

An Empty House is a Vulnerable House

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Lent / Demonic Possession; Endurance; Deliverance; Means of Grace / Luke 11:14–28

What happens when Christ’s kingdom comes — and what happens if He is rejected?

1. When Christ’s kingdom comes, _____

The casting out of demons proves that Christ is plundering the strong man’s house. Satan has been overpowered, bound, and robbed of his spoils.

Then Jesus issues a warning: *“Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters”* (v. 23).

There is no spiritual neutrality. Either Christ fills the house, or something else will.

Application: Many people admire Jesus but do not follow Him. Others remain skeptical, always asking for more proof. But Jesus does not allow for spiritual indecision. He makes clear: *Either you belong to Me, or you belong to the enemy.*

2. When Christ is rejected, _____

2 Peter 2:20-22 – Those who escape sin but return are worse off than before.

2 Peter 2:20-22 NLT

²⁰ And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before. ²¹ It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life. ²² They prove the truth of this proverb: “A dog returns to its vomit.” And another says, “A washed pig returns to the mud.”

Hebrews 6:4-6 – Those who reject Christ after receiving Him cannot restore themselves.

Hebrews 6:4-6 NLT

⁴ For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵ who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come—⁶ and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

John 15:4-6 – A branch that does not abide in Christ withers and is thrown into the fire.

John 15:4-6 NLT

⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. ⁵ “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶

Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.

Application: This is a warning **for us**. Some assume they are safe because they have “cleaned up” their lives — perhaps they have overcome a sinful habit, perhaps they’re trying to make yesterday’s faith cover over today’s unbelief. Whatever the case may be, **if Christ is not actively filling the house, it remains vulnerable.**

3. When Christ is welcomed in, _____

A woman in the crowd calls out: “*Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts at which you nursed!*” (v. 27).

But Jesus responds, “*Blessed rather are those who hear the Word of God and keep it*” (v. 28).

True blessedness is not found in having seen Jesus or being related to Him. True blessedness is found in receiving His Word and remaining in it.

- In _____, Christ plunders Satan’s house and claims us as His own.
- In _____, Christ drives out the devil’s lies and fills us with His Word of truth.
- In _____, Christ does not leave us empty but nourishes us with His very life.

Conclusion

An empty house is a vulnerable house—**but a house filled by Christ is secure forever.**