

FROM DEATH TO LIFE – THE ROLLER-COASTER RIDE OF EASTER WEEKEND

DAY I

Good Friday (or Good Thursday)

- Jesus **arrested** (Mt. 26:47-56)
 - Many **disciples flee** Jesus (Mt. 26:56; Mk. 14:50-52)
 - Jewish **trials** (Mt. 26:57 - 27:1)
 - Roman **interrogations**; Pilate & Herod (Mt. 27:1-31)
 - Peter's **denials** (Mt. 26:69-75)
 - Judas' **suicide** (Mt. 27:3-10)
 - Via Dolorosa: "The Painful Way" or "**Way of Suffering**" Carrying the Cross (Mt. 27:31-33)
 - **Crucifixion** (Mt. 27:33-56)
 - **Burial** in Joseph of Arimathea's tomb (Mt. 27:57-61)
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- From the perspective of Jesus' disciples, this was a shocking and confusing day. Their lives were turned upside down. Their perceptions about who Jesus was "supposed" to be, were shattered by His crucifixion. It was also a frightening day — would the authorities come after them, too?

DAY II

Holy "Silent" Saturday (or Holy Friday & Saturday)

- Disciples **run & hide** in fear (Mk. 14:50)
 - Jewish religious leaders **met** with Pontius Pilate (Mt. 27:62-64)
 - Roman **guards posted** at the tomb (Mt. 27:65-66)
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- This day is called by theologians a "quiet day" — but again, from the perspective of the disciples it must have been a terribly depressing and fearful day. The apparent finality of Jesus' life was sinking in. Were the last three years a waste? What will they do next?

DAY III

Easter Sunday (or Resurrection Sunday)

- The **RESURRECTION** of Jesus! (Mt. 28:1-8)
 - The Roman soldiers reported that Jesus' **body is missing** (Mt. 28:11-15)
 - Women visited the tomb and met **angels** (Mt. 28:1-7)
 - The women **met Jesus** in His post-resurrection body (Mt. 28:9-10)
 - The women **reported to the disciples** that Jesus had risen (Lk. 24:9-11)
 - **Peter & John** ran to the tomb to see for themselves (Jn. 20:3-9)
 - Jesus appeared to two men on the **road to Emmaus** (Lk. 24:13-35)
 - The risen Jesus **appeared before His disciples** (Lk. 24:36-49)
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- From despair to unanticipated exhilaration — the disciples are overwhelmed to learn that the tomb could not hold Jesus! He was unmistakably dead when they brought Him down from the cross, and now He is alive! Resurrection and HOPE for a new future for them and all of us — because of Jesus!