

## "IF ONLY I HAD KNOWN"

Text: Luke 19:41-44

INTRO: It has been said that hindsight is always 20/20. The history of the world would be vastly different if folks could always foresee the consequences of their actions. Perhaps each of us have experienced the emotions & felt the misery of expressing the words, "If only I had known..."

### I. ADAM AND EVE, Gen 3:6-13, 21.

- A. Why all the fuss about a little piece of fruit?
- B. Clothed selves with fig leaves. Still "naked."
- C. Consequences of their sin, vs. 8, 16-19.
- D. "If only we had known..." But they DID KNOW what God said, & they didn't do it.

### II. THE GENERATION OF NOAH, Gen. 6-9.

- A. Noah preached righteousness while he built the ark, 2 Pet 2:5; 1 Pet 3:19-21.
- B. Other folks went on their way, eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage, etc. MT 24:38-39.
- C. When the door was shut, when the rain started, "Oh, if we had only known..." But they COULD have known. They were forewarned.

### III. JESUS' GENERATION.

- A. If they had known the Scriptures they would not have opposed Jesus.

[When they wrongly accused His disciples of violating the Sabbath:] If you had known what this means, "I desire mercy & not sacrifice" [Hos 6:6], you would not have condemned the guiltless. (MT 12:7).

- B. If they had known that He was the Messiah, the Son of God, they would not have rejected Him.

[The Pharisees] said to Him, "Where is your father?"

Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also" (JN 8:19).

C. If the people of Jerusalem had known the serious consequences, they would not have rejected Him nor the prophets who had come before Him, Luke 19:42-44.

D. If the Jewish & Roman rulers of the first century had known the true identity of Jesus they would not have crucified Him. READ I CORINTHIANS 2:7-8. Luke 23:34

IV. THE WORLD TODAY. READ MATTHEW 24:35-44.  
READ LUKE 12:35-40.

A. We cannot know WHEN He is coming, but we can know THAT He is coming.

B. We can KNOW how to be ready. MK 16:15-16;  
Acts 2:38-41

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