

Call to Worship.

Psalm 100:1-5 'Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before Him with joyful singing. Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

For the LORD is good;

His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations.'

Hymn 1. Doxology.

Hymn 2. Awesome God.

Isaiah 53:10-12 'But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; If He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear the iniquities. Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.'

Hymn 3. I Pledge Allegiance to the Lamb.

Hymn 4. Shout to the Lord.

Hymn 5. What a Day that will be.

Offering.

Pastoral Prayer.

Sermon Text. John 19:30 'It is finished'

Now what I want to do today, is take these three words, and filter the entire Passion week through these three words, 'it is finished.'

I'm Recapture the events of the Passion Week.

Believe it or not, **over 50%** of the Gospel of John is content about the last week of Jesus life. That's chapters 10-21 **Another 40%** of the Gospel of John is about the last 3 days. Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Each covered from chapters 13-21.

It seems to me that the last written Gospel author, and the Holy Spirit that inspired Him, wanted to give a significant emphasis on the last week of Jesus ministry.

As a church, we have been going through those events since this time last year.

I do recognize in our age, spending a year's time in 8 chapters of the Bible seems like overkill, BUT, it's that mindset that is actually killing our society.

A lack of Spiritual virtues like patience, endurance, long-suffering, self-control, discernment, self-discipline, what Jesus calls '**the weightier matters of the Law**' ...

It's the lack of keeping the collective conscience of the community under the explanation of these Words of God that has afforded so many people to rebel against God.

Men who stand for nothing are Men who fall for everything.

And we see in this week that **Jesus Christ stands for some very important matters.**

These matters of conviction are actually developed through the extended meditation and application of the Scriptures to our personal life.

Most definitely, Explained Scripture over an Extended period of time DOES NOT improve a person's life...IT TRANSFORMS A PERSON'S LIFE.

Applying the significance of the Passion week events could shape our entire Christian worldview.

I'm going to do my best to make it interesting. **We must always be reminded, that church is supposed to be a school house, it is supposed to be a training center for righteous, Christian character.**

As Spurgeon said before he was fired during the Downgrade Controversy '**there will come a time when the church will lead by clowns who entertain goats, instead, of Shepherds feeding sheep.**' – Well Jesus Christ in this last week promises to make the provisions to feed His sheep.

OR, as Churchill said in his Epic War Speeches 'You have enemies, Good, that means you stood for something.' – Well Jesus Christ in this last week also promises that you will have enemies.

OR, As the country song says, 'Ya got to stand for something or you'll fall for anything, you've got to be your own man, not a puppet on a string.'

Well, Jesus Christ is no puppet. He is taking a stand, a stand all that will lead to his death and burial.

It's fairly easy to distinguish between the clown and the Shepherd.

The way you identify a clown is that they are consistent at making jokes.

The way you identify a Shepherd is that they are consistent at protecting and feeding God's people.

NOW, With respect to the Passion, there are 7 days and over this 7 day period you see a man that is making the provision to be the Eternal Shepherd of His people.

This man, who is the Son of God, the LORD Jesus Christ, stands as the Shepherd of All God's People.

He even tells us so before the week's events in John 10

John 10:11 'I am the good Shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand (the clown), and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He (the clown), is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep. (Jer. 3 'I will give you shepherds after my own heart').

I am the good shepherd and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.'

Starting on Palm Sunday. In that last week we are going to look at what takes place, Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday and we will gloss over Wednesday and Saturday.

And we will look at Sunday next week.

I. Sunday. Palm Sunday.

John 12:12 'On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, 'Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.'"

Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, 'Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt' (Zech. 9:9)

In Christian history this Sunday, historically, is celebrated as Palm Sunday. It is an important Sunday to be recognized in the events of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The entire week from Palm Sunday moving into the crucifixion and the resurrection is filled with **intriguing and important events.**

The **text starts in Jn. 12** but the setting starts at John 11 with the raising of Lazarus from the dead.

In relation to us, we have actually spent the entire year, looking at this single week. I started preaching through **Jn. 12**, this time last year. So it will serve us well to recapture these events, especially given their magnitude at this time of year.

