



# Life of Christ in *Context* Seminar





## Seminar Topics

- SESSION 1** Intro: Getting to (Re)Know Jesus
- SESSION 2** Where Jesus Lived & Served
- SESSION 3** Who Jesus Was
- SESSION 4** What Jesus Did
- SESSION 5** Where Jesus Taught
- SESSION 6** How Jesus Taught
- SESSION 7** What Jesus Taught
- SESSION 8** Why Jesus Taught
- SESSION 9** The Chronology of Jesus' Ministry
- SESSION 10** Top Archaeological Discoveries
- BONUS** Jesus in Jerusalem

## Goals & Objectives

- To gain a new and exciting “3-D” perspective of the life and ministry of Jesus within Israel, the land of the Bible.
- To glean from the historical, archaeological, geographical, and cultural backdrop of the life of Christ. This entirely pictorial presentation will use photos, aerial video, 360 video, and illustrations to accomplish this.
- To pursue the adventure of “connecting the dots” between the Jewish world of the 1st century and the life and ministry of Jesus. Our focus will center upon the Hebraic background of Jesus and His Jewish culture.
- To appreciate the context of the narratives of Jesus. This includes exploring what, where, how, and why He taught, and much more. We want to be able to “read between the lines” of the Gospel narratives about Jesus in order to thoroughly know Him!
- To grow in our walk of faith with Christ within the scope of God’s redemptive history fulfilled in Jesus.

## About Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours

Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours (BIMT) was created over 30 years ago (originally called Biblical Israel Tours) out of a passion for leading people to a personalized study tour experience of Israel, the land of the Bible. The ministry expanded in 2016. BIMT is now a support-based evangelical support-based non-profit 501c3 tax-exempt ministry dedicated to helping people “connect the dots” between the context of the ancient world of the Bible and Scripture.

### The two-fold purpose of BIMT is:

1. Leading highly biblical study-discipleship tours to Israel and other lands of the Bible, and to...
2. Teaching the Bible in the context of the land of Israel! This includes “Physical Settings of the Bible” teaching and discipleship training for churches and schools. It is our prayer that BIMT helps people to not only grow in a deeper understanding (e.g. information), excitement, and appreciation of God’s Word, but also to encourage people to grow (i.e. spiritual formation) in their walk of faith with Christ.

The Director of BIMT is **Rev. Dr. John DeLancey**. He is a former one-year archaeology and historical geography student in Jerusalem (Jerusalem University College). He has lead over 90+ Israel study trips. He also has led 17 separate Greece, Turkey, and Rome trips and excavated at 8 archaeological sites to date. Pastor DeLancey has also pastored for 26 years, serving churches in MN and PA. He is married to Sue. They live in Sugar Grove, PA (NW corner of PA right on the NY border). Together they have three children - Joel, Hannah, and Rachel and at present three grandchildren.

### The contact information for BIMT is:

**Address:** Box 220, 12565 Jackson Run Rd, Sugar Grove, PA 16350  
**Phone:** 412-999-5697  
**Website:** [www.biblicalisrael tours.com](http://www.biblicalisrael tours.com)

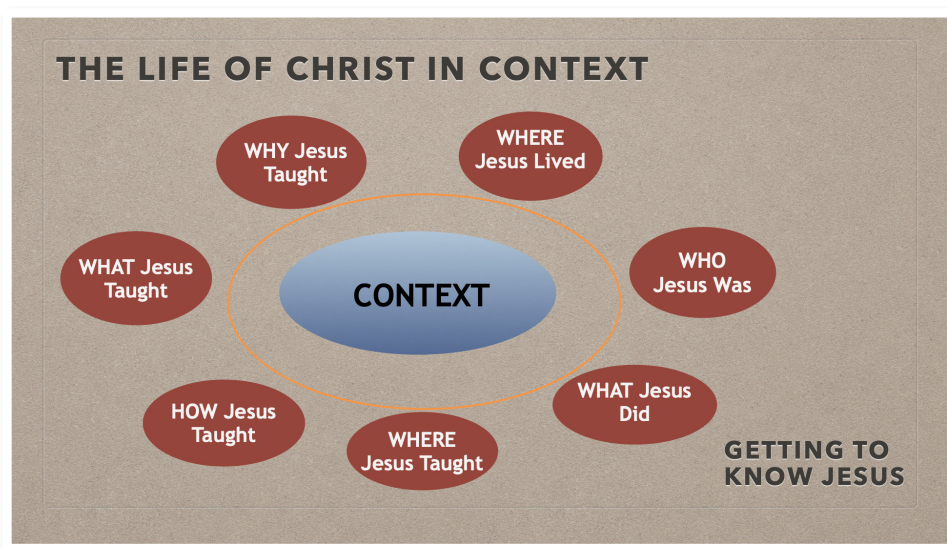




## Session 1: Introduction – Getting to (Re) Know Jesus

Seeing Jesus through the lens of the...

