



1: Crown to Cross

Within one week the status of Jesus changed from crowned to crucified. But far from failure, the unexpected rescue plan to free hostages was completed at the cross.

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teachingnotes

Jesus is God's plan to rescue fallen man

The Triumphant Entry Into Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-35 (NIV)

...He went on ahead, **going up to Jerusalem**. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the **Mount of Olives**, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will **find a colt tied there**, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'" Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "**The Lord needs it.**" They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and **put Jesus on it**.

Matthew, writing to a Jewish audience, adds that...

Matthew 21:4-5 (NIV) This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet [Zech 9:9] "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.'"

Jesus rides down the Mount of Olives and into Jerusalem, and the people are excited! They had heard of Jesus miracles and they had just left Bethany, where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead! Many think Jesus is the long awaited Messiah and they are ready to CROWN Him King!

The People Applaud Jesus

Matthew 21:8-9 (NIV)

A very large crowd **spread their cloaks on the road**, while others **cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road**. 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!"

- The **cloak** was the outer clothing often used as a blanket at night. These people followed the example of those who did the same when Jehu became king (841-814 BC - 2 Kings 9:13) - submitting one's life to his authority.
- These were **palm branches** laid before Jesus (Jn 12:13). Judas Maccabees and the Jews ran Antiochus Epiphanes IV out of the temple and rededicated it in 165 BC, and **palms** were used in the celebration (1 Macc. 13:51; 2 Macc. 10:7). ¹ This became an **annual celebration known as Hanukkah**. So, palm branches had both a religious and political symbology of freedom from oppressors.
- The people called out to Jesus: "**Hosanna to the Son of David!**" **Hosanna** is a Aramaic term that means "save us", and **the Son of David** was a phrase that recognized Jesus as the Messiah who was in the family tree of King David. Both John and Luke note that some in the crowd specifically called Jesus "the King of Israel" (Jn 12:13, Lk 19:38). This is a recognition that **Jesus is the Messiah, asking that God would SAVE (hosanna) through His Messiah**. They are ready to CROWN Him King!

¹ Gary M. Burge, John, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 2000), 341.

Jesus Tosses the Temple

Luke 19:45–48 (NIV) When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. “It is written,” he said to them, “ ‘My house will be a house of prayer’; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’” **Every day he was teaching at the temple**. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

John 2:18–21 (NIV) 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.

Jesus Ministers in the Temple

Matthew 21:14–15 (NIV) The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were indignant.

Luke 21:37–38 (NIV) **Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple**, and each evening he went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives, and all the people came early in the morning to hear him at the temple.

Jesus Sees What’s Coming Beyond Passover

Matthew 26:1–2 (NIV)

...He said to his disciples, “As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”

- **The Last Supper** - Jesus reveals He is about to be betrayed...by one of His disciples! Jesus breaks the bread and says, “This is my body”. He takes the cup of wine and says, “This is my blood of the new covenant”. They still don’t understand what is coming, despite the many times He told them.
- Jesus and His disciples make their way to **a garden on the Mount of Olives**, not far from the walls of Jerusalem. It’s there that Jesus prays fervently and asks them to do the same. Jesus prays, “Father, if there’s another way...let’s do that. But... not my will, but YOUR WILL be done.”
- Jesus is arrested and taken to multiple night trials.

Jesus Prophesied What Was Coming a Week Prior

Matthew 20:17–19 (NIV) Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and **the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law**. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. **On the third day he will be raised to life!**”

And sure enough, Jesus was **condemned to death, mocked, beaten, flogged, and nailed to a Roman cross to be crucified**.

The Death of Jesus - Foretold 700 Years Earlier

Isaiah 53:4–6 (NIV) Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by Him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and **by his wounds we are healed**. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:10–11 (NIV) Yet it was the Lord’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though **the Lord makes his life an offering for sin**, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. **After he has suffered, he will see the light of life** and be satisfied; by his knowledge **my righteous servant will justify many**, and he will bear their iniquities.

Jesus is God’s plan to rescue fallen man.

The cross communicates that: 1) **Our Sin is Serious** and 2) **Our God is gracious**.

❓ Are YOU confident in Jesus? **Turn from your sin and TRUST in Him!**



1. **Read the Scriptures.** (See the Scriptures on the next page)
2. **Remember the Sacrifice of Jesus with Followers of Jesus.**
 - **Passion Week Services** - Monday-Friday Noon @ 4 Freedoms Park
 - **Good Friday Gathering** - 5:30pm at Fellowship

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Christy** (850-673-9764), **Caleb** (864-315-8015), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives**: Alan & Christy Androski (850-464-1428), Steve & Debbie Bass (850-673-7952), Freddy & Joyce Howard (850-973-0047), Tim & Joni Hughey (850-464-1156), Mark & Dot Mancil (850-253-5405), Boss & Amelia Mulkey (850-464-6717), or Tom & Martha Waddail (850-973-0011).

discussionquestions

Take some time to discuss these questions with your family, friends, or group.