Paul tells Timothy, 'in taking pains/be diligent with these things, you will both save yourself and your hearers' 1 Tim. 4:15

This idea of taking pains/being diligent is actually something that I have deliberately done. I have not spent a year explaining the last week of Jesus' life by accident. I have done that by deliberate choice.

I want us to take as much pains, as much diligence, with what is most important, because the Bible actually tells us that this will 'save me and it will save you'.

Let me read you an interesting excerpt that might give you additional inspiration to take pains with these things before we pursue the details of the Passion Week.

Tom and I have been working through a **book on prayer** by a man named Dick Eastman.

Well, In the beginning of Dick Eastman's book on prayer he records this story from a Communist news editor in a different country. Let me read this to you about '**taking pains/being diligent**' with regards to what is most important with your life.

We ultimately serve our convictions. We are all slaves to our heart's convictions.

In Eastman's chapter on Prayer, titled, **No Easy Road**, he records this...

A Communist editor confessed, "The Gospel is a much more powerful weapon for the renovation of society (*sidenote: the gospel is what the passion week is about, the gospel must be **1. Learned 2. Loved and 3. Lived** – if any of those three components are not present the saving gospel is lacking in that person's life*) than our Marxist view. Yet it is we who shall conquer you in the end. We Communists do not play with words. We are realists, and because we are determined to reach our end, we also know how to provide necessary means."

The Communist editor stated, speaking of sacrifices 'Of our salaries and wages we keep only what is absolutely necessary and the rest we give for propoganda purposes. To this same propoganda we also devote leisure time and part of our vacation. You, however, give only a little time and scarcely any money for the spreading of Christ's Gospel."

The angry editor then sneered, "How can anyone believe in the all-surpassing value of this Gospel if you do not practice it, if you do not spread it, if you sacrifice neither your time nor your money for that purpose? Believe me, it is we who shall conquer, because we believe in our Communist gospel and are willing to sacrifice everything, even life itself. But you, you are afraid of soiling your hands."

Perhaps this Communist editor was accurate in his conclusion. Many seek an easy Christianity in this age of affluence. The Christian life, however, is not as easy road.

Rather, it is a challenging journey demanding much of its travelers. Daily we strive in hopeful anticipation for the prize before us. Paul testifies, **"I press toward the mark for the prize" Phil 3:14**

We must press on toward the prize, just as Christ in this passion week is pressing on to the prize of accomplishing our salvation.

So there are 7 days in a week and two of these days of this week are now occupied with direct statements of what is happening; Wednesday and Saturday. I'm going to explain what is happening on those days and also drive into more detail of the other days and pour all of that through 3 words **'It is Finished'**

It is finished is actually only one Greek word.

Τετέλεσται. Tetelestai. The word in Greek is a single word that is stated by Jesus here on the cross as a **Perfect, Passive, Indicative**, further it is a 3rd person, perfect, passive indicative.

I know that is a lot of grammar but let me explain the significance grammatically of what Christ is saying and how John is recording it.

It – was perfectly finished.

It – was passively finished through the work of God through the life of Christ, requiring a passive submission to the days event, Crucifixion.

It – indicatives something of the greater whole.

It – is stated in the 3rd person. Notice Jesus does state, and John doesn't record, **"I" finished it.**

Though Jesus certainly did do the work of obedience to God fully in His life, though Jesus did commit Himself even to death on the cross –

The statement, 'IT is finished' Indicates that there was more involved than just the singular event and just Jesus Christ as an individual.

The actual event of the Crucifixion is the culmination, and the fulfillment of all of the entire revelation of the OT Law, OT Israelite History, OT Wisdom Literature and OT Prophecy.

IT IS FINISHED!

Further, it is finished, suggests NOT just a singular mission by Jesus, but a partnership in the mission with His Father, Almighty God. **Direct Union with God.**

For some, that presents the question of; Did God die on the cross? Which is an ancient church heresy called, Patripassianism. The doctrine that in the sufferings of Jesus Christ, God the Father also suffered; comparable to **Sabellianism.**

Suffice it to say, 'Ism's' cause 'Schism's'!The death of God – No, God's NOT Dead, He's Surely **Alive**. The Answer to the question is; God did not die on the cross, yet Jesus Christ is fully God, Christ's body died on the cross, and the significant distinction of that is that Christ's body was without sin, making Christ the perfect, ultimate atoning sacrifice.

