

What Did Jesus Do for You and Me?

PALM
SUNDAY

HOLY
THURSDAY

GOOD
FRIDAY

HOLY
SATURDAY

EASTER
SUNDAY

Palm Sunday through Resurrection Sunday

Text: Matthew Chapters 21-28 NAS 2020 | 5-Part Series – You're Invited

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 was prepared for burial!

Notes:

- This event marked the beginning of Holy Week – *Jesus' last words and steps toward His dying to save us!*
- To us – *who follow Roman time*, this happened on the Saturday evening before Palm Sunday. But – *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).

⁶ Now when Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the Leper, ⁷ a woman came to Him with an alabaster vial of very expensive perfume, and she poured it on His head as He was reclining *at the table*. ⁸ But the disciples were indignant when they saw *this*, and said, "Why this waste? ⁹ For this perfume could have been sold for a high price and *the money* given to the poor." ¹⁰ But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you bothering the woman? For she has done a good deed for Me. ¹¹ For you always have the poor with you; but you do not always have Me. ¹² For when she poured this perfume on My body, she did it to prepare Me for burial. ¹³ Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole

world, what this woman has done will also be told in memory of her.”

2. **21:1-11 – The Triumphal Entry:** ¹When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus then sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied *there* and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to Me. ³And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and **he will send them on immediately.**” ⁴Now this took place so that what was spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: ⁵“SAY TO THE DAUGHTER OF ZION, ‘BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU, HUMBLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY, EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A DONKEY’” [Zech. 9:9].

⁶The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, ⁷and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their cloaks on them; and He sat on the cloaks. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them on the road [*the clothes and branches signified welcome, victory, and peace*]. ⁹Now the crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, “Hosanna [*save us*] to the Son of David; BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Hosanna in the highest!”

¹⁰When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds were saying, “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee [*apparently His birth in Bethlehem was unknown to most people – see Micah 5:2*].”

Holy Monday: 21:12-17 – Cleansing the Temple: ¹²And Jesus entered the temple area [*the court of the Gentiles, the place where they could gather and worship*] and drove out all those who were selling and buying on the temple grounds, and He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. ¹³And He said to them, “It is written: ‘MY HOUSE WILL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER’; but you are making it a DEN OF ROBBERS.” [*Jesus’ anger was righteous; He did not sin*].

¹⁴And those who were blind and those who limped came to Him in the temple area, and He healed them. ¹⁵But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He had done, and the children who were shouting in the temple area, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became indignant [*outraged*], ¹⁶and they said to Him, “Do You hear what these children are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes. Have you never read, ‘FROM THE MOUTHS OF INFANTS AND NURSING BABIES YOU HAVE PREPARED PRAISE FOR YOURSELF’?” ¹⁷And He left them and 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

1. **21:18-22 – The Barren Fig Tree:** ¹⁸ Now in the early morning, when He was returning to the city, He became hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves alone [*pointing to people who claim to be Christians yet have no fruit*]; and He said to it, “No longer shall there ever be any fruit from you.” And at once the fig tree withered.

²⁰ Seeing *this*, the disciples were amazed and asked, “How did the fig tree wither *all* at once?” ²¹ And Jesus answered and said to them, “Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was *done* to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen. ²² And whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive it all.”

2. **21:23-27 – Authority Challenged:** ²³ When He entered the temple *area*, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things [*driving out the merchants and money changers*], and who gave You this authority?” ²⁴ But Jesus responded and said to them, “I will also ask you one question, which, if you tell Me, I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ The

baptism of John was from what *source*: from heaven or from men?” And they began considering *the implications* among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Then why did you not believe him?’” ²⁶ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ And answering Jesus, they said, “We do not know.” He also said to them, “Neither am I telling you by what authority I do these things.