- H\_\_\_\_\_ (the past)
- G\_\_\_\_\_ (regions, Locations)
- A\_\_\_\_\_ (ancient sites, daily life)
- C\_\_\_\_\_ (order, phases of ministry )
- C\_\_\_\_\_ (Hebraic background)
- S\_\_\_\_\_ (redemptive purpose)



### NOTES:



## Session 2: Where Jesus Lived & Served

Three reasons why Jesus' coming was "just at the right time" (Galatians 4:4):

- G\_\_\_\_\_ Language
- Roman R\_\_\_\_\_ System
- D\_\_\_\_\_ Perceptions

"Divi Filius" - "Son of a god"

Jesus grew up in N\_\_\_\_\_ (in the Lower Galilee)

During His ministry years, Jesus went to Jerusalem S\_\_\_\_\_ or S\_\_\_\_\_ times.

The Sea of Galilee is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles long and \_\_\_\_\_ miles at its widest point.

C\_\_\_\_\_ (Kfar Nahum) was Jesus' "Home Base" for His Galilean Ministry.

"Come, follow me!" It is stronger in Hebrew: Lech Acharai (in Hebrew)

- "Walk after me"
- "Imitate me"
- "Do as I would do"



### NOTES:





## Session 3: Who Jesus Was

A few quotes about the Hebraic background of Jesus:

- *"The roots of Christianity run deep into H\_\_\_\_\_ soil."* (Marvin Wilson)
- *"The place to begin searching for Jesus is in the world in which he grew. His roots were first-century J\_\_\_\_\_. His theology is J\_\_\_\_\_ to the core."* (Brad Young)
- *"It cannot be overemphasized that the key to an understanding of the New Testament is a fluent knowledge of J\_\_\_\_\_ culture."* (David Bivin)
- *"How has most of the Western Christian world missed the importance of the study of the H\_\_\_\_\_ B\_\_\_\_\_ of the Scriptures? The Jewish roots have not simply been left unexplored, but they have too often been purposefully and willfully ignored."* (Tom Tribelhorn)

Jesus was His heavenly Father's Son, the M\_\_\_\_\_ (Anointed One)

Jesus was a son of His earthly Father, Joseph, who was a "T\_\_\_\_\_."

Jesus was S\_\_\_\_\_ apart for ministry in the Jordan River by *John, the Baptizer*.

Jesus returns to the Galilee.

Jesus was one of several who claimed to be the "Messiah" in the 2nd Temple Period (for "Judas, the Galilean," see Acts 5:34-37)

Jesus was a "shoot" in the line of David (Isaiah 11:1).

Jesus was a J\_\_\_\_\_ teacher who lived in a Hebraic world and who had followers

(T\_\_\_\_\_).

- *"Let your home be a meeting-house for the sages, and cover yourself with the dust of their feet, and drink in their words thirstily"* (Yose Ben Yoezer, 2nd century BC)

Jesus was an I\_\_\_\_\_ rabbi with "S\_\_\_\_\_."

## NOTES:





## Session 4: What Jesus Did

Jesus taught as an authoritative Rabbi with one primary message: The K\_\_\_\_\_ of H\_\_\_\_\_  
(Malchut Shamayim).

- “The time has come,” He said, “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent, and believe the Good News” (Mark 1:15).
- Jesus invited people to be part of it!
- The kingdom was about the “reign and rule” of God in people’s life.

Jesus observed Jewish L\_\_\_\_\_ and P\_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus wore a T\_\_\_\_\_ and T\_\_\_\_\_ (Numbers 15).

- The tassels (*tzitzit*) were attached to the corners (i.e “hem” - *kanafim*) of the garment.
- “But for you who reverence my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings (*kanafim*, Malachi 4:2).

