

# The Gospel of Mark

-THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

# Jesus' Entry Into Jerusalem

## Mark 11

- ▶ Welcomed as a king messiah riding on *unbroken* colt.
  - ▶ Holy things were not to have common use (colt, tomb)
  - ▶ Jesus is the new Adam and *Kyrios*; peace with wild beasts/creation
  - ▶ Fulfillment of prophecies: Zech 9:9; Ps 24:7-10, 1 Kings 1:32-34
- ▶ Symbols of royalty
  - ▶ Spreading cloaks: 2 Kings 9:13
  - ▶ Palm branches: 1 Macc 13:51
  - ▶ Hosanna! – psalm is a royal song of thanksgiving after victory; but also means “Save us”
- ▶ The event begins the parable of the Paschal Mystery – meaning is deeper
  - ▶ Victory procession over enemies had a deeper meaning
  - ▶ The Kingdom of David is unexpected
  - ▶ The resurrection explains everything

# Jesus in the 'Oil Press'

## Mark 14 - The Passion begins

In the garden with Him are the triad- witnesses of His greatest miracles

- ▶ with him at the Transfiguration, raising of the Jairus' daughter, etc.

Jesus urges his disciples to watch; keep awake

- ▶ same as keeping vigil and pray; customary among the Jews
- ▶ Another training – they need to rely on God through prayer
- ▶ He returns three times (mirroring Peter's coming denial); they were clueless

“Abba” - Aramaic for Father -distinctive with Mark; intimate

Abandonment and betrayal

- ▶ Judas betrays Jesus – ‘one of the twelve’
- ▶ disciples flee (Ps 31:12; Ps 38:12)
- ▶ The man who ran away naked. Who is he? (Amos 2:16)

# The Trials

## The Charge? Blasphemy – very serious

- ▶ Jewish law requires two witnesses for capital punishment – none were found
- ▶ “I am” only in Mark (14:62)
  - ▶ Share the same power with God; the right hand of power
  - ▶ Seated on the throne of God. Lev: 24. Jesus is divine and human

Peter’s denial follows, but is possibly happening at the same time

Jesus before Pilate – very brief, but Pilate ‘was amazed’

Jesus’ abandonment by His friends, condemnation by the Jews is immediately followed by His condemnation by the Romans (Mark 15)

– all of humanity rejects Him -

But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

Jesus said, “I am; and

‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

[14:61-62]

[Ps 110:1; Dan 7:9-14]

# The Crucifixion

## Inscription: King of the Jews

- ▶ It was a mockery
- ▶ Implies Caesar is not a king, committing treason

## Method of execution/scourging at the pillar

- ▶ visible horror of the crucifixion to serve as a warning for rebels
- ▶ instill fear to anyone who may be contemplating rebellion
- ▶ Crown of thorns was meant to mock his royalty

“My God, My God, why have you abandoned me...” (Ps 22)

Jesus is King, but one Who reigns from the cross, suffering in totality

# The Death of The Lord

3 PM

- ▶ It was customary offer perpetual sacrifice Exodus 29: 38-42
- ▶ Christ dying at the hour the old perpetual sacrifice
- ▶ He is now the New and Eternal sacrifice of the New Covenant
- ▶ This custom continued even after resurrection of Christ.
  - ▶ The 9<sup>th</sup> hour prayer Acts 2 and 4, Peter and John - going to the temple for prayer at the 9<sup>th</sup> hour

The curtain in the Temple is torn

- ▶ Access to God, eternal life is opened to all who respond
- ▶ No longer only for the priests (the select) annually
- ▶ The curtain was adorned with symbols of the universe – stars, moon, sun – it's rending speaks to prophecy, God's radical transformation of creation

Confession of the Roman soldier – future Gentile mission

# Meditation

- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBXcxXNOJyw&t=226s>

# Discussion

- ▶ Any thoughts you wish to share about the meditation?

Majority of the people who followed Jesus were disappointed in the way he presented himself as Messiah and king of Israel.

- ▶ Who is Jesus of Nazareth for us and how does He reveal the true God?
- ▶ How difficult is it to follow a king who chooses the cross as his throne?
- ▶ Was it necessary that Christ should suffer?
- ▶ What do we respond to the resurrection and what it means?



# Resurrection

The first day of the week; new creation begins

First day = Genesis creation story

He is risen!! *They don't believe.*

The resurrection interprets the scriptures fully

- ▶ Full understanding of the OT and Jesus teachings
- ▶ Reveals the full meaning of God's love
- ▶ The ultimate triumph over evil – The Kingdom of God is planted, to thrive
- ▶ Death is not the end of everything – our destiny is life

Gives meaning to history

Reveals full meaning of our lives

Gives meaning to all of the sacrifices we make in this world

# Final Instructions

- ▶ Sent on Mission
  - ▶ Clean heart/clean hands
  - ▶ 'to every creature'
  - ▶ Signs to accompany the preaching – God's power supports the work
- ▶ Then He ascends
  - ▶ Transcendence, Majesty
  - ▶ God being present to all, everywhere, at all times
- ▶ Brief ending, but the necessary components are there

Our lives should now orbit Christ Himself

Mission Accomplished!!!

[But] later, as the eleven were at table, he appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been raised. He said to them, "**Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned.** These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven **and took his seat at the right hand of God.** But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

[16:14-20]

# Wrap-up

- ▶ Thank you!
- ▶ Learn more and explore!
- ▶ Bring the Bible into your daily prayer life

Questions?