

Mark 11 “Enter: The Servant”

Please Stand and Open your Bibles to Daniel 9:24-27

We are now entering into the last week of Jesus’s ministry. Mark adds something that the other gospels don’t give us and that is he records each day in succession, so we have a timeline so to speak. We will point this as we go along and today, we will go from day one to three. Day one is very important as it is a day that we just read about.

Day 1

Enter: The Servant

Mark 11:1-11

Now if you want a more detailed teaching on the Triumphant Entry * we did that back on Palm Sunday this year. But we are here, and we do need to point out a few things. Mark is a just the facts man type of guy and left out some things that we see in the other gospels. As He is riding into town, He is fulfilling several scriptures. One is from Zechariah...

Zechariah 9:9

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and having salvation,

Lowly and riding on a donkey,

A colt, the foal of a donkey.”

This is the moment that He is now presenting Himself as their Messiah. And as we see they are all hyped up about it but as always, the crowd is fickle and will change their minds five days from now. But the point is that this day had to happen. Nothing can stop God's word from being fulfilled. And they know what they are doing by the Psalm they are singing...

Psalm 118:24-26

This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Save now (Hosanna), I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.

Notice it in its context? This is the day. What Day? The day of His coming! But we know the religious leaders rejected Him as the response in Luke...

Luke 19:39-40

And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

And as we talked about on Palm Sunday that Jesus rode into town weeping over the city because they missed this day completely...

Luke 19:41-44

Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known, even you, **especially in this your day**, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the **time of your visitation**.”

Jesus is sad because they did not use their “Key” to prophecy. What we read is just that. There are 490 years appointed to the Jewish People and the City of Jerusalem. The exact day was given...

Daniel 9:25

Know therefore and understand,
That from the going forth of the command
To restore and build Jerusalem
Until Messiah the Prince,
There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks;
The street shall be built again, and the wall,
Even in troublesome times.

So accurate is Bible Prophecy that we can calculate the date!

$7 + 62 = 483$ Babylonian Years

$360 \times 483 = 173,880$ Days

Solar Year = $173,800$ divided by $365.2422 = 476.068$ years

.068 X 365.2422 = 25 Days
476 years and 25 days from
March 5, 444 BC is
March 30, 33 AD or Palm Sunday!

So, we see that He went into the temple and then left again.
Then we come to...

Day 2

The Fig Tree and Cleansing of the Temple

Mark 11:12-19

Now first we see this cursing of the fig tree. Many have taken this a little too far to say this is where the church has now replaced Israel. Some have ignored it all together. It is true that the fig tree and its fruit have been a reference to Israel in the past.

In Jeremiah in the vision of the two baskets of Figs...

Jeremiah 24:8

And as the bad figs which cannot be eaten, they are so bad—surely thus says the Lord—‘so will I give up Zedekiah the king of Judah, his princes, the residue of Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt.

And in Joel 1:7

He has laid waste My vine, And ruined My fig tree; He has stripped it bare and thrown it away; Its branches are made white.

And in Luke Jesus told a parable of a barren fig tree...

Luke 13:6-9

He also spoke this parable: “A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. 7 Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, ‘Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?’ 8 But he answered and said to him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. 9 And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.’”

The point is they had no fruit. God wants you to produce fruit.

John 15:5

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

The fruit that was missing in Israel was acceptance of their Messiah. We will find out in a Minute what that is...

But first the cleansing of the Temple. Why was Jesus so angry? The court where they were doing this at was the outer court which at that time was called the court of the Gentiles. It was

where seekers of the God of Israel could come and pray. They had turned it into a marketplace!

Isaiah 56:6-7

“Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant— 7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

This will be fulfilled in the Millennial Kingdom but shows God’s heart. He wants people to know Him. They failed miserably. It was the same mistake they were making in the time of Jeremiah...

Jeremiah 7:11

“Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it,” says the Lord.

This did not make those in charge very happy and they go off to begin the plot that will bear fruit on Friday.

Day 3

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

Mark 11:20-26

Notice that the lesson from the fig tree is that of faith? That is the fruit that was missing from the religious leaders. They have gone from faith to works. Jesus uses this lesson to teach us the importance of, not how much faith we have, but how we direct it. ‘Well, Pastor I just don’t have enough faith!’

About the size...

Luke 17:6

So the Lord said, “If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

Who has it...

Romans 12:3

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

How to get it...

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

What about the application?

Mark 11:25-26

“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

This is dealing with fellowship and not position. Remember Jesus told us...

Matthew 5:23-26

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

That's what 1 John 1:9 is in the original language...

1 John 1:9 (Emphasis added)

If we (continue to) confess our sins, He is (always) faithful and just to (continue to) forgive us our sins and to (Continually) cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

It is language meant to imply a relationship. If you are not saved you could care less about forgiveness to the most part. Revenge, regret and reprisal are all we ever think about and as a child of God they will always hold you in a prison of bitterness and unforgiveness. That breaks our fellowship with Him, and the way out is through the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit that will give you the ability to forgive and let go.

Who's Authority?

Mark 11:27-33

This was a wise approach for Jesus. John the Baptist was the forerunner of the Messiah, and everyone knew that. If they said that his message was from heaven than that would have settled it. They did not want to believe and that is why they asked the question. You know people will ask you the same question. "Where's your PHD?", "Who Ordained you?", or "Who's authority are you under?". We not only have authority, but we are under orders!

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "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 of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

2 Timothy 4:1-2

I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear

And what is that answer?

1 Timothy 1:15

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.