3. **21:28-32 – Parable of Two Sons:** ²⁸ “But what do you [chief priests and elders] think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in the vineyard.’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘I do not want to.’ Yet afterward he regretted it and went. ³⁰ And *the man* came to his second *son* and said the same thing; and he replied, ‘I *will*, sir’; and yet he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing *this*, did not even have second thoughts afterward so as to believe him.
4. **21:33-46 – Parable of the Landowner:** ³³ “Listen to another parable [*an earthly story with a heavenly meaning*]. There was

a landowner [God the Father] who PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A FENCE AROUND IT, AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER, and he leased it to vine-growers and went on a journey. ³⁴ And when the harvest time approached, he sent his slaves [OT prophets] to the vine-growers to receive his fruit. ³⁵ And the vine-growers took his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they did the same things to them. ³⁷ But afterward he sent his son [Jesus] to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the vine-growers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let's kill him and take possession of his inheritance!' ³⁹ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him [crucified Him outside of Jerusalem]. ⁴⁰ Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-growers?" ⁴¹ They said to Him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other vine-growers, who will pay him the fruit in the *proper* seasons."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'A STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED [JESUS, THE CHRIST], THIS HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"

⁴³ "Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruit. ⁴⁴ And 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].

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they understood that He was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ And *although* they sought to arrest Him, they feared the crowds, since they considered Him to be a prophet.

5. **22:1-14 – Parable of the Marriage Feast:** [Think about the LORD choosing the Jews, but most rejected Him and killed the prophets sent to them.]

¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying, ² "The kingdom of heaven is like a king [God the Father] who held a wedding feast for his son [Jesus]. ³ And he sent his slaves [prophets] to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast [the Jews], and they were unwilling to come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and my fattened cattle are *all* butchered and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!" '

⁵ "But they paid no attention and went their *separate* ways, one to his own farm, another to his business, ⁶ and the rest seized his slaves and treated them

abusively, and *then* killed them. ⁷ Now the king was angry, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire [*think about the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 BC*]. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. ⁹ So go to the main roads, and invite whomever you find [*Gentiles*] *there* to the wedding feast.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes [*he had been offered righteousness by grace through faith, but he had refused*], ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ And the man was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the servants, ‘Tie his hands and feet, and throw him into the outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth in that place.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few *are* chosen.”

6. **22:15-22 – Poll-tax to Caesar:** ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees [*who strictly adhered to the Jewish law and traditions*] went and plotted together how they might trap Him in what He said. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know

that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and do not care what anyone thinks; for You are not partial to anyone. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what do You think? Is it permissible to pay a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, “*Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites?* ¹⁹ *Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax.*” And they brought Him a denarius. ²⁰ And He said to them, “*Whose image and inscription is this?*” ²¹ They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” Then He said to them, “*Then pay to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s; and to God the things that are God’s.*” ²² And hearing *this*, they were amazed; and they left Him and went away.

7. **22:23-46 – Jesus Answers the Sadducees:** ²³ On that day *some Sadducees* (who say there is no resurrection) came to Jesus and questioned Him, ²⁴ saying, “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies having no children, his brother as next of kin shall marry his wife, and raise up children for his brother.’” ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us; and the first married and died, and having no children, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ *It was* the same also *with* the second brother, and the third, down to the seventh. ²⁷ Last of all, the woman died. ²⁸ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her *in marriage*.”

²⁹ But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, since you do not understand the Scriptures nor the power of God.” ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven [people do not become angels, but they will be like angels because they will not be married]. ³¹ But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God: ³² ‘I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB?’ He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” ³³ When the crowds heard *this*, they were astonished at His teaching.

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ And He said to him, “‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’” ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’” ⁴⁰ 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!]

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question: ⁴² “What do you think about

the Christ? Whose son is He?” They said to Him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “Then how does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’ saying, ⁴⁴ ‘THE LORD [GOD THE FATHER] SAID TO MY LORD [GOD THE SON], “SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I PUT YOUR ENEMIES UNDER YOUR FEET”’?”

⁴⁵ “Therefore, if David calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his son?” [See Luther’s explanation of the second article of the Apostles’ Creed.] ⁴⁶ No one was able to offer Him a word in answer, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him any more questions.

8. **23:1-12 – Hypocrisy Exposed:** ¹ Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, ² saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses. ³ Therefore, whatever they tell you, do and comply with it all, but do not do as they do; for they say things and do not do them.” ⁴ And they tie up heavy burdens and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with *so much as* their finger. ⁵ And they do all their deeds to be noticed by other people; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments. ⁶ And they love the place of honor at banquets, and the seats of honor in the synagogues, ⁷ and personal greetings in the marketplaces, and being called Rabbi by the people. ⁸ But as for you, do not be called Rabbi; for *only* One is your Teacher, and you

are all brothers *and sisters*.⁹ And do not call *anyone* on earth your father; for *only One* is your Father, He who is in heaven.¹⁰ And do not be called leaders; for *only One* is your Leader, *that is*, Christ.¹¹ But the greatest of you shall be your servant.¹² Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled, and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.