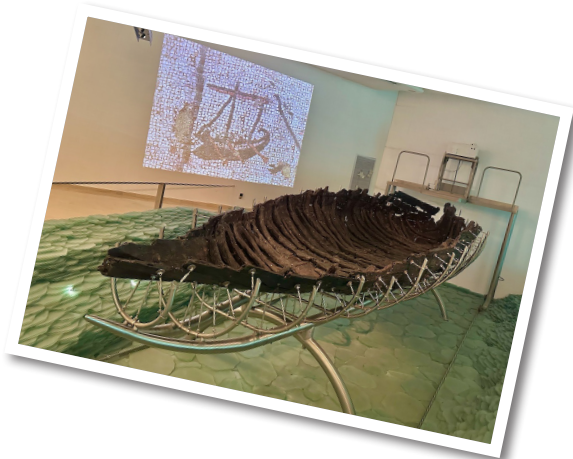
Jesus called disciples (T\_\_\_\_\_).

Jesus taught in synagogues (see Matthew 4:23, 9:35).

Jesus performed M\_\_\_\_\_. There are about 37 of them recorded in the Gospels.

The purposes of Jesus’ miracles:

- A sign of the F\_\_\_\_\_ of Hebrew prophecies.
- A sign that Jesus was the long-awaited M\_\_\_\_\_.
- A sign of Jesus’ A\_\_\_\_\_, P\_\_\_\_\_, and G\_\_\_\_\_.
- A sign of the present reality of the K\_\_\_\_\_!



## NOTES:



## Session 5: Where Jesus Taught

Jesus' ministry in the Galilee:

- Jesus taught in S\_\_\_\_\_.
- Josephus mentions there were 20 "Pre-70" AD synagogues (Alexandria, Antioch, Caesarea, Cana, Delos, Dor, Ephesus, Gamma, Gush Halal, Halicarnassus, Jericho, Jerusalem, Laodicea, Magdala, Masada, Miletus, Modein, Rome, Sardis, and Tiberias. (Credit: Steve Rudd)
- Three-fold purpose (*Theodotos Inscription*, discovered in 1913):
  1. The reading of the Torah
  2. The teaching of the commandments
  3. To serve as a "guest house" for travelers.
- Examples: Magdala, Cana, Gamla, Capernaum, Chorazin

Three stages of Jesus' life and ministry: (Credit: <http://www.swartzentrover.com>)

- O \_\_\_\_\_ (vanishing)
- P \_\_\_\_\_ (declining)
- O \_\_\_\_\_ (increasing)

Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem:

- The "2nd Temple" was built by those who returned from Babylon in the time of Zerubbabel in 520-16 BC. This Temple was expanded by Herod the Great, a project that began in about 20 BC.
- Jesus went to Jerusalem six or seven times during His ministry.
- John 2:18-22: (While Jesus was in the Temple) - *The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in **three days**." They replied, "It has taken **forty-six years** to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.*

The Jerusalem Temple:

- A spectacular "fly through" of the Jerusalem Temple (credit: Bible Scenes)

## NOTES:



## Session 6: How Jesus Taught

Jesus taught within the established R\_\_\_\_\_ system, thought, and practice.

Guiding Jewish principles & practices Jesus integrated into how He taught:

- The use of H\_\_\_\_\_ Aramaic was also spoken by Jesus.
- The use of K\_\_\_\_\_ (“light and heavy”)

*“To communicate a larger truth by comparing it to a similar, but smaller situation.” (Lois Tverberg)*

- The use of F\_\_\_\_\_ of the Torah

*Rabbinic authority: “Be deliberate in judgement, raise up many disciples, and make a fence around the Torah.”*

- The use of M\_\_\_\_\_ (parable)

There are about 30 recorded parables shared by Jesus.

Why did Jesus use parables? (see Matthew 13, Mark 4, Luke 8) The answer is found, in part, in Isaiah 6:9-10.

**QUOTE:** *“Doesn’t Jesus want everybody to get the message? Yes, and No. What He is saying is such dynamite that it can’t be said straightforwardly, out in the street. It is not that Jesus speaks in parables because he doesn’t want people to understand. He speak in parables because they refuse to understand. Through parables, Jesus can communicate with the people who are ready to listen, and no one else will understand enough to cause immediate trouble.” (NT Wright)*

**QUOTE:** *“If you look at Jesus’ parables, there are two fundamental things that make God pleased more than anything else we do. First, you are consumed and preoccupied with being a disciple of Jesus. That’s your daily preoccupation. Along with that, you are captivated and passionate about and completely dedicated to learning how to live in the Kingdom of God according to its nature, its principles, and its values.” (J.P. Moreland)*

- The use or R\_\_\_\_\_ (“hint”)

*“The use of part of a Scripture passage in a discussion, assuming that their audience’s knowledge of the Bible would allow them to deduce for themselves the fuller meaning of the teaching.”*

