

Journey Through Mark: God's Plan

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 03.31.24



I. Conspiracy

Key Truth: The Cross Was The Plan

II. The Plot to Kill Jesus

Mark 14:1-2

1 Worried Religious Leaders

2 Incurrible Population

III. The Plan To Save The Lost

Galatians 4:4-5

4 Jesus Chose To Be With Us

5 Jesus Wants Us To Be With Him

IV. Resurrection Ready?

Mid-Week Devotion (Take time to pray & respond to the following)

People in power tend to enjoy feeling as if they are in control, even when they are merely 'big fish' in a 'little pond.' The allure of keeping control is enough to prompt many to do whatever is deemed necessary to keep that power—even the murder of innocents. History is replete with such tales of treachery and conspiracy. Every single person who behaved in such ways ultimately met the same end, however—they died and will one day be judged by the Lord. No amount of plotting or scheming can change God's plan.

The plot to kill Jesus was a terrible and absurd undertaking by conspirators who failed to grasp the sovereignty and grace of God. They thought Jesus' death was their idea, when in reality the cross was always God's plan. Jesus entered the world out of our profound need for Him and His desire to be with us both now and forever. His offer of redemption, rooted in faith and empowered by His grace, serves as undeniable evidence of His longing for our presence in His family. Indeed, the entire plan of salvation was conceived by God and executed precisely according to His divine decree. When one hears the Gospel, they are being invited to join the family of God. Being *resurrection ready* means that one has accepted the free gift of salvation and can therefore enthusiastically look forward to the future.

On this Easter Sunday 2024, can you confidently rejoice in the fact that you are resurrection ready? Furthermore, do you possess the courage and conviction to love, serve, and reach out to the lost while time yet remains? Prayerfully express your thanksgiving to God for making the cross His plan and for including you in His family.