9. **23:13-36 – Seven / Eight Woes:**

[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!]

¹³ “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut the kingdom of heaven in front of people; for you do not enter *it* yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

¹⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes *one*, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

¹⁶ “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, *that is* nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.’

¹⁷ You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?¹⁸ And *you say*, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, *that is*

nothing; but whoever swears by the offering that is on it is obligated.’¹⁹ You blind men, which is more important, the offering or the altar that sanctifies the offering?²⁰ Therefore, the one who swears by the altar, swears *both* by the altar and by everything on it.²¹ And the one who swears by the temple, swears *both* by the temple and by Him who dwells in it.²² And the one who swears by heaven, swears *both* by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it.

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the Law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these *are the things* you should have done without neglecting the others.²⁴ You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.²⁶ You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may also become clean.

²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness.²⁸ So you too, outwardly

appear righteous to people, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs for the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰ and you say, ‘If we had been *living* in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in *shedding* the blood of the prophets.’ ³¹ So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ³² Fill up, then, the measure of *the guilt* of your fathers. ³³ You snakes, you offspring of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?

³⁴ “Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will flog in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, ³⁵ so that upon you will fall *the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, 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*]. ³⁶ Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

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

³⁷ “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the

prophets and stones those who have been sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings [to protect them], and you were unwilling. ³⁸ Behold, your house is being left to you desolate [*pointing to the destruction of the temple in AD 70*]!

³⁹ For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”

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

¹ Jesus left the temple *area* and was going *on His way* when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. ² But He responded and said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down [*it happened in AD 70*].”

³ And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one misleads you [*keep growing in the Scriptures*]. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will mislead many people. ⁶ And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for *those things*

must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pains.

⁹ “Then they will hand you over to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. ¹⁰ And at that time many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets will rise up and mislead many people. ¹² And because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will become cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end is the one who will be saved [*let us never give up on JESUS*]. ¹⁴ This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

12. **24:15-28 – Perilous Times:**

¹⁵ “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place—let the reader understand—¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains [*some listened to Jesus, but most stayed in Jerusalem and were put to death*]. ¹⁷ Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get things out of his house. ¹⁸ And whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.

¹⁹ But woe to those women who are pregnant, and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ Moreover, pray that when you flee, it will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. ²¹ For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will *again*. ²² And if those days had not been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short [*God loves us and shows us mercy*]. ²³ Then if anyone says to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or ‘*He is over here,*’ do not believe *him*. ²⁴ For false christs and false prophets will arise and will provide great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ Behold, I have told you in advance. ²⁶ So if they say to you, ‘Behold, He is in the wilderness,’ do not go out; *or*, ‘Behold, He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe *them*. ²⁷ For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ²⁸ Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

13. **24:29-31 – The Glorious Return:** ²⁹ “But immediately after the tribulation of those days [*of the NT era*] THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and

then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.³¹ And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET BLAST, and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

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

³² “Now learn the parable from the fig tree: as soon as its branch has become tender and sprouts its leaves, you know that summer is near;³³ so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door.³⁴ Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away [note the great importance and longevity of God’s word].

³⁶ “But about that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.⁴⁰ At that time there will be two *men* in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.⁴¹ 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:**

⁴² “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.⁴³ But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.⁴⁴ For this reason you must be ready as well; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*.

⁴⁵ “Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household slaves, to give them their food at the proper time?⁴⁶ Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.⁴⁷ Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.⁴⁸ But if that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is not coming for a long time,’⁴⁹ and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and he eats and drinks with those habitually drunk;⁵⁰ *then* the master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect, and at an hour that he does not know,⁵¹ and he will cut him in two and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

16. **25:1-13 – Parable of Ten Virgins:** [Let us live each day expecting Jesus’ return, so we – by grace through faith – are ready for His return!]

