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| **Shelter Under His Wings**  *Promise: Christ died for you to shelter you from the final judgment* Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg Jeremiah 26:8-15; Psa 4; Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 13:31-35 (Second Sunday in Lent), 3/16/25)  *He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.* – Ps 91:4  **Lead In –** Leslie and I were living in St. Paul Minnesota as I attending seminary in 1980. It was May of that year that Mount St. Helens was in the news. A series of small earthquakes had begun in mid-March around the site. By April 3 the Governor of Montana had issued an executive order creating a “red zone” around the mountain, for it was an active volcano and it posed a danger of erupting. When evacuation orders were finally given, the owner and caretaker of the Mount St. Helens Lodge at Spirit Lake refused to leave his home. The owner was one Harry R. Truman, not to be confused with Harry S. Truman, the 33rd President of the United States. Truman, the last holdout on Mount St. Helens, was almost certainly the first to die when the mountain blew its top on May 18. The pyroclastic flow, meaning the extremely fast flow of volcanic materials, that overtook Truman’s lodge buried the site under 150 feet of volcanic debris. Poor old Harry refused to heed the warning, and he paid the ultimate price…   1. **The Refusal to Heed the Warning and Take Shelter**    1. Jeremiah warns Jerusalem of impending disaster…    2. Paul warns about becoming enemies of the Cross…    3. Jesus warns the elites in Jerusalem… 2. **Corruption Among Elites, Are You Surprised?**    1. Herod, considered Illegitimate wants Jesus dead…    2. The Sadducees especially represent aristocracy…    3. The Pharisees were the scholars and the pious… 3. **The Hen’s Wings Spread for All Her Brood**    1. Does God have a preference for the poor?    2. Those who are well have no need for a physician…    3. Jesus expresses a sorrowful lament over Jerusalem…   **Final Word –** Farmers have reported finding live chicks that survived a barn or prairie fire that were sheltered under the charred wings of their mother hen. That is how a hen shelters her young during impending danger, even at the cost of her life. Well, our Lord is not a mother hen, and He only figuratively spreads His wings. Actually, our Incarnate Lord has arms. And these, like wings, have been spread out to shelter us. They are spread out for the rich and poor, the strong and weak, the young and old, and the healthy and sick. In light of the impending wrath of God against sin, our Lord Jesus’ arms were stretched out on the wood of the Cross. And He came to us to gather us all! His wings can cover all! They have been spread to cover you! And only those resolutely refusing to be covered will perish. Don’t be like Harry Truman…  **Je 26:13** Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the Lord your God, and the Lord will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you.  **Je 26:11** Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.” | **Luke 13:31-35 ESV**  *Lament Over Jerusalem*  31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. 33Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ 34O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! 35Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”  **Ph 3:18-19** For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.  **Lk 13:4-5** Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” (parable of the Fig Tree – Lk 13:6-9)  **Lk 19:45-46** And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, saying to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.”  **Mt 25:5-7** [Pharisees] do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others.  **Ps 113:7** He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap.  **Mt 25:40** And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’  **Lk 5:31-32** And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”  **Lk 13:34** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!  **2Sa 18:33** And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!” |