just as the flood swept Noah's contemporaries away, so will this generation be destroyed (Matthew 24:37-39/Luke 17:26-27)

Just as Lot's wife was overtaken by sudden judgment, so will this generation be (Luke 17:32)

There will be foolish maidens unprepared when the bridegroom comes (Matthew 25:1-13)

There will be foolish servants who hide their talent in the earth, or bury their pound in a napkin (Matthew 25:14-30/Luke 19:11-27)

There will be unwilling subjects who will pay the price when the rightful king comes to reign (Luke 19:14, 27)

There will be goats as well as sheep (Matthew (25:31-46)

Upon this generation will come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from Abel to Zechariah; it will all come on this generation (Matthew 23:35/Luke 11:51)

The Temple will be destroyed, and (perhaps) rebuilt (Mark 14:58/Matthew 26:61/ mark 13:2/Matthew 24:2/Luke 21:6/Luke 19:43f/Mark 15:29/Matthew 27:40/Thomas 71)

If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they believe even if one should rise from the dead (Luke 16:31)