¹ “Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. ² Five of them were foolish [unprepared], and five were prudent [ready]. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they did not take *extra* oil with them; ⁴ but the prudent ones took oil in flasks with their lamps. ⁵ Now while the groom was delaying, they all became drowsy and *began* to sleep. ⁶ But at midnight there finally was a shout: ‘Behold, the groom! Come out to meet *him*.’ ⁷ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ But the foolish *virgins* said to the prudent ones, ‘Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ However, the prudent ones answered, ‘No, there most certainly would not be enough for us and you *too*; go instead to the merchants and buy *some* for yourselves.’ ¹⁰ But while they were on their way to buy *the oil*, the groom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Yet later, the other virgins also came, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open up for us.’ ¹² But he answered, ‘Truly I say to you, **I do not know you** [☹☹☹].’ ¹³ Be on the alert

then, because you do not know the day nor the hour.

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

¹⁴ “For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, *who* called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey [we have also been entrusted with God’s possessions]. ¹⁶ The one who had received the five talents immediately went and did business with them, and earned five more *talents*. ¹⁷ In the same way the one who *had received* the two *talents* earned two more. ¹⁸ But he who received the one *talent* went away and dug *a hole in the ground*, and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “Now after a long time [at the end of the NT era] the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰ The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have earned five more talents.’ ²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter the joy of your master.’

²² “Also the one who *had received* the two talents came up and said, ‘Master, you entrusted two talents to

me. See, I have earned two more talents.’²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter the joy of your master.’

²⁴ “Now the one who had received the one talent also came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed.’²⁵ And I was afraid, so I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you *still* have what is yours.’

²⁶ “But his master answered and said to him, ‘You worthless, lazy slave! Did you know that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter seed?’²⁷ Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.²⁸ Therefore: take the talent away from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’

²⁹ “For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.³⁰ And **throw the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

18. **25:31-46 – The Judgment:**³¹ “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit

on His glorious throne.³² And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, just as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;³³ and He will put the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left.

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on **His right**, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.³⁵ For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;³⁶ naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink?’³⁸ And when did we see You as a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?’³⁹ And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it for Me.’

⁴¹ “Then He will also say to those on **His left**, ‘Depart from Me, you accursed people, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;⁴² for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty,

and you gave Me nothing to drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or *as a stranger*, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do *it* for one of the least of these, you did not do *it* for Me, either.’ ⁴⁶ **These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.**”

19. **26:1-5 – The Plot to Kill Jesus:** ¹ When Jesus had finished all these words [*on Holy Tuesday*], He said to His disciples, ² “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man is to be handed over for crucifixion.”

³ At that time the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the courtyard of the high priest named Caiaphas; ⁴ and they plotted together to arrest Jesus covertly and kill Him. ⁵ But they were saying, “Not during the festival, otherwise a riot might occur among the people.”

Holy Wednesday: 26:14-16 – Judas’

Bargain: ¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What are you willing to give me to betray Him to you?” And they set out for

him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from then on he looked for a good opportunity to betray Jesus.

Holy Thursday: 26:17-19 – Passover

Preparation: ¹⁷ Now 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*] the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?” ¹⁸ And He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is near; I am keeping the Passover at your house with My disciples.”’” ¹⁹ The disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

Note: 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:** ²⁰ Now when evening came, Jesus was reclining *at the table* with the twelve. ²¹ And as they were eating, He said, “Truly I say to you that **one of you will betray Me.**” ²² Being deeply grieved, they began

saying to Him, each one: “Surely it is not I, Lord?” ²³ And He answered, “He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me.” ²⁴ The Son of Man is going away just as it is written about Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.” ²⁵ And Judas, who was betraying Him, said, “Surely it is not I, Rabbi?” Jesus said to him, “You have said *it* yourself.”

2. **26:26-35 – The Lord’s Supper**

Instituted: ²⁶ Now while they were eating, Jesus took *some* [unleavened] bread, and after a blessing, He broke *it* and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” ²⁷ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is My blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.” ²⁹ But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it with you, new, in My Father’s kingdom.”

³⁰ And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives [which is the location of the Garden of Gethsemane].

³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “**You will all fall away because of Me this night**, for it is written: ‘I WILL STRIKE THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK WILL BE

SCATTERED.’” ³² But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

³³ But Peter replied to Him, “Even if they all fall away because of You, I will never fall away!” ³⁴ Jesus said to him, “Truly I say to you that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” ³⁵ Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” All the disciples said the same thing as well.