Examples:

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Matthew 11:29 (Jeremiah 6:16) | • Matthew 21:15-16 (Psalm 8:2)   |
| • Mark 15:34 (Psalm 22-24)      | • Matthew 11:2-6 (Isaiah 29, 35) |
| • Matthew 11:12 (Micah 2:12-13) | • John 8:4-9 (Jeremiah 17:13)    |

*(Note: Dr. DeLancey has written a paper called Jesus’ Use or “Remez” in the Gospels which includes over 60 examples of remezim. It is available in PDF format for download on our ministry resource page of our web site.)*







## Session 7: What Jesus Taught

Jesus taught a solid view of the T\_\_\_\_\_ / Law. (See Matthew 5:17-18).

Jesus taught a life-transforming I\_\_\_\_\_ of the Torah / Law.

Jesus shared words of W\_\_\_\_\_ that had parallels with the sages (as recorded the *Mishnah*).

- “*The day is short... and the workers are lazy...*” (see Matthew 9:37-39)
- “*Do not be like slaves the served their master...*” (see Luke 17:7-8,10)
- “*Raise up many disciples...*” (see Matthew 28:19)
- “*Let your home be a meeting place for the rabbis...*” (see Luke 10:38-42).
- “*Hate forever the unjust... and those outside the community...*” (Matthew 5:43-45)

Jesus taught the importance of P\_\_\_\_\_ (see Mark 1:35).

Prayers in the 1st century:

- *The Shema*
- *The Tefillah (Amidah / Shemoneh Esreh)*
- “*Our Father, our King*” (*Avinu Malkenu*)
- *The Priestly Blessing* (Numbers 6:24-26)
- *The Kaddish (an eschatological prayer)*
- “*Blessings/Benedictions*” - “*Blessed are you, Adonai/Lord our God, ruler/king of the universe...*” (*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu, Melech Ha-Olam*)

Jesus’ primary “go-to” message was the K\_\_\_\_\_ of God!

- “*Has come near*” - a reference to space, not time.
- “*Reign & Rule*” - Life-transforming!
- Jesus taught: People come into the kingdom when they accept God’s authority and begin to do His will! (See Matthew 6:10, 19-20; Mark 9:33-36; Matthew 28:16-20)

## NOTES:



## Session 8: Why Jesus Taught

Jesus taught to fulfill R\_\_\_\_\_ H\_\_\_\_\_ by ushering in the Kingdom of God. He prepared His disciples (*talmidim*) to continue this Kingdom focus.

Jesus taught in order to M\_\_\_\_\_ D\_\_\_\_\_ for the cause of the Kingdom.

Jesus taught to F\_\_\_\_\_ the Law (Matthew 5:17-19)

Qumran & the "Messiah" Scroll": (photo credit: Israel Museum - Scroll of the Book)

- Jesus came as Prophet, Priest, and King!



Credit: Israel Museum - Shrine of the Book

- The text speaks of a single Messiah figure who will rule heaven and earth.
- The text mentions in the clearest language the expectation of the resurrection of the dead during the time of this Messiah.
- The text contains an exact verbal parallel with the Gospels of Matthew and Luke for identifying of the signs of the Messiah. (credit: James Tabor)

Jesus taught to initiate and bring S\_\_\_\_\_ H\_\_\_\_\_ for Jews expecting a type of Messiah who would deliver them from Roman oppression.

The 5-fold Kingdom Purpose of Jesus (Luke 4)

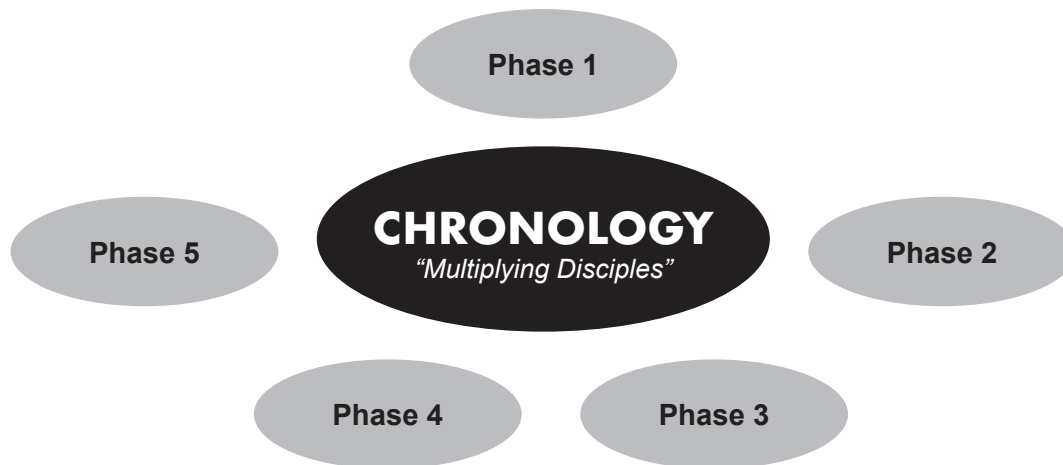
- To proclaim G\_\_\_\_\_ News to the poor.
- To set the oppressed F\_\_\_\_\_.
- To proclaim F\_\_\_\_\_ for the prisoners.
- To proclaim the Y\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord's favor.
- To give S\_\_\_\_\_ to the blind.

