

Serving God's Purpose, Whether or Not You Want to

"Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Luke 13:35

En route to Jerusalem, the Savior lamented the people's hardness of heart and unbelief, as reflected in these words. Matthew 21:1-11 records the fulfillment of this prophesy. We have no way of knowing the degree to which the people welcomed Jesus with "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord," willingly, or spontaneously because the Holy Spirit forced them. Nor do we know the degree to which they knew what they were saying when they confessed Him.

Our Lord warned the people: "When once the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us.' He will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity!'"¹

Paul calls attention to the fact that although God rejects people, they still acknowledge the Savior at the Judgment: "...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth."² You can bow your will in surrender to His authority now, or you can wait until He rejects you. And remember, His rejection of you may come long before you die.

¹ Luke 13:25-27 ² Philippians 2:10