

Ron Armstrong • April 13 & 14, 2019
The Great Investment: Go, But Not Too Far

We are in between the event of Easter and the celebration of Easter.

Matthew 21:1 ...Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:
⁵"Say to the Daughter of Zion, `See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."
⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"...

Matthew 26:26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."
²⁷Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

A. Before the original Easter; Holy Week.

1. Celebrating Holy Week centers on two ideas:
 - a. Awareness of the SPECIAL days.
 - I. Palm Sunday. (Enters Jerusalem)
 - II. Fig Monday. (Curses the fig tree)
 - III. Spy Wednesday. (Judas betrays)
 - IV. Maundy Thursday. (Last supper but named for commandment to love)
 - V. Good Friday. (Crucifixion)
 - VI. Holy Saturday. (They hid)
 - b. The STATIONS of the Cross.
 - I. Tradition began in 4TH century.
 - II. Protestants have 8 stations; Catholics have 14.
 - III. The number is different because of the doctrine SO LA Scriptura. (Scripture alone).
2. COMMUNION is central to almost everybody's Christian tradition. It's a vivid picture.

B. But our lives are lived AFTER the Easter event. We are in the "Go ..." time.

1. AFTER the crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus told his disciples, "Go share."
2. Two "go share" stories:
 - a. Neither said, "You should go." Instead, they said, "Come with me."
 - b. Neither went far. They only went to the table.
3. Go, but not too far.