## NOTES:





## Session 9: The Chronology of Jesus' Ministry



The 5-fold Chronology of Jesus' Life and Ministry:

- **Phase 1** (30 Years): P \_\_\_\_\_ Period
  - Birth and Proclamation
  - Jesus in the Temple
  - John's Testimony
- **Phase 2** (18-20 months): M \_\_\_\_\_ Foundations
  - Baptism & Temptation
  - First followers
  - Wedding at Cana
  - 1st Temple cleansing
  - Nicodemus
  - Samaritan Woman
  - Rejection at Nazareth

• **Phase 3 & 4** (6-9 months): M\_\_\_\_\_ Training & E\_\_\_\_\_ Outreach

- Call of the “Four” (“Come, follow me” - Lech Archarai - “Walk after me, imitate me”)

- Six “fishing trips” (Luke 4:31 - 5:32)

- “Synagogue fishing” (i.e. demoniac)
- “Relative fishing” (i.e. Peter’s mother-in-law)
- “Marketplace” fishing (i.e. crowds)
- “Outcast” fishing (i.e. people with leprosy, paralytic)
- “Antagonistic” fishing (i.e. religious people)
- “Irreligious” fishing (i.e. sinners)

- Call of Matthew

- Synagogue

- Peter’s house

- Open Air

- Leper

- Home with Pharisees

- Matthew’s house

• **Phase 5** (15 months): L\_\_\_\_\_ Multiplication

- Appointment of the Twelve

- Sending of the Twelve

- Sending of the Seventy Two

- Last week in Jerusalem

- Death & Resurrection

- Appearances

- Ascension

*Note: The chronology of Jesus’ “Passion Week” is based on the Essene Calendar of Passover (See “When” Changes Everything by Tom Tribelhorn)*



## Restoring the Jewish Anchor Points of the Crucifixion Week Chronology

M:	SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY					
E:	Nissan 12		Nissan 13		Nissan 14		Nissan 15		Nissan 16		Nissan 17		Nissan 18		Nissan 19					
T:	Nissan 11		Nissan 12		Nissan 13		Nissan 14		Nissan 15		Nissan 16		Nissan 17		Nissan 18					
	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day				
	Palm Sunday	Entry of Passover lambs into Jerusalem and the Temple	John 11: 45-47	Jesus in Bethany	Follow man carrying water jar	Prep days were also referred to as "first day" Mark 14:12	Rules for Unleavened Bread began before Passover*	Essene Passover Unleavened Bread	Yeshua's Last Seder	Crucifixion	Sacrifice of Passover Lambs according to Temple Calendar	Twilight Exodus 12:6	Normative Passover (a Sabbath)	Start of Festival of Unleavened Bread on Temple calendar	Preparation for Weekly Sabbath	Weekly Sabbath	Synagogue Haftarah Reading: Ezekiel 37	Sheaf Cutting Ceremony	Twilight Resurrection	Waving of Sheaf (First Fruits) at the Temple Lev. 23: 15-16
M: Modern	*To this day, many traditional Jews remove leaven up to 2 weeks before Pesach																			
E: Essene	Death		Night #1		Day #1		Night #2		Day #2		Night #3		Day #3		Resurrection					
T: Temple																				

Taken from the book *"When" Changes Everything: Restoring the Jewish Foundation and Framework of the Real Crucifixion Week of Jesus* by Thomas B. Tribelhorn, Ph.D., D.Min., Masthof Press, 2023.