1. What challenged or encouraged you most from today's teaching? (Look back in your notes to help explain your answer.)
2. **Read Matthew 21:8-9 & John 12:13.** What were the people expecting from the Messiah and what evidences that many thought Jesus *WAS* the Messiah? Why wouldn't Jesus allow the people to crown Him as their king at this time?
3. **Read Luke 19:45-48 & John 2:18-21.** Why does Jesus' cleansing of the temple bring such hatred from the religious leaders & what sign to Jesus say would PROVE His authority to do so?
4. **Read Matthew 21:14-15 & Luke 21:37-38.** What does Jesus daily practice to heal and teach in the temple say about his compassion for people and fear/lack of fear toward His enemies?
5. **Read Matthew 20:17-19.** Why would Jesus go to Jerusalem if He really knew these things would take place beforehand?
6. **Read Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-11.** After considering the claim that Jesus actually died to pay for our sins, what does this say about the seriousness of our sins and the graciousness of God?
7. **PRAY** for needs and that we would all be focused on gratitude & obedience this week.

READING PLAN (from Together For The Gospel)²

Sunday	Jesus Enters Jerusalem (Mt 21:1-11; Mk 11:1-10; Lk 19:29-44; Jn 12:12-19) Jesus Predicts His Death (Jn 12:20-36) Jesus Visits the Temple (Mt 21:14-17; Mk 11:11)
Monday	Jesus Curses a Fig Tree (Mt 21:18-19; Mk 11:12-14) Jesus Cleanses the Temple (Mt 21:12-13; Mk 11:15-18; Lk 19:45-48)
Tuesday	The Lesson from the Fig Tree (Mt 21:20-22; Mk 11:20-26) Jesus Teaches in the Temple (Mt 21:23-23:39; Mk 11:27-12:44; Lk 20:1-21:4) Jesus Predicts the Future (Mt 24-25; Mk 13:1-37; Lk 21:5-36)
Wednesday	Jesus Continues His Daily Teaching in the Temple (Luke 21:37-38) The Sanhedrin Plots to Kill Jesus (Mt 26:3-5; Mk 14:1-2; Lk 22:1-2)
Thursday	Jesus Instructs His Disciples to Secure Room for Passover (Mt 26:17-19; Mk 14:12-16; Lk 22:7-13) Passover Meal, Prediction of Betrayal (Mt 26:20-29; Mk 14:17-23; Lk 22:14-30) Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet & Upper Room Discourse (Jn 13:1-17:26) Jesus and the Disciples Sing & Depart to the Mount of Olives (Mt 26:30; Mk 14:26; Lk 22:39) Jesus Predicts Peter's Denials (Mt 26:31-35; Mk 14:27-31; Lk 22:31-34) Jesus Issues Final Practical Commands about Supplies and Provisions (Lk 22:35-38) Jesus and the Disciples Go to Gethsemane (Mt 26:36-46; Mk 14:32-42; Lk 22:40-46)
Friday	Jesus is Betrayed by Judas and Arrested (Mt 26:47-56; Mk 14:43-52; Lk 22:47-53; Jn 18:2-12) Jesus has an Informal Hearing before Annas (Mt 26:57, 59-68; Mk 14:53, 55-65; Lk 22:63-71) Peter Denies Jesus & Rooster Crows (Mt 26:58, 69-75; Mk 14:54, 66-72; Lk 22:54-62; Jn 18:15-18, 25-27) Judas Returns the Silver and Hangs Himself (Matthew 27:3-10) Pilate Questions Jesus & Sends Him to Herod Antipas (Mt 27:11-14; Mk 15:2-5; Lk 23:1-7; Jn 18:28-38) Herod Questions Jesus and Sends Him Back to Pilate (Luke 23:8-12) Jesus Appears before Pilate 2nd Time, is Condemned to Die (Mt 27:15-26; Mk 15:6-15; Lk 23:13-25; Jn 18:38-19:16) Jesus is Mocked and Marched to Golgotha (Mt 27:27-34; Mk 15:16-23; Lk 23:26-49; Jn 19:1)7 Jesus is Crucified between Two Thieves (Mt 27:35-44; Mk 15:24-32; Lk 23:33-43; Jn 19:18-27) Jesus Breathes His Last (Mt 27:45-56; Mk 15:33-41; Lk 23:44-49; Jn 19:28-37) Joseph of Arimathea Buries Jesus in a New Tomb (Mt 27:57-61; Mk 15:42-47; Lk 23:50-56; Jn 19:38-42)
Saturday	The Chief Priests and Pharisees Place Guards at the Tomb (Mt 27:62-66)
Sunday	Some Women Discover the Empty Tomb (Mt 28:1-7; Mk 16:1-7; Lk 24:1-7; Jn 20:1) The Women Leave the Garden and Tell the Disciples (Mt 28:8-10; Lk 24:8-11; Jn 20:2) Peter and John Rush to the Tomb and Discover It Empty (Lk 24:12; Jn 20:3-10) Mary Returns to the Tomb and Encounters Jesus (John 20:11-18) Jesus Appears to Cleopas and a Friend on the Road to Emmaus (Lk 24:13-35) That Evening Jesus Appears to the Eleven (minus Thomas) in a House in Jerusalem (Lk 24:36-43; Jn 20:19-23)

² <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/final-days-jesus/#course-introduction>