

APRIL 2ND, 2023 PALM SUNDAY

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 15:1-47

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Second Chronicles, the 14th book of the Bible. We pause our regular congregational reading for a special Palm Sunday text.

TODAY'S SERVICE

- 1. Hymn #17 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"
- 2. Opening Prayer & Announcements
- 3. Hymn #275 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"
- 4. Hymn #250 "Jesus Shall Reign"
- 5. Hymn #294- "Blessed Redeemer"
- 6. Reading: Brother Mike S.
- 7. Message: "A Spiceless Sacrifice"
- 8. Hymn #46 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
- 9. Benediction
- 10. Fellowship Meal
- 11. No Sunday Evening Service



A SPICELESS SACRIFICE

The Crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ

And they offered Him wine mixed with myrrh, but He did not take it.

MARK 15:23, ESV

I. the Breakdown of the Chapter

- A. Jesus Delivered to Pilate by Chief Priests, Mark 15:1-5
- **B. Jesus Dishonored & Mocked by Soldiers**, Mark 15:6-20
- C. Jesus Derided by Many while Crucified, Mark 15:21-32
- D. Jesus Died & was Buried by Joseph, Mark 15:33-47

II. the BLESSING from the TEXT

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." **2 CORINTHIANS 12:9**, ESV

The Sufferings of Our Lord

Christ's Triumphal Entry

1. Jesus enters Jerusalem, Mark 11:1-11

Christ's Temptations

1. Jesus' testings & temptations continued, Mark 11:12-14:42

Christ's Trials & Treatment

1. Jesus arrested & tried in 6 illegal trials, Mark 14:43-15:20

Christ Trampled under Wrath

- 1. Jesus refused the drink, Mark 15:23
- 2. Jesus received the full fury of God, Mark 15:34
- 3. Jesus rested from His atoning work, Mark 15:37

The Salvation from Our Lord

a Curtain Torn

by faith we have access to God in Christ, Mark 15:38

a Centurion Testifies

by faith we confess the truth of God in Christ, Mark 15:39

a Courageous Task

by faith we serve fearlessly our God in Christ, Mark 15:43

QUOTE of the WEEK

Let me notice last of all on this point, that all history shows that the great strength of God has always been displayed and perpetuated in human weakness. Brothers, what made Christ so strong? Was it not that he condescended to be so weak? And how did he win his victory? By his patience, by his suffering: that is to say, by those things wherein his human weakness appeared. Now, look at Christ mystical, namely, the church. How has the church ever been strong? Of course you reply, "By the strength of God!" I know it: but what has brought forth the strength of God so that it has been undeniably manifest, and consequently operative upon mankind? Has it been the strength of the church? No, but the weakness of the church, for when men have seen believers suffer and die it is then that they have beheld the strength of God in his people. The sufferings of the saints have been the victories of the truth. The martyrs led the van; they suffered most, and consequently are the champions of the elect army: the weakness which allowed of their being destitute, afflicted, tormented, has been the battle-axe and the weapons of war with which the Lord has procured conquest for the gospel. When one of the pastors of a church in London was put to death in Smithfield one early mowing, while yet the frost was unmelted by the sun, there stood around the stake a number of young people who had been accustomed to listen to his teachings. Strange thing for young believers to be up so very early to see their pastor burned to death! What do you think they were there for? No idle curiosity could have brought them to such a spectacle. It is written that they went there to learn the way. Do you see? They saw him burn, and came there with that intention, to learn the way to die for Christ themselves. The church of Rome could do nothing with a people who from the weakness which compelled them to suffer gathered strength to die triumphantly. The weakness of the martyr as he suffered revealed the strength of God in him, which held him fast to his principles while he was gradually consumed by the cruel flames. [emphasis in original]

> "Strengthening Words from the Savior's Lips" from the text, 2 Corinthians 12:9 a sermon delivered on April 2nd, 1876 by Charles Haddon Spurgeon Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit Volume 22, Sermon No. 1, 287

APRIL 2023

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
Leviticus 5	Psalms 3-4	2	Proverbs 20	Colossians 3
Leviticus 6	Psalms 5-6	3	Proverbs 21	Colossians 4
Leviticus 7	Psalms 7-8	4	Proverbs 22	1 Thess. 1
Leviticus 8	Psalms 9	5	Proverbs 23	1 Thess. 2
Leviticus 9	Psalms 10	6	Proverbs 24	1 Thess. 3
Leviticus 10	Psalms 11-12	7	Proverbs 25	1 Thess. 4
Lev. 11-12	Psalms 13-14	8	Proverbs 26	1 Thess. 5
Leviticus 13	Psalms 15-16	9	Proverbs 27	2 Thess. 1

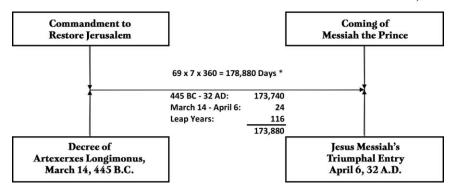
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But He answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

MATTHEW 12:39-40, ESV



* According to the investigative work of Sir Robert Anderson, as recorded in his book, *The Coming Prince*, first published in 1894, the very day that Jesus entered Jerusalem was exactly 483 years (173,880 days on a 360-day prophetic calendar) from March 14, 445 B.C., fulfilling the Scripture (**Dan 9:25-26**). He calculated that the seven sevens and sixty-two sevens were weeks of years.

