

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday -- glorious entry; reception for a king (Mk 11:1-11) *See, also, Zech. 9:9*

PRAYER: Create in me a humble heart to worship Jesus as King! (Mt 21:5)

Monday -- cursed barren fig tree; cleansed temple (second time) (Mk 11:12-24; Mt 21:12-17)

PRAYER: Create in me a clean heart. Purify me. (Mt 5:8; 1 Jn 3:1-3)

Tuesday -- explained withered fig tree; confronted Pharisees, Herodians, Sadducees, priests and Levites in the temple; later, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus answered the disciples' End Times questions (Mk 11:19-24; Mk 13:1-37)

PRAYER: Teach me. Help me to learn Your truths. (Ps 25:4-5)

Wednesday -- anointed by Mary; betrayed by Judas (Jn 12:1-8; Lk 22:1-6; Mt 26:14-16)

PRAYER: Draw me closer that I may serve you. (Josh 22:5; 24:15)

Thursday -- Last Supper; Garden prayers; surrendered to Roman troops and temple guards; denied three times by Peter (Mt 26:26-30; Lk 22:39-46; Jn 18:1-11; Mk 14:66-72)

PRAYER: Restore me when I fall. (Lk 22:31-32; Mk 16:7; Acts 2:14-41)

Friday -- 2 a.m. to 10 a.m., three Jewish trials, three Roman trials ("not guilty" by Herod Antipas & twice by Pilate, yet sentenced to death); scourged (flesh ripped; disfigured); cruel death on the cross (Jn 18:12-14; Mt 26:57-68; Mt 27:1-2; Jn 18:28-38; Lk 23:6-12; Jn 18:39-19:6; Mt 27:26)

PRAYER: Thank you for suffering for me. (Col. 2:13-14)

Saturday -- 16 battle-hardened soldiers guard the tomb (Mt 27:62-66)

PRAYER: Yours is the power, O Lord. (Jn 19:11)

Easter Sunday -- He is risen; many saints are raised; first action is to seek and save the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Mt 27:51-53; Lk 24:13-35)

PRAYER: Make me a soul winner. (Lk 19:10; Prov 11:30)

Palm Sunday

Mark 11 (NKJV) The Triumphal Entry

¹ Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples; ² and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring *it*." ³ And if anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it,' and immediately he will send it here."

⁴ So they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door outside on the street, and they loosed it. ⁵ But some of those who stood there said to them, "What are you doing, loosing the colt?"

⁶ And they spoke to them just as Jesus had commanded. So they let them go. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it. ⁸ And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread *them* on the road. ⁹ Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

"Hosanna!

'Blessed *is* He who comes in the name of the LORD!'

¹⁰ Blessed *is* the kingdom of our father David
that comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!"

PRAYER

Matthew 21 (NKJV)

⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your King is coming to you,
lowly, and sitting on a donkey,
a colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

See Zechariah 9:9

Create in me a humble heart to worship Jesus as King!

Holy Monday

Mark 11:12-14 (NKJV) Jesus Curses the Barren Fig Tree

¹² Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. ¹³ And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again."

And His disciples heard *it*.

Matthew 21 (NKJV) Jesus Cleanses the Temple

¹² Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³ And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.' "

¹⁴ Then *the* blind and *the* lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant ¹⁶ and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read,

'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
you have perfected praise?'"

¹⁷ Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.

PRAYER

Matthew 5 (NKJV)

⁸ Blessed *are* the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

1 John 3 (NKJV)

³ and everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Psalm 51 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart. Purify me!

Holy Tuesday

Mark 11 (NKJV)

²⁰ Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. ²¹ And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away." ²² So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. ...

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

Mark 13 (NKJV)

¹ Then as He went out of the temple, ... ³ ... as He sat on the Mount of Olives ... Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?" ...

The Great Tribulation

¹⁹ ... [Jesus replied] *in* those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. ²⁰ And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

²¹ "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or, 'Look, *He is* there!' do not believe it. ²² For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²³ But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁴ "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven. ...

No One Knows the Day or Hour

... ³² "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in Heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. ³⁴ *It is* like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. ³⁵ Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— ³⁶ lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

PRAYER

Psalm 25 (NKJV)

⁴ Show me Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You *are* the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.