Further, the statement, **it is finished**, explicitly requires the merger of all OT revelation into this single event.

To overstate the magnitude of that is impossible.

BUT, the 3 word statement 'It is finished' presents the question; **What is "IT"?**

The phrase 'it is finished' comes from the Greek word τελεω, which means, to complete, to end, to accomplish, to finish. It means to perform a task to its fullness and completion.

Practically every time the word is used in relation to Jesus' actions it resulted in a positive change.

For example,

Matt. 7:28 'when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at His teaching'

Matt. 11:1 'when Jesus had finished instructing the twelve disciples, He went from there to teach and preach in their cities.' Having a direct result of revelation to those cities.

Matt. 13:53 'when Jesus had finished these parables, He went from there..causing astonishment in His home town by the authority of His teaching and the miracles performed. Just before saying 'it is finished'

John 19:28 'Jesus knowing that all was now finished' said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst"

When Jesus finished something, when God finishes something, that is when it is complete. No sooner and no later.

Even still. There is more significance to this statement; It is finished.

Not to draw the point out too much, so let me simplify it as much as possible.

Even though we live in the age of oversimplification of important matters and over exaggeration of unimportant matters – for the sake of our time, let me make this even more reduced.

What is 'IT'? What is Jesus referring to?

Jesus is referring to what Theologians call the Satisfaction of God.

In the simplest form, "IT" is referring to what Francis Turretin called The Necessity of Satisfaction.

Jesus Christ as the High Priest of Heaven, accomplished the Necessity of Satisfaction to God in two primary ways.

First is through the Cross. Second is through His intercession for all believers.

Jesus Christ is Supreme to all true Christians. The satisfaction of "IT" -----

Francis Turretin, 'As the priesthood of Christ is divided into two principle parts on the cross, in this doctrine of satisfaction that must be established the primary and most important part of the great mystery of piety and the principal foundation of our faith and hope and before all other things, defended and confirmed against the fiery darts of Satan, with which it is assailed by innumerable adversaries.' P. 417, Institutes Elenctic Theology, The Mediatorial Office of Christ

Do we see that Satan, rarely if ever provides a frontal attack to the office of Christ?

Do we see that Satan, almost always establishes his beachhead on the frontal lobe with false doctrine, that is not at all discernable to the naïve, but is still equally destructive?

Satan does not come directly against Christ, nor does Satan come directly against Christ's ministers, instead Satan, the subtle serpent that he is, undermines the work of Christ.

Given the work of Christ is now FINISHED, Satan must do something to pervert that.

Satan undermines the work of Christ through taking on the work of Christ, himself. Satan undermines Christ through in a false forms of Christ.

Satan works through subversion. Satan works through subterfuge. Satan works through skilled deception.

Satan is a liar and Satan being an Angel of Light, cloaks himself, in a religious garment that is palatable to that particular region.

AND THEN, Satan infiltrates that region be assimilating into its community and fitting in with all of its cultural norms.

Satan does not seek to disrupt Sociology. No that is not Satan's plan at all.

Satan seeks to corrupt Sociology by taking on the form of a friend, in the local community, who has all of your worst interests in mind.

In essence, Satan operates like a Chameleon.

Taking on the needed color of that environment and once accepted, works as a lion to devour the souls of those people.

It is often far easier to objectify the work of Satan somewhere far off.

For example, if in Rome, Satan needs to wear a high-minded religious garment, adorn his digs with gold plated materials. Hide himself in a bullet proof bubble vehicle. Then Satan can take on the form of the pope and deceive 3 billion people in to a form of false Christianity.

If Satan needs to cloth himself in worldly righteousness, he will demand of people that they give up things like soda, or alcohol, or caffeine, ensure that they wear special underwear and poof; you have Mormonism.

But of course, those types of things seem like caricatures, so they seem like generalizations that could miss the mark.

Is it insidious, that uncalled and unqualified priests fill the ranks of many pulpits today? Oh is just as insidious and just as eternally damning as the global false religions of Roman Catholicism and Mormonism.

The rise of Pelagianism in our age is on pace to break the ceilings of all other false religions.

The work of Satan's chameleon shades are not best seen in Rome or Salt Lake City.

