

Why Did Jesus, God's Son, Live and Die for Us?



Palm Sunday through Resurrection Sunday

Text: Matthew Chapters 21-28 NAS 2020

Join Us: Sa 4; Su 9; Holy Th 11 & 7; Good Fr 11 & 7; Holy Sa 4; Resurrection 9

Instructions: Since the Son of God ✦ is the source of our physical lives and ✦ did the excruciating work to save us from our sins, let us express our interest and devotion by reading through the events of Holy Week and Easter. Read the notes to better understand.

Palm Sunday:

1. **26:6-13 – The Precious Ointment:** Jesus prepared for burial!

Notes:

- The beginning of Holy Week.
- From a Jewish time-keeping perspective, it took place shortly after the beginning of Palm Sunday.
- The event was probably recorded in chapter 26:6-13, since the plot to kill Jesus is recorded in 26:3-5 (see Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8).

2. **21:1-11 – The Triumphal Entry:**

Notes:

- The clothes and branches on the road signified welcome, victory, and peace.
- Hosanna means: save us!
- ...from Nazareth in Galilee – Jesus' birth in Bethlehem was unknown to most people – see Micah 5:2.

Holy Monday: 21:12-17 – Cleansing the Temple:

Notes:

- the temple area – the court of the Gentiles, the place where they could gather and worship.
- Jesus' anger was righteous; He did not sin.
- ...went out of the city to Bethany and spent the night there – possibly at the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha.

Holy Tuesday: 21:18 – 26:5: A day filled with so much amazing teaching!

1. **21:18-22 – The Barren Fig Tree:**

Note: ...found nothing on it except leaves alone – pointing to people who claim to be Christians yet have no fruit.

2. **21:23-27 – Authority Challenged:**

3. **21:28-32 – Parable of Two Sons:**

4. **21:33-46 – Parable of the Landowner:**

Notes:

- Parables are earthly stories with heavenly meanings.
- Landowner – God the Father; Slaves – OT prophets; Son – Jesus.
- ...threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him – pointing to Jesus being crucified outside of Jerusalem.
- A STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED – JESUS, THE CHRIST.
- ...the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and on whomever it falls, it will crush him – to reject Jesus is the most serious matter.

5. 22:1-14 – Parable of the Marriage Feast:

Notes:

- Think about the LORD choosing the Jews, but most rejected Him and killed the prophets sent to them.
- king – God the Father; son – Jesus; slaves – prophets; those who had been invited to the wedding feast – the Jews.
- ...destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire – think about the destruction of Jerusalem in 587/6 BC.
- ...invite whomever you find – Gentiles.
- ...not dressed in wedding clothes – he had been offered righteousness, by grace through faith, but he had refused☹.

6. 22:15-22 – Poll-tax to Caesar:

Note: Pharisees – they strictly adhered to the Jewish law and traditions.

7. 22:23-46 – Jesus Answers the Sadducees:

Notes:

- ...like angels in heaven – people do not become angels, but they will be like angels because they will not be married.
- Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets – As believers in Christ, let us love God by *doing His word* and love others by *helping them with their needs!*
- “‘THE LORD [GOD THE FATHER] SAID TO MY LORD [GOD THE SON] ... “Therefore, if David calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his son?” – See Luther’s explanation of the second article of the Apostles’ Creed.

8. 23:1-12 – Hypocrisy Exposed:

9. 23:13-36 – Seven / Eight Woes:

Notes:

- Oftentimes for us, we hold back, but Jesus told the full truth to certain scribes (legal scholars and teachers) and Pharisees – not to hurt their feelings, but to open their eyes to the truth!
- ...from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar – Jesus’ statement endorsed the Hebrew OT Scriptures, which begin with Genesis and end with 2 Chronicles – and do not include the apocryphal books.

10. 23:37-39 – Grieving over Jerusalem:

Note: ...your house is being left to you desolate – pointing to the destruction of the temple in AD 70.

11. 24:1-14 – Signs of Christ’s Return:

Notes:

- ...not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down – It happened in AD 70.
- See to it that no one misleads you – keep growing in the Scriptures.
- ...the one who endures to the end is the one who will be saved – so let us never give up on JESUS.

