

Andy Deane • 4/10/22
Holy Week

Palm Sunday begins a week that leads Jesus closer to the crucifixion. Today we'll look at a major theme he taught on each day during what we now call Holy Week. Each of these concepts takes on a different meaning as we think through them in light of the cross.

SUNDAY: "Expectations"

Matthew 21:4-9 – The Triumphal Entry

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ⁵ "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The 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! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

As we draw closer to the cross our expectations change to be more in line with God's goals.

- When we find ourselves most disappointed with God, God has not failed us—our expectations of God have.
- So how do we line up our expectations with God's? By studying the Bible.

MONDAY: "Cleansing"

Matthew 21:12-13 – Jesus Cleared the Temple

¹² Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ¹³ "It is written, "he said to them, "My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"

As we draw closer to the cross we see our need for a cleansing from sin more clearly.

- "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit..." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- The cross helps us to hate our own evil because it reveals how bad sin is that such a cursed thing as a cross is needed.
- "He bore our sins in His own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24)

TUESDAY: "Readiness"

Matthew 25:34-36;40 – The Olivet Discourse

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation 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 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

As we draw closer to the cross we'll live like Jesus will come back at any moment.

- Jesus, about to die, reminds us that He is coming back!

- *“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” (24:42)*

WEDNESDAY: “Sacrificial”

Matthew 26:6-12 – Jesus Anointed with Spikenard

⁶ While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, ⁷ a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. ⁸ When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked. ⁹ “This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.” ¹⁰ Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. ¹² When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial.

As we draw closer to the cross it becomes easier to be more sacrificial.

- *“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.” (1 John 3:16)*

THURSDAY: “Service”

John 13:4-5; 12b-14 – Upper Room Discourse

⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him... ¹² “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³ “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.

As we draw closer to the cross we’ll look for opportunities to serve others.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY: We’ll read Friday’s scriptures at our Good Friday service. Join us at 5pm!

SUNDAY: We’ll read Sunday’s scriptures at our Easter service. Join us at 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:20am, & 11:40am.

This week, consider reading the Holy Week scriptures each day using this guide: www.go2cornerstone.com/holyweek