Like **Lewis said during WWII in the Screwtape Letters**, 'I live in the Managerial Age, in a world of Admin. The greatest evil is not now done in those sordid dens of crime that Dickens loved to paint. It is not done even in concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. But it/evil is conceived and ordered, moved, seconded, carried, and minuted in clean, carpeted, warmed and well-lighted offices, by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smoot-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voices. Hence, naturally enough, my symbol for Hell is something like the bureaucracy of a police state OR a thoroughly nasty business concern.'

Satan loves to re-prioritize the work of Christ on earth.

Satan's saints find their work in gaining and accessing the goods of this world.

Satan actually gives to these people to do his work. There are people in Satan's ministry, that they call it Christian ministry, that are actually, false teachers, serving the Angel of Light, where Satan has blinded those people in a cloak of religion where no one within earshot is saved or converted and no one within earshot ever hears any TRUTH.

So on the first day, back into Jerusalem, Jesus deals with this.

On Palm Sunday, Jesus is not riding in on a Mercedes because he can't figure out how to prosper in society.

Jesus is riding in on a donkey to fulfill prophecy.

Jesus is NOT coming back into Jerusalem to run for office. He is coming back into Jerusalem to uphold the responsibilities of His Office of The High Shepherd.

On Sunday, Palm Sunday, Jesus is NOT coming in to fix the world's problems, Jesus is coming in to take personal responsibility for all of the the world's problems.

And as it is, IT IS FINISHED.

I. Monday. Jesus goes back to the temple.

Please turn to John 2:13-23.

Satan objective is to undermines the system of Christian theology primarily through a certain segment of people; False Teachers and their affiliates that support them.

For Satan to get his propaganda out, Satan needs the financial support of many people. There are many deceived people that willfully give the needed financial support

Let me give you an example, Dan Brown's book, The DaVinci Code.

Do you know that Satan works through media and literature? Can you discern when Satan is working through media and literature?

Do you realize that Satan's aim is not to deceive you dressed in horns and pitches but in the very clothing you wish you had and the very looks you covet?

Satan draws covetous hearts to himself, not because they are willing victims, but because they are will culprits. And Satan simply lures them in through the covetousness of their own hearts.

But let me us this example with Dan Brown's book, The DaVinci Code. If your unfamiliar with it, it came out about 20 years ago and was made into a popular movie starring Tom Hanks.

The premise is that Jesus Christ had a son. And that Jesus Christ had a sexual relationship with Mary Magdalene and they had a child.

Dan Brown quote..."I was raised Episcopalian, and I was very religious as a kid. Then, in eighth or ninth grade, I studied astronomy, cosmology, and the origins of the universe. I remember saying to a minister, 'I don't get it. I read a book that said there was an explosion known as the Big Bang, but here it says God created heaven and Earth and the animals in seven days. Which is right?' Unfortunately, the response I got was, 'Nice boys don't ask that question.' A light went off, and I said,

'The Bible doesn't make sense. Science makes much more sense to me.' And I just gravitated away from religion."^[8]

Now, I understand that the Da Vinci Code is a novel. But how many people have read this book and watched this movie and had their concept of Jesus shaped by a man who is 1. Self-profess a non-Believer and 2. 100% misrepresenting the story and work of Jesus Christ?

What those people end up doing; whether knowingly or unknowingly, they are complicit in the work of Satan.

We actually see their compliance with Satan explained very well by Jesus' half-brother, Jude. Jude describes these chameleons like this; Jude gives 18 descriptions to describe these people.

My reason for highlighting this is because it gives the context for why Jesus on the Passion Week would come back into the temple and destroy its works.

Jesus doesn't just describe them but he destroys their work. "it is finished"

These people hate Jesus for it. There is no reconciliation between Jesus and these people because it is these people that are the near cause of Jesus dying on the cross.

Jesus does forgive them, but what he doesn't do is save them. **'Forgive them, for they know not what they are doing' –**

This forgiveness that Christ offers in prayer is not a prayer for their salvation, it is a prayer of Christ's own lack of bitterness, Christ's own lack of resentment and animosity.

It is not Christ's endorsement to the evil that these people have done.

What Christ is doing on the cross in saying, **'Forgive them'** is that Christ is doing exactly what He has instructed us to do.

Christ is giving us an example for us to follow, even up to death.