Autumn 2 B.C. - Jesus was probably born around the Feast of Tabernacles (Sept/Oct). Jesus began His earthly ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar's reign (Lk 3:1). Tiberius began his reign in 14 AD, making his 15th year 28 AD. Jesus was "about thirty years of age" (Lk 3:23) because, although He was 30 years old to fulfill the start of official ministry during His humanity (Num 4:3, 35, 39, 43, 47), Jesus is also eternal God (Jn 1:1-3), and therefore was only "about thirty" years old as considered by the calculation of finite men.

Sunday, April 6, 32 A.D. - Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling Zechariah 9:9 (**Mk 11:1-10**); being 4 days before the Passover, fulfilling Exodus 12:3-6 (**Jn 1:29**). Jesus teaches in the temple (**Mk 11:11a**), then leaves for Bethany to spend the night with His disciples (**Mk 11:11b**).

Monday, April 7 - Between Bethany and Jerusalem, Jesus curses the fig tree for its unfruitfulness (Mk 11:12-14). He later turns over the money changers' tables in the temple (Mk 11:15-18). At day's end, Jesus and His disciples leave the city (Mk 11:19).

Tuesday, April 8 - The next morning, Christ's disciples find the fig tree withered (Mk 11:20-26). When they enter Jerusalem, the religious leaders challenge Christ's authority, but after Jesus confounds them with His logic and a parable, they leave Him for awhile (Mk 11:27-12:12); and returning, they attempt to catch Jesus in His words (Mk 12:13-34). The Lord

confounds them again and tells the people to beware of the scribes' doctrine (Mk 12:35-40). By mid-morning, after the burning of incense, Jesus teaches His disciples stewardship in seeing the widow at the treasury (Mk 12:41-44). Leaving the temple mount, Jesus and His disciples go to Olivet where He teaches of the temple's destruction and His return (Mk 13:1-37). Being two days before Unleavened Bread, the religious leaders plot Christ's murder (Mk 14:1-2). Jesus and His disciple have lunch in Bethany at the home of Simon the Leper (Mk 14:3-9); and after lunch, as the first of the Passover lambs are being slain at 3 p.m., Judas Iscariot agrees to betray Jesus (Mk 14:10-11), while the Lord Jesus sends two disciples to prepare their Passover Supper (Mk 14:12-15). All twelve are in the upper city with the Lord when they have their Passover meal; Jesus institutes the Communion ordinance (Mk 14:16-25), foretelling also of Peter's betrayal (Mk 14:26-31). Jesus prays in Gethsemane (Mk 14:32-42). Jesus is arrested (Mk 14:43-49) and His disciples flee (Mk 14:50-53). Jesus has two illegal Jewish trials at night, after which, Peter denies the Lord thrice (Mk 14:53-72; Jn 18:12-24).

Wednesday, April 9 - Jesus has a third Jewish trial at the Sanhedrin at the break of dawn to be "officially" condemned (Mk 15:1a; Lk 22:66-71), and then delivered to Pilate to be put to death (Mk 15:1b-5). During this time, Pilate had also sent the Lord Jesus to Herod for Christ's second Roman trial, but Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate (Lk 23:6-12), and Jesus received His final Roman trial with further mocking, beatings, and scourging (Mk 15:6-21). Jesus hung upon the cross at Golgotha from the third hour of the day to the ninth hour, with the darkness being over the land from noon until Christ died (Mk 15:22-41).

Wednesday night, April 9 - Passover begins at sundown, coinciding with the first day of Feast of Unleavened Bread. Christ's first night in tomb.

Thursday morning, April 10 - Feast of Unleavened Bread. No stores are open, as it is a Sabbath rest (**Lev 23:5-7**). Christ's first day in the tomb.

Thursday night, April 10 - The first day of Unleavened Bread ends at sundown, so the Sabbath is over. Christ's second night in the tomb.

Friday morning, April 11 - The second day of Unleavened Bread is not a holy convocation (Sabbath). The stores are open, so the women, who were not expecting Jesus to die, bought spices and cooked them up to anoint the Lord (**Mk 16:1**). Christ's second day in the tomb.

Friday night, April 11 - The weekly Sabbath begins. At sundown all stores close. Christ's third night in the tomb.

Saturday morning, April 12 - The weekly Sabbath continues. Christ's third day in the tomb.

Saturday evening, April 12 - The weekly Sabbath ends. Christ Jesus has risen from the dead! <u>Sundown fulfills three days and nights in the grave</u>.

Sunday morning, April 13 - The women arrive at the tomb with the spices they bought and prepared (Mk 16:1), while still dark (Jn 20:1).