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

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and told His disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ And He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with Him, and began to be grieved and distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me.”

³⁹ And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “**My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.**” ⁴⁰ And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, “So, you *men* could not keep watch with Me for one hour?”

⁴¹ Keep watching and praying, so that you do not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

⁴² He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, “**My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink**

from it, Your will be done.” ⁴³ Again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. ⁴⁵ Then He came to the disciples and said to them, **“Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Get up, let’s go; behold, the one who is betraying Me is near!”**

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

⁴⁷ And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came accompanied by a large crowd with swords and clubs, *who came* from the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now he who was betraying Him gave them a sign *previously*, saying, **“Whomever I kiss, He is *the one*; arrest Him.”** ⁴⁹ And immediately *Judas* went up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. ⁵⁰ But Jesus said to him, **“Friend, *do what you have come for.*”** Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested Him.

⁵¹ And behold, one of those who were with Jesus [*Peter*] reached and drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear.

⁵² Then Jesus said to him, **“Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ 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*] ⁵⁴ **How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled, *which say* that it must happen this way?”**

⁵⁵ At that time Jesus said to the crowds, **“Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me as you *would* against a man inciting a revolt? Every day I used to sit within the temple grounds teaching, and you did not arrest Me. ⁵⁶ But all this has taken place so that the Scriptures of the prophets will be fulfilled.”** Then all the disciples left Him and fled.

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

⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were gathered together. ⁵⁸ But Peter was following Him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and he came inside and sat down with the officers to see the outcome.

⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the entire Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death. ⁶⁰ They did not find *any*, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward, ⁶¹ and said, “This man stated, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.’” ⁶² The high priest stood up and

said to Him, “Do You offer no answer for what these men are testifying against You?” ⁶³ But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest said to Him, “I place You under oath by the living God, to tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God.” ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, “**You have said it yourself. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.**”

⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “**He has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? See, you have now heard the blasphemy; ⁶⁶ what do you think?**” They answered, “**He deserves death!**”

⁶⁷ Then they spit in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him, ⁶⁸ and said, “**Prophecy to us, You Christ; who is the one who hit You?**”

6. **26:69-75 – Peter’s Denials:** ⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a slave woman came to him and said, “You too were with Jesus the Galilean.” ⁷⁰ But he denied *it* before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” ⁷¹ When he had gone out to the gateway, another *slave woman* saw him and said to those who were there, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” ⁷² And again he denied *it*, with an oath: “**I do not know the man.**” ⁷³ A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “You really are *one* of

them as well, since even the way you talk gives you away.” ⁷⁴ Then he began to curse and swear, “**I do not know the man!**” [*See Matthew 10:32-33 – How are we like Peter? How is the Holy Spirit calling us to repent?*] And immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the statement that Jesus had made: “**Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.**” And he went out and wept bitterly [*the Holy Spirit convicted him of his sins; let us never ignore the Holy Spirit*].

7. **27:1-10 – Judas’ Remorse:** ¹ Now when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death; ² and they bound Him and led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate the governor.

³ Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse [*sorrow*] and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴ saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What *is that* to us? You shall see *to it* yourself!” ⁵ And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and left; and he went away and hanged himself [*Judas had worldly sorrow that led to his suicide, not Godly sorrow that leads to repentance and forgiveness*]. ⁶ The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put them in the temple treasury, since it is money paid for blood.” ⁷ And

they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. ⁸ For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. ⁹ Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "AND THEY TOOK THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, THE PRICE OF THE ONE WHOSE PRICE HAD BEEN SET by the sons of Israel; ¹⁰ AND THEY GAVE THEM FOR THE POTTER'S FIELD, JUST AS THE LORD DIRECTED ME."

8. **27:11-26 – Jesus before Pilate:** ¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned Him, saying, "So You are the King of the Jews?" And Jesus said to him, "*It is as you say*" [see *Matthew 2:2*]. ¹² And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not offer any answer. ¹³ Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they are testifying against You?" ¹⁴ And *still* He did not answer him in regard to even a single charge, so the governor was greatly amazed [*Isaiah 53:7 "He was oppressed and afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth..."*].