SO, in praying for our enemies that we would be Sons of God, AND, in praying for our enemies we make ourselves like Christ, but we further, leave room for the wrath of God for God has promised that He would repay vengeance on people like this.

These people are, as Jude lists **18 descriptions**, in 1 chapter of people like this ;

Ungodly, morally perverted, deny Christ, defile the flesh, rebellious, revile holy angels, dreamers, ignorant, self-destructive, grumblers, faultfinders, self-seeking, arrogant, flatterers, mockers, cause division, worldly minded, without the Spirit –

But as Jesus states, ‘they know not what they are doing’ – they are so blinded by Satan they don’t even know they are doing this.

And Jesus advising His disciples to just leave them alone for if **‘the blind lead the blind, they will both fall into a ditch’** –

But when Jesus states on the cross ‘IT is finished’ – one of the things He is referring to is the effectiveness of false religion over the souls of true believers.

Those who come to truly follow Jesus Christ will not fall victim to the predator nature of False Teachers.

Those who have placed saving faith in Christ do not fall for the deceptions of Satan!

False religion, like that in the temp IT IS FINISHED.

Monday.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem.

John 2:13-25

Q: What was it about ‘buying and selling’ or ‘making His father’s house a place of business’ that so infuriated Jesus? Is Jesus against commerce?

Q: Is Jesus just suggesting all Christian become pious monks where we don’t interact in business and we just forsake all worldly transactions in the marketplace?

Hardly. Jesus even instructs us in a parable to use money for the purpose of making friends for eternity.

Q: So what is the hang up about ‘buying and selling’ and making His father’s house a place of business that has enraged Him?

It is the fact that these priests and their affiliates are corrupting the nature of God’s form of atonement. They are profiting off of what brings God satisfaction.

These people are fleecing the flock. They are cheating these people. This is extortion. This is religious racketeering. This is a Ponzi scheme.

Now let me say something about this. People who serve the LORD in full-time ministry are supposed to be paid for it.

The OT priests were selected and not given a land inheritance and it was the title of the people that were supposed to support the work of the Levitical priesthood and it was the duty, DIVINE DUTY, of the priesthood to serve both the LORD and His people in teaching the Law and intercessory prayer, and making atonement.

IN the NT, Paul gives clear instruction that the churches pastors are supposed to be paid a living wage in order for them to spend full time in the instruction of Scripture and prayer for God's people.

BUT, they are not supposed to be using religion as a means of personal profit!

In other words, the religious leader shouldn't be the wealthiest person in the community.

However, what we see today, is many people in religious, false religion, getting rich off of the people.

IT IS A PONZI SCHEME. It is racketeering. And people in America talk about freedom of religion all the time and people boast about freedom of religion, but the ironic thing is these false forms of religion that fleece people, they're actually legal. **People are just so blind they fall for.**

It's like Jesus said, 'Because I tell you the truth, you don't believe me.' John 8:45

Unfortunately, many of the people don't know otherwise.

Jesus' work on the cross is ultimately defeating the work of Satan through false religion and it is finished.

It is only required of us, to guard the deposit, to treat the truth of Christ with greater reverence than all the gold at Fort Knox.

To remain in the faith. To fight the good, to run the race, to place on mind on things above, look forward to the return on Christ, encourage each other in these things for in doing so you will save the souls of those who hear you.

II. Tuesday. The response to Jesus cleansing the temple.

The Sanhedrin challenge Jesus' authority on His teaching.

In true, **Ad Homeniem fashion,** the Sanhedrin questions Jesus' authority.

If you don't know what an **Ad Homeniem fallacy** is, it is when a person brings up an objective statement and instead of the other person addressing the objective statement, that person attacks the character of the person who made the statement.

In essence, attempting to discredit the truth on the merit of destroying the persons character who said the truth.

For example, it would be like a person in a math class who said 'Hey did you know that 2+2=4' and the person who got that wrong on the math test says, 'Yeah well you were speeding on the way to school today.'

And that comment serves as a distraction from the factual truth. Often distracting and leading less discerning people astray.

That's what the Pharisees and the Sanhedrin do in this setting on Tuesday.

