



A Word from God's Word

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! Luke 13:34

In Luke 13:22, we are told that Jesus “*went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem*”. And as He goes, He reflects upon Jerusalem in the words above from Luke 13:34.

Jesus here is noting that throughout the Old Testament times, God graciously sent prophets to His people Israel, and these prophets spoke the very words and message of God. This message was one of salvation, calling people to turn to God in repentance, trusting in Him. And yet, as Jesus says in Luke 13, instead of hearing and responding, they rejected this gracious invitation and killed the messengers.

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah is one such example. He proclaimed the gracious words, “‘*Come now, and let us reason together; Says the Lord, ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.’*” Yet, the message was rejected and according to tradition, Isaiah was sawn in two.

But even so, the message of God's salvation in Christ continues to be proclaimed. Will you hear and receive—and be gathered to Jesus as chicks under the wings of a mother hen? Or will you turn away? The message comes to you.

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