

MOUNT SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



BIBLE STUDY

“THE FINAL DAYS OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY”

SATURDAY - Anointed by Mary

SUNDAY - The triumphal entry John 12:12-19

MONDAY - Second temple cleansing

Cursing of the fig tree (Mt. 21:12-22)

TUESDAY - Confrontation with the Pharisees

1. About his authority (Mt. 21:23-27)
2. About paying of tribute (Mt. 22:15-21)
3. About the resurrection (Mt. 22:23-33)
4. About the greatest commandment (Mt. 22:34-40)
5. Denunciation of the Pharisees (Mt. 23)
6. Request by the Greeks (Jn. 12:20-50)
7. Mt. Olivet discourse (Mt. 24-25)

WEDNESDAY - DAY OF SILENCE

THURSDAY

1. Preparation for the Passover - (Mk. 14:12-16)
2. Events in the Upper Room - (Jn. 13-14; Mt. 26:20-35)
3. En route to Gethsemane - (Jn. 15-16)
4. The great high priestly prayer - (Jn. 17)
5. In Gethsemane - (Mt. 26:36-56)
6. Final pre-Calvary miracle - (Lk. 22:50, 51)

FRIDAY - THE UNFAIR TRIAL OF JESUS

THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST

9:00 A.M. TIL NOON

1. Simon helps Christ bear his cross.
2. Some women weep over Jesus.
3. Christ is crucified between two thieves.
4. The cross inscription is put in place.
5. The soldiers cast lots for his garment.
6. He is cruelly mocked by all.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

THE FIRST WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Lk. 23: 34)

Jesus was being crucified along with two other criminals at Calvary:

➤ What was Jesus' crime? What was He being punished for?

Jesus Christ, Charges Against: three political charges were leveled against Jesus.

1. He was charged with perverting the nation, that is, of treason, of being a revolutionary and committing sedition against Rome. The charge, of course, was false. Jesus was not out to pervert people from an earthly nation; He was out to convert people to a heavenly world, to God and His kingdom which were not of this earth (John 19:36).

2. He was charged with disobeying the laws of the nation, in particular for not paying taxes. Of course, this charge was also false. Jesus had taught that obedience to earthly government was absolutely essential for the believer. (Luke 20:19-26)

3. He was charged with claiming to be King, with being a rival to Caesar. Again, this charge was false.

a. The very reason the Jewish leaders were not accepting Him (so they claimed) was because He had come in the meekness and love of God, not in the armed might of God, liberating their nation from the Roman conquerors.

b. Jesus had actually refused to let the people set Him up as King (John 6:15).

➤ What is crucifixion?

1. Elevating the condemned on a pole, exposing to public view. The individual is put to death through some part or all of the body and then elevated. In other cases, it became a means of execution.
2. It was a painful, cruel and barbaric form of execution. Normally, a lengthy period elapsed before death.
3. Death came through exposure of the sun, disease, hunger, shock, and exhaustion.
4. A spear was thrust into the side to assure death of the body before it was removed (John 19:31-37).
5. Summary: The crucifixion was the summit of sin and love. The crucifixion itself was the most horrible of deaths. There was the pain of the driven spikes forced through the flesh of Jesus' hands and feet or ankles. There was the weight of His body jolting and pulling against the spikes as the cross was lifted and rocked into place. There was the scorching sun and the unquenchable thirst gnawing away at His dry mouth and throat. There was the blood oozing from His scourged back, His thorn crowned brow, His stick

beaten head. In addition, just imagine the aggravation of flies, gnats, and other insects. And for Jesus, there was the piercing pain of the spear thrust into His side. On and on the sufferings could be described. There has never been a more cruel form of execution than crucifixion upon a cross. ----
Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible - Commentary

➤ **What is the significance of the cross?**

1. For Jesus it represented a demonstration of humiliation and degradation. However, it was the will and act of God that Jesus, the Messiah be crucified.
2. It was the means by which God provided salvation for the forgiveness of sin (1 Cor. 15:3).
3. Jesus' death on the cross became and is the summary of the Christian message (1 Cor. 2:2).
4. It is the supreme demonstration of the love of God has for sinful man (John 3:16).
5. Jesus deals directly and concretely with the sin and guilt which offends his holiness and that which separates man from his Creator. Therefore, Jesus becomes the righteous Judge and at the same time the one who makes forgiveness available and justifies the believer.
6. Crucifixion becomes part of a believer's identification between Christ and the believer who is crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20).

➤ **Jesus' first words from the cross dealt with forgiveness.**

Jesus' prayer represented the love and compassion of the Messiah to pray for those who were making a mock of him.

1. It had been predicted that Christ would pray for transgressors (Isaiah 53:12).
2. He prayed for God to forgive those who were crucifying Him.
3. **"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:14; Col. 2:13).**
4. Jesus taught on forgiveness (Luke 6:27-28).

SECOND WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Lk. 23:43)

The second criminal begins to rebuke the other criminal by saying (vs. 40) "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

Even in death, Jesus had something great to offer the sinner man.