Luke 20:1-8 'On one of the days while He was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders confronted Him'

Now, think about this. If the chief priests and the scribes and the elders really care about right and wrong, and the standard of God in the temple – Why didn't they confront Jesus the day before?

And even still, why would they allow Jesus to teach regularly without inhibiting his teaching?

Why would they have given Jesus a platform to preach for the past 3 years?

I can tell you why,

The answer is simple, Apostate Teachers could care less who is teaching, so long as that teaching does not interrupt what they actually care about which is their own personal profits.

So they don't intervene with Jesus' teaching ministry until Jesus' teaching ministry intervenes in their **racketeering industry**.

Notice also, in the ministry of Jesus that the Sanhedrin and the Pharisees didn't care anything about Jesus' working of miracles and they didn't argue or become disgruntled about His working of miracles, which obviously was a display of Divine Power.

BUT, they became irate when Jesus said 'I have the authority to forgive sins' Matt. 9 – Q: Why would the Pharisees and Sanhedrin NOT care about the miracles Jesus did, but did care about His authority?

Well, first the forgiveness of sin put Jesus on par with God, but SO did walking on water, healing lepers, delivering people from demons. All of those things equally revealed that Jesus is God.

So why were they not upset about that?

Well they actually do get disturbed about the miracles as well, but they are mainly disturbed by the True Doctrine of the OT that Jesus is fulfilling.

In the final miracle before the Passion Week, on Saturday, Jesus raises Lazarus from the grave. After being dead for 4 days.

That miracle along with Jesus' position of His authority were what began their movement to crucify Him.

Luke 20:2 'and they spoke, saying to Him, 'Tell us by what authority You are doing these things, or who is the one who gave You this authority?'

Jesus answered and said to them, "I will also ask you a question, and you tell Me:

"Was the baptism of John from heaven or from men?"

They reasoned among themselves saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why did you not believe Him?'

But if we say, 'From men' all the people will stone us to death, for they are convinced that John was a prophet."

Notice that the religious leaders don't reference **Isaiah 40:3 'there will be a voice of one calling in the wildernesses.**

No instead they, look out for their own personal interests. Which is typical of a false teacher.

Luke 20:7-8 'So they answered that they did not know where it came from.' And Jesus said to them, "Nor will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

On Tuesday of Passion Week, The question of Authority; **'It is Finished.'**

Pilate asked on Friday morning, 'do you not know that I have authority to crucify you or release you' Jesus said, 'you have no authority except what has been given you from heaven'

It is finished. God has authority over all the world.

After Jesus' resurrection, Jesus tells the disciples that **'all authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'** Matt. 28:18-19

The topic of authority is broached on Tuesday of the Passion Week and the answer to the question is that; **IT IS FINISHED.**

On Tuesday, Jesus preaches on the destruction of Jerusalem and His return.

Now this is also very interest, This sermon Jesus gives on Tuesday of the Passion week, called **the Olivet Discourse.**

Jesus brings about the full revelation about what to know and expect about Eschatology/End Times.

In this sermon that Jesus gives, on Tuesday, of the Passion week, Jesus covers; The Signs of His Return, The Perilous times

The Signs of His Return

-tribulation

-proliferation of false teachers
-wars
-persecutions
-natural disasters
-defections from Christ
-obstacles to spreading the gospel

The Perilous Times

-‘abomination of desolation’ Dan. 9,1
-‘future event’ but used historic events to describe this future event

The Glorious Return

-Coming on the clouds
-signs in the sky
-sound of trumpet with angels

Right after this, Jesus teaches 3 parables; The Parable of the Fig Tree, The Parable of the Ten Virgins, The Parable of the Talents.

-Each parable giving a direct illustration of the need for Spiritual fruitfulness, vigilance in Christian character, and watching for the hour of His return is near.

Finally, at the end of that day, Jesus teaches the Ultimate Judgment of what he calls the **Sheep and Goat Judgement**. – This is happening on Tuesday of the Passion Week. The great separation of those who are His and those who have just been playing a game.

In a very real sense, when Jesus states ‘It is Finished’ Then we have a **full revelation of End Times** events from Jesus himself, just days before His death.

Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany.

