

**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church**  
**We're glad you're here!**



# Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

## Hymn 87



# This is My Father's World

## Hymn 6



**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church  
We're glad you're here!**



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

# **Call to Worship**

***Psalm 119:41-48***

**Psalms 119:41-48** Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word. And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules. I will keep your law continually, forever and ever, and I shall walk in a wide place, for I have sought your precepts. I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame, for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

# Be Thou My Vision

## Hymn 468



# Trust and Obey

## Hymn 454





# Praise and Prayer Request

All Prayer request can be e-mail to:

[plbiblechurch@gmail.com](mailto:plbiblechurch@gmail.com)

***We would love to pray for God's will to be done  
your life and for His Name to be glorified in and  
through you, as you seek His Holy Face!***

# Receiving of the Offering

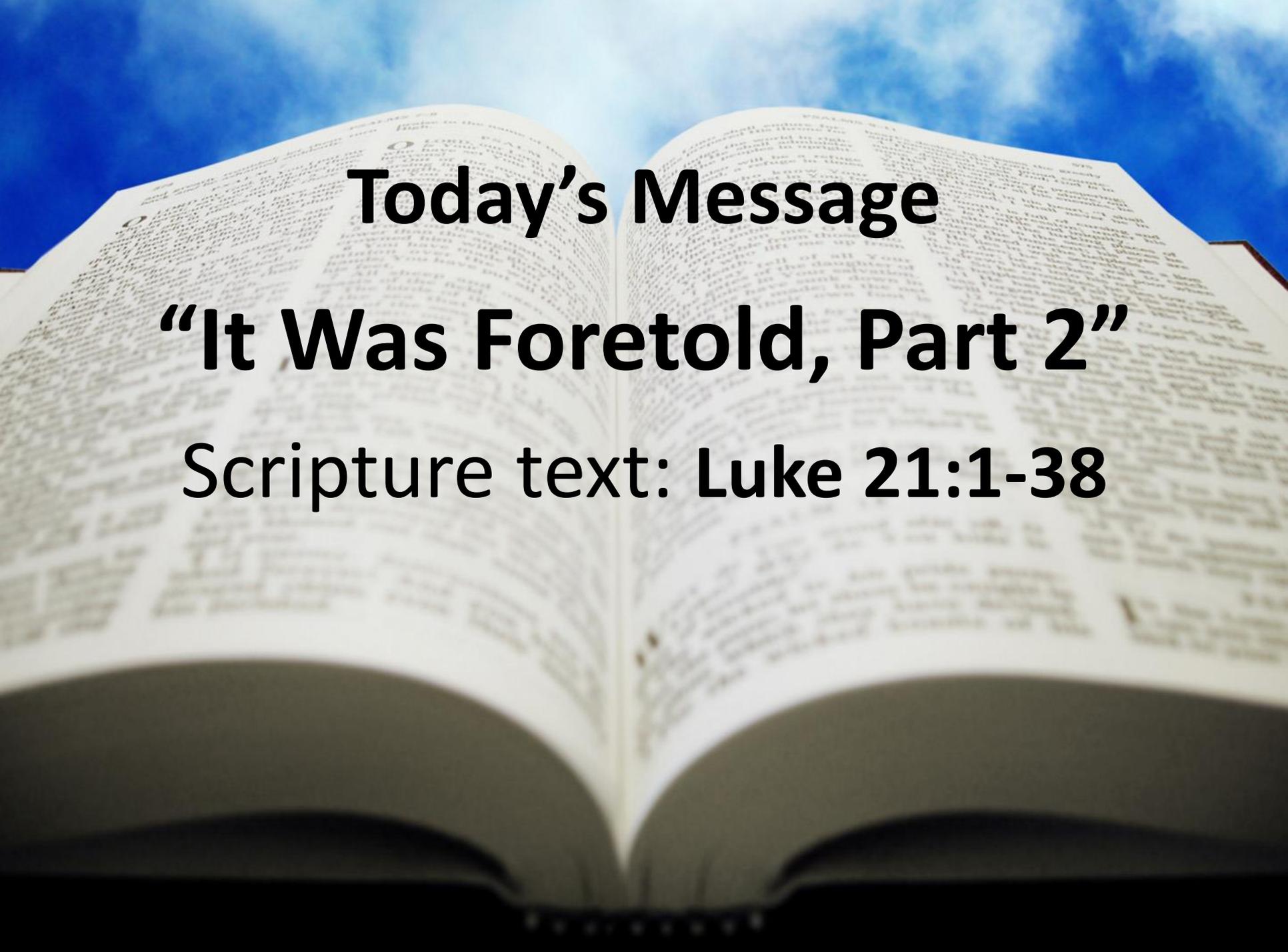


**An offering for the Church can be mailed to:  
Promise Land Bible Church  
PO Box 1437  
Mountain Home, AR 72653**

# ***Famous Quote:***

*“The chief danger of the 20th century will be religion without the Holy Spirit, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, politics without God, and heaven without hell.”*

**WILLIAM BOOTH**

An open book is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with small, dense text, likely a Bible. The book is set against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, black font.