1. Offered the thief salvation (Eph. 2:8-9)
2. Offered him a place of security to go on that very day (2 Cor. 12:1-4; Rev. 2:7)
3. Note that two places exist that could have been offered to the man. Place of torment or Paradise (Luke 16:22-23)

4. Lazarus lived on despite his body being dead. His being—his spirit and soul—did not die, nor cease to exist, nor fall into a state of sleep.
5. Lazarus' soul was immediately met by angels. Instantaneously—as quick as the blinking of an eye—when Lazarus died, the angels stood by his body and carried his soul into Paradise.
6. Lazarus was carried into the very place where the Source of all wealth is, where all who have trusted God are, the place where Abraham is: the Paradise of God Himself.

THIRD WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Woman, behold thy son!" ... "Behold thy mother!" (Jn. 19: 26, 27)

Jesus' mother was standing at the cross, along with a group of four women: Mary the mother of Jesus; His mother's sister, Salome, the mother of James and John; Mary the wife of Clopas (Mat. 20:20-29); and Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9, Mt. 27:55-56, Mark 15:40-41).

Note: It took great courage for these women to stand in the midst of hatred and ridicule. They ran a great risk because Jesus was hated, and they were supporters which meant they could have been attacked as well.

The first time we see Jesus' mother was at the wedding in Cana, John 2:1-11. But now she was preparing for his burial. Remember, the hour has come.

She was experiencing "the sword" (Luke 2:35) that had been predicted years before.

She did not say a word, she could have stated that ALL his claims were false and had Jesus taken down, but she said nothing. This was a testimony to Jesus' claim of deity.

Jesus assured his mother of his love and gave her his choicest disciple to care for her. We know that Mary was in the Upper Room as they awaited Pentecost (Acts 1:14).

Even doing the work of redemption He was faithful as a son and upheld His responsibilities to His mother. What an honor for John to now take on these responsibilities.

FOURTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, **“Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?”** that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (Mt. 27:46; Mark 15:34)

- These are the mysterious words from the cross. Why did Jesus say these words from the cross?
Scripture gives some reasons:
 1. Why did Jesus feel forsaken? Ps. 22:1 (Messianic Psalm) It was predicted that Jesus would feel forsaken. Thus, Jesus sensed that God was no longer with Him.
 2. Jesus was accustomed to God being present. (John 12:27-28) God came to the garden with way of angels to comfort Jesus, when he was preparing to drink of the cup. Remember, Jesus would often get away in prayer to be with God, so He knew what the presence of the Lord felt like.
 3. Why did Jesus feel like God was no longer with Him? Ps. 22:3 answers the question. God is Holy (Ps. 99:9). At that moment Jesus was not bearing holiness.
 4. Why was Jesus not bearing holiness at that moment? (Mt. 26:39-46) Jesus had drunken the cup of sin (Hebrews 2:14-18, Hebrews 9:12-14, Hebrews 10:5-10.)
 5. Jesus sensed that there had been a separation from within the Godhead. Jesus sensed that God's life and holiness had left Him, that He had been delivered into the hands of the enemies of life and holiness, that is, into the hands of sin and death. He was being made sin and having to die. And both sin and death were foreign to God, alien to God's nature which is life and holiness. Both sin and death stood as enemies of God and enemies to all that belonged to God.
In becoming sin and in dying, Christ experienced all that was contrary to the nature of God—all that was involved in God separating Himself from sin and death. John 10:10;
Jesus came granting life and the fullness thereof, which included holiness (1 Thess. 4:7).
 6. Jesus sensed the separation from God because: Christ bore sin for man; therefore, He had to bear the penalty due man—the penalty of separation from a perfectly holy God (Matthew 26:37-38). In all the mystery of His death, Scripture proclaims: “[Jesus] His own self bore our sins in His own body on the tree....” (1 Peter 2:24).

FIFTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, **“I thirst.”** (John 19:28)

In saying "I thirst" Jesus was bound to be thirsty. It had been hours since He had had a drink of water. But note: the stress of Jesus' words was not that He was physically thirsty. He was not complaining of thirst, not even asking for a drink. The stress was upon His fulfilling Scripture (Psalm 69:21) to show that Jesus was truly the Promised Messiah, the One who fulfilled Scripture.

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9)

SIXTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

“It Is Finished” (John 19:28)

Jesus' great shout of victory. Salvation and reconciliation were now possible for man. Note two points:

1. Jesus cried, "It is finished." The shout was of victorious purpose. Jesus had completed His work, His mission, and His task. He was not crying the cry of a defeated martyr. He was crying the cry of a victorious conqueror.
2. "Gave up the ghost" means that He gave up His spirit. It must always be remembered that Jesus willingly died. He willingly came to this moment of yielding and giving up His spirit unto death. Both Paul and Peter cover the Lord's work during the three days immediately following His death until the resurrection.

SEVENTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46)

Psalm 31:5 is the fulfillment of Jesus' last words from the cross.

In these last moments of our Lord's life, darkness settled in the area. Before Christ had not accepted a drink, he now accepts the drugged vinegar. The Bible says, the temple veil was rent in two. Because of the earthquake some of the tombs were opened. The centurion confesses that Jesus must have been the Son of God. The soldier sticks his spear in Jesus' side. Joseph of Arimathea asked for Jesus' body to bury him. Jesus' body is prepared for burial and He is laid in Joseph's tomb. The tomb is sealed by the Roman soldiers.