Teach me. Help me to learn Your truths.

Holy (Spy) Wednesday

John 12 (NKJV) The Anointing at Bethany

¹ Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. ² There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. ³ Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil, spikenard, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. ⁴ But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, ⁵ "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶ This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. ⁷ But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. ⁸ For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

Luke 22 (NKJV) The Plot to Kill Jesus

¹ Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover. ² And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people.

³ Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. ⁴ So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. ⁵ And they were glad and agreed to give him money.

⁶ So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude.

Matthew 26 (NKJV) Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

¹⁵ ... And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

PRAYER

Joshua 22 (NKJV)

⁵ But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Joshua 24 (NKJV)

^{15b} ... as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Draw me closer that I may serve you.

Holy / Maundy (Mandate) Thursday

Matthew 26 (NKJV) Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper

²⁶ ... Jesus took bread, blessed, broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷ He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. ²⁹ I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." ³⁰ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

John 13 (NKJV) The New Mandate

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples if you have love for one another."

Luke 22 (NKJV) The Prayer in the Garden

³⁹ ... [and there, He] said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

⁴¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt, and prayed ⁴² saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done" ⁴³ Then an angel appeared to Him from Heaven, strengthening Him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground. ⁴⁵ When He rose from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter temptation."

John 18 (NKJV) Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane

³ Then Judas, having received a detachment *of troops*, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. ⁴ Jesus ... said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" ⁵ They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said ... "I am *He*." ... ⁶ Now when He said to them, "I am *He*," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Mark 14 (NKJV) Peter Denies Jesus, and Weeps

⁶⁶ Now as Peter was in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came. ⁶⁷ ... and said, "You also were with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are saying." ... and a rooster crowed. ⁶⁹ And the servant girl saw him again, and [said] ..., "This is *one* of them." ⁷⁰ But he denied it again. A little later those who stood by said to Peter, "Surely you are *one* of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows *it*." ⁷¹ Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!" ⁷² A second time *the* rooster crowed. Then Peter ... wept.

PRAYER

Luke 22 (NKJV) Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

³¹ And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to *Me*, strengthen your brethren."

See also Mk 16:7; Acts 2:14-41

Restore me when I fall.

Good Friday

Matthew 27 (NKJV) The King on a Cross

³⁵ Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet:

“They divided My garments among them,
and for My clothing they cast lots.”

³⁶ Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. ³⁷ And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him:

THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left.

³⁹ And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

⁴¹ Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, ⁴² “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. ⁴³ He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”

Luke 23 (NKJV) A Thief is Saved

³⁹ Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.” ⁴⁰ But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”

⁴³ And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

Jesus Dies on the Cross

⁴⁴ Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. ⁴⁵ Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ ”

Having said this, He breathed His last.

See also Jn 18:12-14; Mt 26:57-68; Mt 27:1-2; Jn 18:28-38; Lk 23:6-12; Jn 18:39-19:6; Mt 27:26

PRAYER

Colossians 2 (NKJV)

¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Thank you for suffering for me.

Holy (Black) Saturday

Matthew 27 (NKJV) Pilate Sets a Guard

⁶² On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, ⁶³ saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him *away*, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first."

⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make *it* as secure as you know how." ⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

PRAYER

John 19 (NKJV)

^{11a} Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. ...

Yours is the power, O Lord.

Resurrection Sunday

Matthew 27:51-54 (NKJV)

⁵¹ Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, ⁵² and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; ⁵³ and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying,

"Truly this was the Son of God!"

Luke 24:13-35 (NKJV) The Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And they talked together of all these things which had happened. ¹⁵ So it was, ... that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. ¹⁷ And He said, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?"

¹⁸ Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ And He said to them, "What things?" So, they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people ²⁰ and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death and crucified Him. ...

²⁵ Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

The Disciples' Eyes Opened

²⁸ Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther. ²⁹ But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

³⁰ Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight. ... ³³ So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those *who were* with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Peter!"

³⁵ And they told about the things *that had happened* on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

PRAYER

Proverbs 11 (NKJV)

³⁰ The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

Luke 19 (NKJV)

¹⁰ for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Make me a soul winner, Lord!