# **Today's Message**

## **“It Was Foretold, Part 2”**

**Scripture text: Luke 21:1-38**

It all started with the arrival in the temple of a poor widow with an offering for the Lord (Luke 21:1–4).

Compared to the gifts of the rich men, her two copper coins seemed insignificant, but Jesus said that **she gave more than all the others combined.** “The widow’s mite” does not represent the least we can give, **but the most, our very all.**

There is a line in an old Hymn, “Take my silver and my gold/ Not a mite will I withhold,” **we are telling God that everything we have belongs to Him?**

When it comes to our giving, God sees more than the portion; He also sees the proportion.

Men see what is given, but **God sees what is left**, and by that He measures the gift and the condition of our hearts.

Winston Churchill said, “We make a living by what we get, **but we make a life by what we give.**” He may have learned that from Jesus (Luke 6:38) or perhaps from Paul (2 Cor. 8:1–15).

**Luke 6:36-40 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.** "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; **give, and it will be given to you.** Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. **For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.**" He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? **A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.**

The temple was a beautiful structure, **embellished with many costly decorations** that a poor widow could never give, and the disciples mentioned this to Jesus. **But our Lord was not impressed.**

He told them that the day would come when the beautiful Jewish temple would be demolished (Luke 21:5–6). He had already announced that the city would be destroyed (Luke 19:41–44), but now **He specifically mentioned the destruction of the temple.**

**Luke 21:3-6** And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this **poor widow has put in more than all of them.** For they all contributed out of their abundance, but **she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.**" And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, "As for these things that you see, **the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.**"

**Luke 19:41-44** And when he drew near and saw the city, **he wept over it**, saying, "Would that you, even you, **had known on this day the things that make for peace!** But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you, **when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground**, you and your children within you. **And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.**"

Jesus left the temple and went to the Mount of Olives, and there Peter, James, and John asked Him three questions: **(1)** When would the temple be destroyed? **(2)** What would be the sign of His coming? **(3) What would be the sign of the end of the age?**

The disciples thought that these three events would occur at the same time, but Jesus explained things differently. **Actually, the temple would be destroyed first, and then there would be a long period of time before He would return and establish His kingdom on earth.**

**Mark 13:3-4** And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?"

**Mat 24:1-3** Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the close of the age?"

Our Lord's reply comprises what we call "**The Olivet Discourse**," the greatest prophetic sermon He ever preached.

It is recorded in greater detail in Matthew 24–25 and Mark 13, and you will want to compare the three passages. Since Luke wrote with the Gentile reader in mind, he omitted some of the strong Jewish elements of the sermon while retaining the essential truths that we must consider and apply.

**Keep in mind that this was a message given to Jews by a Jew about the future of the Jewish nation.**

Though there are definite applications to God's people today, the emphasis is on Jerusalem, the Jews, and the temple. Our Lord was not discussing His coming for the church, **for that can occur at any time** and no signs need precede it (1 Cor. 15:51–58; 1 Thes. 4:13–18). **“For the Jews require a sign”** (1 Cor. 1:22); **the church looks for a Savior** (Phil. 3:20–21).

**1 Corinthians 15:51-58** Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and **we shall be changed.** For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "**Death is swallowed up in victory.**" "**O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?**" **The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.** But thanks be to God, **who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.** Therefore, my beloved brothers, **be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.**

**John 11:21-27** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "**Your brother will rise again.**" Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." **Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"** She said to him, "**Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.**"

**1 Corinthians 1:18-24** For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**Luke 21:8-13** And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, '**The time is at hand!**' Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, **do not be terrified**, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once." Then he said to them, "**Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.** But before all this they will lay their hands on you and **persecute you**, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. **This will be your opportunity to bear witness.**

Our Lord's admonition to His people is, "**Don't be terrified!**" These things must come to pass; there is nothing anyone can do to prevent them. This does not mean that God's people are submitting to blind fate; rather, **it means they are yielding to the plan of a loving Father who works all things** "after the counsel of His own will" (Eph. 1:11).