12. **24:15-28 – Perilous Times:**

Notes:

- ...those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains – some listened to Jesus, but most stayed in Jerusalem and were put to death.
- ...for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short – God loves us and shows us mercy.

13. **24:29-31 – The Glorious Return:**

Note: ...those days – the NT era.

14. **24:32-41 – Parable of the Fig Tree:**

Notes:

- My words will not pass away – note the great importance and longevity of God’s word.
- Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left – now, we are all together, but a permanent separation is coming.

15. **24:42-51 – Be Ready for His Coming:**

Note: ...be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

16. **25:1-13 – Parable of Ten Virgins:**

Notes:

- Let us live each day expecting Jesus’ return, so we – *by grace through faith* – are ready for His return!
- foolish [unprepared], prudent [ready].
- I do not know you – ☹️☹️☹️

17. **25:14-30 – Parable of the Talents:**

Notes:

- We have also been entrusted with God’s possessions.
- ...after a long time – at the end of the NT era.

18. **25:31-46 – The Judgment:**

19. **26:1-5 – The Plot to Kill Jesus:**

Holy Wednesday: 26:14-16 – Judas’ Bargain:

Holy Thursday: 26:17-19 – Passover

Preparation:

Notes:

- ...on the first *day* of Unleavened Bread – technically, the Passover feast was one day, then the feast of Unleavened Bread followed immediately after for seven more days – see Leviticus 23:5-6.
- Regarding many of the following events, we – *who follow Roman time* – think of them taking place on Holy Thursday. However, *from a Jewish time-keeping perspective*, they all took place on Good Friday. That helps us to understand this key passage: “**I will remove the guilt of that land in one day**” (Zechariah 3:9).

Good Friday: 26:20 – 27:61

1. **26:20-25 – The Last Passover:**

2. **26:26-35 – The Lord’s Supper Instituted:**

3. **26:36-46 – The Garden of Gethsemane:**

4. **26:47-56 – Jesus’ Betrayal and Arrest:**

Note: ...Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels [72,000]? – Jesus permitted His arrest and all that followed – for our salvation!

5. **26:57-68 – Jesus before Caiaphas:**

6. **26:69-75 – Peter’s Denials:**

Notes:

“I do not know the man!” – Matthew 10:33
...whoever denies Me before people, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

- How are we like Peter? How is the Holy Spirit calling us to repent?
- And he went out and wept bitterly – the Holy Spirit convicted of his sins; let us never ignore the Holy Spirit.

7. **27:1-10 – Judas’ Remorse:**

Note: ...he went away and hanged himself – Judas had *worldly sorrow that led to his suicide*, not Godly sorrow that leads to repentance and forgiveness.

8. **27:11-26 – Jesus before Pilate:**

Notes:

- He did not answer him in regard to even a single charge – Isaiah 53:7
“He was oppressed and afflicted,
Yet He did not open His mouth...”
- ...after having Jesus flogged – flogging was an extremely violent and painful act meant to weaken Him and humiliate Him before execution.

9. **27:27-32 – Jesus Is Mocked:**

10. **27:33-56 – The Crucifixion:**

Jesus spoke seven times from His cross but only 1 of the 7 is recorded by Matthew. These are the seven:

1. **“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”**
2. He said to His mother, **“Woman, behold, your son!”** Then He said to the disciple, **“Behold, your mother!”**

3. **“Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**
4. **“MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?”**
5. **“I am thirsty.”**
6. **“It is finished!”**
7. **“Father, INTO YOUR HANDS I ENTRUST MY SPIRIT.”**

Notes:

- ...the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom – Google: “According to Jewish tradition and early historians like Josephus, the veil in the Temple (specifically Herod’s Temple) was about four inches thick. This massive curtain, estimated to be 60 feet high and 30 feet wide, was made of finely twisted linen and was strong enough that horses could not tear it apart.”
- ...many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised – even though death seems so final, some were raised when Jesus died and all will be raised when Jesus returns.

11. **27:57-61 – Jesus Is Buried:**

Holy Saturday: Matthew 27:62-66 – Tomb Secured:

Resurrection Sunday: Matthew 28:1-15 – Jesus Is Risen:

For the 20-page booklet: [click here](#)

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