

“HE Came Down”

by J. Michael Barconey

Scriptures:

Psalm 1:1-6;

Luke 6:17-26

Psalm 1:1-6 (NIV)

Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked

or stand in the way that sinners take

or sit in the company of mockers,

but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,

and who meditates on his law day and night.

That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,

which yields its fruit in season

and whose leaf does not wither

whatever they do prospers.

Not so the wicked!

They are like chaff

that the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Luke 6:17-26 (NIV)

He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Looking at his disciples, he said:

Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your
reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the
prophets.

But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

There's something different about this moment in Jesus' ministry.

Jesus has just spent time up on the mountain, praying. And when He descends, He is not alone. He brings His disciples with Him, and as they come down, they don't walk into the halls of the powerful. They don't step into the temple to have theological debates with scholars.

No, He came down **to the people**.

Luke 6:17 says, He came down with them and stood on a level place.

That right there is where we need to pause. He stood on a level place.

Not above them.

Not at a distance.

Not behind some divine barrier.

Jesus came down to meet them where they were. He came to see them, to touch them, to heal them. He came to be among the people who had been cast aside, ignored, and overlooked. And when He speaks, He doesn't affirm the powerful. He uplifts the poor, the hungry, the weeping, the despised.

I don't know about you,

but I serve a God who comes down.

Psalm 1 tells us, Blessed is the one who does not follow the advice of the wicked but their delight is in the law of the Lord. They are like trees planted by streams of water.

The Bible makes it clear: if you want to be blessed, **you have to be rooted in the right soil.**

A tree that is planted by streams of water doesn't have to chase after the rain. It doesn't have to run from drought. Its roots go deep, and because of that, it bears fruit in the right season.

Some of us are wondering why we feel disconnected. Why our faith feels dry. Why we aren't seeing fruit in our lives. Could it be that we have planted ourselves in the wrong soil?

Jesus came down to show us how to be planted in the right place.

Psalm 1 warns us:

The wicked are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Chaff has no roots. It is weightless, disconnected, at the mercy of whatever forces come against it.

Doesn't that sound like the way this world operates? The world wants us to be uprooted, constantly chasing after the next big thing, the next trend, the next distraction. But Jesus tells us that **if we are not planted in Him, we will be tossed and turned by every storm.**

Jesus came down to tell us:

Stand firm.

Be planted.

Let your roots grow in me.

The people in Luke 6 weren't waiting in comfort. They weren't sitting in luxury.

They were desperate.

They needed Jesus to come down.

Luke tells us they came from Judea, Jerusalem, and the coastal regions. Some had traveled miles and miles just for a chance to touch Him. They had come to hear Him and to be healed.

Some of us want transformation, but we aren't willing to move.

The people in this passage positioned themselves for healing. They put themselves in the right place to receive what Jesus had for them.

If Jesus came down today, would you be close enough to receive what He's offering?

And when Jesus finally speaks,

He doesn't affirm the powerful.

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

Jesus came down to flip the script.

The world blesses the rich;

Jesus blesses the poor.

The world honors strength;

Jesus honors those who mourn.

The world uplifts power;

Jesus uplifts the powerless.

The blessing is not in status, but in surrender.

Jesus doesn't stop at blessings —

He gives woes.

Woe to you who are rich.

Woe to you who are full now.

Woe to you who laugh now.

Not because having things is evil, but because they deceive us into thinking we don't need God.

The enemy moves in comfortable places. Jesus came down to disrupt what we think is secure.

What Will You Do Now That HE Came Down?

Jesus didn't come down to be admired —He came down to call us into action.

Will you reposition yourself like the crowd that waited for Him?

Will you uproot the things that separate you from God?

Will you embrace the blessings Jesus spoke over the poor, the hungry, and the grieving?

Jesus came down so we could rise up and be the hands and feet of a living God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Amen!