

Based Matthew 21:1 – 26:5 ESV

# The MOST Amazing Week!

Saturday, 4/4 at 4:00 + Sunday, 4/5 at 9:00

Palm Sunday – 2020

Holy Thu: 11&7; Good Fri: 11&7; Holy Sat: 4:00; Easter Sun: 9:00

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: When it comes to a week of eternal significance, *there is none greater than Holy Week!* Today, we will skim over the events of Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, *which were written down for our eternal benefit!*

## Palm Sunday:

1. **The Triumphal Entry (21:1-11)**: Jesus fulfilled hundreds of OT prophecies; for example, [Zechariah](#) wrote, “Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation... humble and mounted on a donkey” (9:9 ESV). As Jesus entered Jerusalem, *many welcomed Him as the Promised Messiah!*

## Holy Monday:

2. **Jesus Cleanses the Temple (21:12-17)**: Jesus drove out the merchants and money-changers from the area designated for the Gentiles – *so that they could gather and pray!* “And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them” (14).

## Holy Tuesday:

*Matthew records 21 events that occurred on Tuesday!*

3. **Jesus Curses the Fig Tree (21:18-22)**: Jesus looked for fruit, but found none, so He said, “May no fruit ever come from you again! And the fig tree withered at once” (18). Since God has made us alive in Christ, *let us bear Christian fruit* (see [Proverbs 11:30](#))!
4. **The Authority of Jesus Challenged (21:23-27)**: The Jewish rulers said to Jesus, *regarding the cleansing of the temple*, “By what authority are you doing these things...?” (23) Since those rulers would not answer a question Jesus asked of them, *Jesus refused to answer their question!*

5. **The Parable of the Two Sons (21:28-32)**: Jesus, *speaking to those same Jewish rulers*, taught about the kingdom of God. Those rulers were outwardly good, *but they were not right with God*; therefore, Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, **the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you**” (28). **So what makes people right with God?** They **“are sorry for their sins and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior”** (Small Catechism, 274).
6. **The Parable of the Tenants (21:33-46)**: Jesus, *still speaking to those same Jewish rulers*, told them another parable in which God was the vineyard owner and the Jewish leaders were the tenants. When God—the owner sent His servants—the prophets to collect the fruit, they mistreated them and killed them. Then, *when the owner sent his son*, they threw Him out and killed Him – *even as Jesus was crucified outside of Jerusalem*. Then Jesus said to them, **“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone”** (33). *May everything in our lives always align with Jesus – the cornerstone!*
7. **The Parable of the Wedding Feast (22:1-14)**: Jesus, *still speaking to those same Jewish rulers*, told them another parable about a wedding banquet – *to show that everyone is being welcomed into heaven, but that each must be wearing the righteousness of Jesus!* As each person entered the banquet, *he was offered the proper wedding garment*. Jesus said, **“...when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was [silenced]. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘...cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth’”** (11-13). Let us always wear the wedding garment – *which is the righteousness of Jesus!*

**HYMN:** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

TLH 370, 1 & 4

8. **Paying Taxes to Caesar (22:15-22)**: The Pharisees tried to trap Jesus by what He taught about paying taxes, *but Jesus said*, **“render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s”** (21). *Let us faithfully do those same two things!*
9. **Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection (22:23-33)**: They tried to trap Jesus with a complicated marriage question, *but Jesus told them*, **“You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor**

the power of God” (29). In response, *let us keep growing in knowing both the Scriptures and the power of God!*

10. **The Greatest Commandment** (22:34-40): One of the Pharisees, a lawyer, tried to trap Jesus by asking Him about the greatest commandment. *Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God [and your neighbor as yourself” (37-38). May God help us to do our best!*
11. **Whose Son Is the Christ?** (22:41-46): Jesus challenged the Pharisees; *He asked them, “If... David calls [the Christ] Lord, how is he his son?” (45) They could not answer; do you know the answer?*
12. **Seven Woes to the Scribes and Pharisees** (23:1-36): Jesus boldly identified the teachers of the law and Pharisees as hypocrites. Jesus did so to warn the people about following them and to call the scribes and Pharisees to be sorry and believe in Him!
13. **Lament over Jerusalem** (23:37-39): Jesus was heartbroken; He said, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!” (37) *May God keep us willing!*

**HYMN:** *Delay Not, Delay Not, O Sinner, Draw Near*

TLH 278, 1-2

14. **Jesus Foretells the Destruction of the Temple** (24:1-2): When Jesus’ disciples pointed out the buildings of the temple, *Jesus said, “there will not be left here one stone upon another” (2). That actually happened, about 40 years later, in AD 70.*
15. **Signs of the End of the Age** (24:3-14): Jesus said to His disciples, “...you will be hated by all nations... many will fall away and... the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved” (9-13). *God will enable us to endure; let us trust Him!*
16. **The Abomination of Desolation** (24:15-28): This section includes two huge events: (1) the fall of Jerusalem (AD 70); Jesus explained what to do, “let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains” (16). (2) Jesus’ return; Jesus described the speed of His return like this, “as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man” (27). Many were not ready for AD 70; regarding Jesus’ return, *may God keep us ready!*
17. **The Coming of the Son of Man** (24:29-31): Jesus said, “[the Son of Man] will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will

gather his elect... from one end of heaven to the other” (31). Since Jesus could come at any time, *let us always stay close to Him!*

18. **The Lesson of the Fig Tree (24:32-35)**: Jesus said, as “you know that summer is near. So also... you know that [the Son of Man] is near” (32-33). *So let us keep studying the Bible and recognizing the signs!*
19. **No One Knows That Day and Hour (24:36-51)**: Jesus compared the coming of the worldwide flood to His return: As “they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man” (39). *So let us pay attention!*

**HYMN:** *And will the Judge Descend*

TLH 610, 1 & 6

20. **The Parable of the Ten Virgins (25:1-13)**: Jesus taught us to *live expectantly* – regarding His return! *Jesus said, “Watch... for you know neither the day nor the hour” (13). So let us always be ready!*
21. **The Parable of the Talents (25:14-30)**: Jesus taught us to *live responsibly* – by rightly using what has been entrusted to us! *Jesus said, “cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness” (30). For us, let us be responsible managers; then, may we hear God say, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (23).*
22. **The Final Judgment (25:31-46)**: Jesus taught us to *live repentantly* – with ongoing sorrow and faith! *Jesus said, “...these [unbelievers] will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life” (46). Remember, God sees us to be righteous through Jesus!*
23. **The Plot to Kill Jesus (26:1-5)**: Jesus knew the Jewish leaders’ plans; *He said, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified” (2).*

**Conclusion:** For the rest of the MOST amazing week, *join us this Thursday and Friday and Saturday and Sunday!!!!*

**Let Us Pray:** Dear Jesus, TY for Your awesome work – through which God sees us to be righteous; *and bless this holy week!*

**Sermon Challenge:** This week – read through Matthew 21:1 – 26:5

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