THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A Message of Hope and Fulfillment For Those Longing For God

How Often I Have Longed to Gather your Children Together

Luke 13: 34 and Matthew 23: 37

In the last half of Luke's Gospel he tells the narrative of Jesus' long and meandering journey toward Jerusalem. In some ways it is more of a philosophical journey than it is a trip; it is more of a destiny than it is a destination. Jesus is going to the Cross. The last steps of the way begin with the triumphal entry followed by increasing conflict and culminating at Calvary. For the Holy Trinity, despite knowing full well the outcome, it is the last offer of restoration to a wayward nation before a very long interval lasting two millennia.

I. A Bittersweet Processional

- A. Luke 13:34-35—Jesus' heart and longing for Jerusalem
- B. Luke 19:35-44 (41)—Jesus weeps over Jerusalem
- C. Triumph and tragedy, a fickle crowd and a hard city

II. If I Could See This World Through Your Eyes

- A. Spurned love—from Adam to Jerusalem
- B. Divine conquest and the royal law
- C. Promise and fulfillment

III. If We Only Knew How Much He Loves Us

- A. An everlasting love
- B. Rejoicing over us with singing
- C. Heaven rejoices over one sinner that repents
- D. The Father's joy in a prodigal's return

The unifying thread through all of Scripture is the love of God for a lost human race; and the love of God for every human being. God loves us collectively, and He loves us personally and individually. It is the occupation of His existence in this time to win back all who have gone astray. He does not want to lose a single person. He invites us first to come back to Him, and then to join Him in the pursuit of all who are still wandering away from His presence.

NOTES	

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.' Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace-but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Luke 19: 28-42 NIV

Paul R. Martin
Lead Pastor
Alliance Bible Church of McHenry, IL