**Ephesians 1:11-12** In him we have obtained an inheritance, **having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will**, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

**There will be religious persecution, both official (Luke 21:12–15) and personal (Luke 21:16–19).**

**Luke 21:12-15** But before all this they will lay their hands on you and **persecute you**, delivering you up **to the synagogues and prisons**, and you will be brought **before kings and governors for my name's sake**. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, **for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.**

**Luke 21:16-19** You will be **delivered up** even by **parents and brothers and relatives and friends**, and **some of you they will put to death**. You will be **hated by all** for my name's sake. **But not a hair of your head will perish**. By your **endurance you will gain your lives**.

Of course, **there has been religious persecution ever since Cain killed Abel**.

**Matthew 23:34-36** Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, **some of whom you will kill and crucify**, and some you will flog in your synagogues and **persecute from town to town**, so that on you may come **all the righteous blood shed on earth**, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, **whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar**. Truly, I say to you, **all these things will come upon this generation**.

**Act 4:17-21** But in order that it may spread no further among the people, **let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.**" So they called them and **charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.** But Peter and John answered them, "**Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.**" And when they had **further threatened them**, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.

**Act 5:16-20** The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But **the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison.** But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, **"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."**

**Act 6:9-13** Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, **rose up and disputed with Stephen.** But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. Then they **secretly instigated men** who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And **they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council,** and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law,

**Act 8:1-3** And Saul **approved of his execution**. And there **arose on that day a great persecution against the church** in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. But **Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.**

Jesus **promised that His people would suffer** (John 15:18–16:4, 32–33), and **that promise holds true today** (2 Tim. 3:12).

**John 16:1-4** "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, **the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.** And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, **that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.** "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

**John 16:32-33** Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, **when you will be scattered**, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. **I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation.** But take heart; I have overcome the world.“

**2 Timothy 3:12-13** Indeed, **all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted**, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

But the **persecution in the end times will be much more severe** and many will give their lives for Christ. **Notice the encouragements Jesus gives to all who suffer persecution.** To begin with, **we must remember that when we are persecuted, we suffer for His name's sake (Luke 21:12), and this is a high honor (Acts 5:41).**

**Act 5:41** Then they left the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.**

It is not important what people say about our names, but **it is important that the name of Christ be glorified.**

**Second, times of suffering provide opportunities for witness.**

**Luke 21:13-15** This will be **your opportunity to bear witness**. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for **I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.**

The Apostles made good use of the witness stand when they were arrested and taken before the council (Acts 4–5), and Christ’s servants and martyrs down through the centuries have followed their example. The English word martyr comes from the Greek word *martus* which means “a witness”.

**1 Peter 3:13-17** Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

Because of **official persecution**, God's witnesses will stand before important people; and when that happens, **they must not panic**, for **God will give them the words to speak**.

This promise is not an excuse for lazy preachers or Sunday School teachers who do not want to study! Rather, **it is an assurance to faithful witnesses that God will always give them the words they need when they need them**.

Remember G. I. G. O.

Not only will the saints endure official persecution from the government, but **there will also be opposition from family and friends.**

**Relatives will even follow in the footsteps of Judas and betray their Christian loved ones to be killed. Hatred, arrest, and death will be the lot of many of God's children during the Tribulation.**

**But they must not despair, for God is in control. Not a hair on their head can perish apart from His sovereign will (Matt. 10:28–31). Knowing this, they can have endurance and be able to face the challenge with faith and courage.**

**Matthew 10:28-33** And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. **Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.** Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground **apart from your Father.** But **even the hairs of your head are all numbered.** Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So **everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven,** but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

While many Christians today enjoy freedom from official persecution, or even family opposition, there are **others who suffer greatly for their faith**, and what our Lord said here is an **encouragement to them**. A friend of mine ministered in Eastern Europe, and a believer in Poland said to him, **“We are praying for you Christians in the Western world *because you have it too easy. The Lord must help you not to compromise.*”**

**Remember, the things Jesus described here are not signs of His soon return, because they have been going on for centuries.**

However, as the coming of the Lord draws near, **these things will multiply and intensify.**

No matter what our views may be of the coming of the Lord, **we all need to heed His three admonitions: “Don’t be deceived! Don’t be afraid! Don’t worry!”**

# Take the Name of Jesus with you

## Hymn 231