- An act of Christian love and kindness. There is a time to work and there is a time to show hospitality and love. And that’s the event where Jesus tells Martha that Mary has chosen to do a good deed.
- Judas pulls the **classic, false disciple move, in attempting to virtue signal** the idea of ‘oh you could have sold this material and given it to the poor’ Judas – **it is a classic tactic** of false disciples to side-step the legitimate good for something distracting.
- Jesus shuts Judas off at the path and states ‘you’ll always have the poor with you, you only have me for a time’ –
- Well, when Jesus rebuked Judas for his error, that is when Judas began his contacts of conspiracy again.

Judas bargains with the Jewish rulers to betray Jesus.

- An act of betrayal and deception by false religious leaders and initiative by a false disciple.

III. Wednesday.

We do not have any recording of the events of this week in the Gospels and I think it is reasonable to assume that this was a travel day from Bethany to the Upper Room (only a couple miles) but the disciples would also have to procure food for the Last Supper on Thursday. Additionally, this is the week of the Jewish Passover so hundreds of thousands of people have travelled to Jerusalem to make their annual Passover and the city would have had an influx of people and animals. Further, Jesus’ actions on Monday at the Temple would have certainly put Him in poor standing with the Sanhedrin and given

IV. Thursday.

- The Last Supper.
- The Upper Room Discourses. The High Priestly Prayer.
- The Prayer in Gethsemane.

The Upper Room discourses go from **John 13-John 17. 40% of John's Gospel is about this instruction from Jesus to His disciples.** This single night of fellowship and Divine instruction between Jesus and His remaining 11 disciples.

With regard to Jesus' statement, "It is finished" – all of the needed instruction to Peter and all the other disciples was finished.

The only thing that remained at this point was the resurrection and the delivery of the Holy Spirit.

I'm not going to more detail review of that given we just finished spending 8 months on those discourses.

But I would actually encourage you, if you're looking for an encouraging devotional you could just read the Upper Room discourses on repeat and its sounds like a Heaven's Greatest Hits on promises to Christ's disciples.

I've heard of people who simplify their regular devotion by just reading something like the Sermon on the Mount on repeat.

Well the Upper Room discourses are a great way to encourage you through all of the trials of this world.

It is about a place for you in heaven, it is about confidence to overcome tribulation, it is about the delivery of the Holy Spirit and what the Holy Spirit will do in you, it is about Jesus pray for us in John 17 and His promises to care for us and to sanctify our lives.

This is the first place that the Lord's Table is taken.

All of this is taken place on Thursday.

It is Finished. It is completed.

It is signed and sealed. Promised and Purchased.

It's worked and it's written.

It's tried and true.

It's mine and yours.

These are our encouragement!

When you are struggling. Go here!

Go to this place of your bible. Read it. Believe it. Take hold of it in faith.

Remind yourself, what did Jesus say

John 14 - Promises

'Let not your heart be troubled'

'peace I have given to you'

'whatever you ask in My name, that I will do'

'greater works will you do'

You cannot do it? That's ok. You don't have. Look at this.

John 14 - Promises

'I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper.'

'He/The Helper will be with you forever'

'He/The Helper abides with you and will be in you'

'The Holy Spirit will teach you all things'

'I will not leave you as orphans'

'I will come to you'

'you will see Me'

'you will know that I will be in you'

'I will love you'

'If you love me, My Father and I will come to you and make our abode in you'

V. Friday.

The Arrest

The Trial.

The Crucifixion.

The Burial. Which we went through last week.

I just spent the past month looking at Friday. So we won't spend any more time on that.

Well I want to go back through just at a glance and cover these events over this past week. But do so with this in mind; **IT IS FINISHED.**

The Satisfaction of God. 'He saw the anguish of His Son and was satisfied'

'The righteousness of Christ justifies many'

IT IS FINISHED.

Pastoral Prayer.

Hymn 6. I have decided to follow Jesus.

Benediction.

Psalm 121:7-8

Closing Prayer

Small Group Questions.

1. Discuss the statement 'It is finished' and its implications over the Passion Week.
2. Discuss the events of Palm Sunday and their application to us.
3. Discuss the events on Monday at the temple and their application to us to discern false religion.
4. Discuss the approach of False Religious leaders and their motives against Jesus on Tuesday.
5. Spend time encouraging each other in the Promises of Christ from the Upper Room and how there is no need to wonder about these promises because 'It is Finished.'