¹⁵ Now at the Passover Feast the governor was accustomed to release for the people *any* one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶ And at that time they were holding a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷ So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for

you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸ For he knew that *it was* because of envy *that* they had handed Him over.

¹⁹ And while [Pilate] was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him *a message*, saying, "*See that you have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him.*" ²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas, and to put Jesus to death. ²¹ And the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²² Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "**Crucify Him!**" ²³ But he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" Yet they kept shouting all the more, saying, "**Crucify Him!**"

²⁴ Now when Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; you yourselves shall see." ²⁵ And all the people replied, "His blood *shall be* on us and on our children!" ²⁶ Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus flogged, he handed Him over to be crucified [flogging was an extremely violent and painful act meant to weaken Him and humiliate Him before execution].

9. **27:27-32 – Jesus Is Mocked:** ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole *Roman* cohort to Him. ²⁸ And they stripped Him and put a red cloak on Him. ²⁹ And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and *put* a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ³⁰ And they spit on Him, and took the reed and beat Him on the head. ³¹ And after they had mocked Him, they took the cloak off Him and put His *own* garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify *Him*.

³² As they were coming out, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon, whom they compelled to carry His cross.

10. **27:33-56 – The Crucifixion:** ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull, ³⁴ they gave Him wine mixed with bile [*bitterness*] to drink; and after tasting *it*, He was unwilling to drink *it*.

³⁵ And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among themselves by casting lots. ³⁶ And sitting down, they *began* to keep watch over Him there. ³⁷ And above His head they put up the charge against Him which read, “THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

³⁸ At that time two rebels were being crucified with Him, one on the

right and one on the left. ³⁹ And those passing by were speaking abusively to Him, shaking their heads, ⁴⁰ and saying, “**You who *are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.***” ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking *Him* and saying, ⁴² “**He saved others; He cannot save Himself! He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him.**” ⁴³ HE HAS TRUSTED IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE *Him* now, IF HE TAKES PLEASURE IN HIM; for He said, “**I am the Son of God.**”” ⁴⁴ And the rebels who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him in the same *way*.

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour [*noon*] darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour [*3 PM*]. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “**ELI, ELI, LEMA SABAKTANEI?**” that is, “**MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?**” ⁴⁷ And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, said, “This man is calling for Elijah [*possibly said, because Eli is similar to Elijah*].” ⁴⁸ And immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. ⁴⁹ But the rest of *them* said, “Let us see if Elijah comes to save Him.” ⁵⁰ **And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and gave up His spirit.**

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."

⁵¹ And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split. [Google: "According to Jewish tradition and early historians like Josephus, the veil in the Temple (specifically Herod's Temple) was about four inches (or one handbreadth) 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."]

⁵² Also the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; ⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many [even though death seems so final, some were raised when Jesus died and all will be raised when Jesus returns].

⁵⁴ Now as for the centurion and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the *other* things that were happening, they became extremely frightened and said, "**Truly this was the Son of God!**"

⁵⁵ And many women were there watching from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee while caring for Him. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

11. **27:57-61 – Jesus Is Buried:** ⁵⁷ Now when it was evening, a rich man from Arimathea came, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given *to him*. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹ And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.

Holy Saturday: Matthew 27:62-66 – Tomb Secured: ⁶² Now on the next day, *that is, the day* which is after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, ⁶³ and they said, "Sir, we remember that when that deceiver was still

alive, He said, 'After three days I am rising.'
⁶⁴ Therefore, give orders for the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise, His disciples may come and steal Him, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it *as* secure as you know how." ⁶⁶ And they went and made the tomb secure with the guard, sealing the stone.

Resurrection Sunday: Matthew 28:1-15 – Jesus Is Risen: ¹ Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb.

² And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone, and sat upon it. ³ And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴ The guards shook from fear of him and became like dead men.

⁵ And the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was

lying. ⁷ And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see Him; behold, I have told you."

⁸ And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to report to His disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and said, "**Rejoice!**" And they came up and took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "**Do not be afraid; go, bring word to My brothers to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me.**"

¹¹ Now while they were on their way, some of the *men from the guard* came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened.

¹² And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, ¹³ and said, "You are to say, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him while we were asleep.' ¹⁴ And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and keep you out of trouble."

¹⁵ And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews *and is* to this day.

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