## NOTES:



## Session 10: Top Archaeological Discoveries

Credit and thanks for this list of discoveries:

- Bryan Windle (*Associates for Biblical Research*)
- Gordon Govier (*writer for Christianity Today and editor of The Book & the Spade*)

The compilation of their “Top Ten” lists of top discoveries that connect us to Jesus’ life and ministry:

- 17 - The “Galilee Boat” (Nof Ginnosar)
- 16 - Priestly Mansion (Mt. Zion, Jerusalem)
- 15 - First Century Galilean Synagogues (i.e. Magdala, Capernaum, Cana, Chorazin, Gamla)
- 14 - Herodian Monumental Entrance (Herodium)
- 13 - Jacob’s Well (Sychar/Shechem)
- 12 - Herod’s Palaces (Jerusalem & Jericho)
- 11 - Jesus’ Home Town (Nazareth)
- 10 - The Temple (Jerusalem)
- 9 - Caiaphas Ossuary Inscription (Jerusalem)
- 8 - Emmaus (Kiriath Jearim)
- 7 - Pilate Inscription & Ring (Caesarea)
- 6 - Pilgrim Road (City of David, Jerusalem)
- 5 - Pool of Siloam (City of David, Jerusalem)
- 4 - Bethsaida (El Araj, north end of Sea of Galilee)
- 3 - Heal Bone of Crucified Man (Jerusalem)
- 2 - Holy Sepulcher Church (Old City, Jerusalem)
- 1 - Nazareth Inscription (Nazareth)

## NOTES:





## BONUS SESSION: Jesus in Jerusalem

Connecting with Jesus in Jerusalem:

- Luke 2 (Dedication & Childhood)
- Matthew 4 (Temptation)
- John 2 (Money changers)
- John 5 (Pool of Bethesda)
- John 7 (Sukkot & Water Libation Festival)
- John 8 (Temple Courts)
- John 9 (Pool of Siloam)
- John 10 (Solomon's Colonnade/Portico)

Jesus' Final Week:

- John 12/Luke 19 (Palm Sunday)
- Mark 12 (Widow's Mite)
- Mark 13 (Leaving the Temple)
- Matthew 23 & 24 (Predictions)
- John 18-20 (Last Supper, Gethsemane, trials, crucifixion, resurrection)

Jesus' Passion Week based on the Essene Calendar (See *"When" Changes Everything* by Tom Tribelhorn):

- Friday: Arrival in Bethany (Jn. 12:1)
- Saturday: Day of rest? (nothing mentioned in Gospels)
- Sunday: Triumphal Entry (Mt. 21:1-11, Lk. 19:26-44), Clearing of Temple (Mt. 21:10-17, Lk. 19:45-48). Back to Bethany.
- Monday & Tuesday: Days of controversy & parables (Mt. 21:23-24:51, Mk. 11:27-13:37, Lk. 20:1-21:36)
- Tuesday evening/night: Passover / Last Supper / Gethsemane (Mt. 26:17-30, Mk. 14:12-26, Lk. 22:7-23, Jn. 13:1-30)

- ## Restoring the Jewish Anchor Points of the Crucifixion Week Chronology

Death	Night #1	Day #1	Night #2	Day #2	Night #3	Day #3	Resurrection
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## NOTES:

# RESOURCES

Devotional Treasures from the Holyland.....	John DeLancey
Connecting the Dots	
Everyday Life in Bible Times.....	John Beck
Exploring Bible Times. ....	Jim Martin
Jesus the Jewish Theologian.....	Brad Young
The Parables	
Meet the Rabbis	
Jesus and His Jewish Parables	
The Jewish Background to the Lord's Prayer	
New Light on the Difficult Words of Jesus. ....	David Bivin
Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes. ....	Kenneth E. Bailey
The Satellite Bible Atlas.....	William Schlegel
The Sage from Galilee: Rediscovering Jesus' Genius.....	David Flusser
The Rabbinic Parables and Jesus the Parable Teller	
Judaism of the Second Temple Period: Qumran and Apocalypticism	
The Jericho Effect (the Bible is a Myth).....	Tom Tribelhorn
"When" Changes Everything	
Our Father Abraham. ....	Marvin Wilson
Exploring Our Hebraic Heritage: A Christian Theology of Roots and Renewal	
Regions on the Run. ....	Jim Monson/Steve Lancaster
Geobasics in the Land of the Bible	
Regional Study Maps	
Reading the Bible with Rabbi Jesus. ....	Lois Tverberg
Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus	
Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus	
Stories with Intent: A Comprehensive Guide to the Parables of Jesus. ....	Klyne Snodgrass





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