



# THE WEEK THAT CHANGED ETERNITY

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FIRST MELISSA



# Begin now to pray about friends and neighbors to invite

- Sunday, March 15
- **Sunday, March 22**
- Wednesday, March 25
- Sunday, March 29
- Wednesday, April 1
- Sunday, April 5



**Passion Week includes a multitude of events and trials we might not have chosen for our Savior, but He endured them for us.**

**This is a week that we need. Without it, we don't have a Savior.**



- The Bible has four books dedicated to describing Jesus' earthly life and ministry. What's amazing is how much the Gospels focus on Jesus' final week before the Cross.
- The breakdown according to each of the Gospels:
  - A third of Matthew, from Matthew 21-28
  - A third of Mark, from Mark 11-16
  - A quarter of Luke, from Luke 19-24
  - Nearly half of John, from John 12-20
- The Gospel of John is the most concentrated upon the last week of Jesus. Nearly a third of John's Gospel is dedicated to one day, from John 13-19.
- There are a **total of 89 chapters** from all four Gospels. Of those chapters, **29 focus on the final week**. These chapters comprise one-third of the Gospels.



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# Passion Week Timeline

## Day 1: Palm Sunday

Jesus enters Jerusalem and is welcomed by the crowds waving palm branches.  
*(Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19)*

## Day 3: Holy Tuesday

Jesus evades ambush, gives Olivet discourse.  
*(Matthew 21:23-24:51, Mark 11:20-13:37, Luke 20:1-21:36, and John 12:20-38)*



## Day 5: Maundy Thursday

Last Supper, Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane.  
*(Matthew 26:17-75, Mark 14:12-72, Luke 22:7-62, and John 13:1-38)*

## Day 7: Black Saturday

Jesus' body lays in the tomb and is treated for burial; disciples come out of hiding and mourn openly.  
*(Matthew 27:62-66, Mark 16:1, Luke 23:56, and John 19:40)*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

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Saturday

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## Day 2: Holy Monday

Jesus curses the fruitless fig tree, enters the temple and clears out the corrupted money changers.  
*(Matthew 21:12-22, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48, and John 2:13-17)*

## Day 4: Spy Wednesday

Jesus and disciples rest in Bethany. Judas agrees to betray Jesus.  
*(Matthew 26:12-14, Mark 14:10-12, Luke 22:3-6)*

## Day 6: Good Friday

Jesus is put on trial and crucified, then taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb.  
*(Matthew 27:1-62, Mark 15:1-47, Luke 22:63-23:56, and John 18:28-19:37)*

## Day 8: Resurrection Day

Multiple eyewitness accounts of Jesus having resurrected and the discovery of empty tomb.  
*(Matthew 28:1-13, Mark 16:1-14, Luke 24:1-49, and John 20:1-23)*



# Day & Location

**Tuesday** in Jerusalem

## Events

**Authority of Jesus questioned**

Matthew 21:23-27;  
Mark 11:27-33; Luke 20:1-8

Jesus teaches in temple

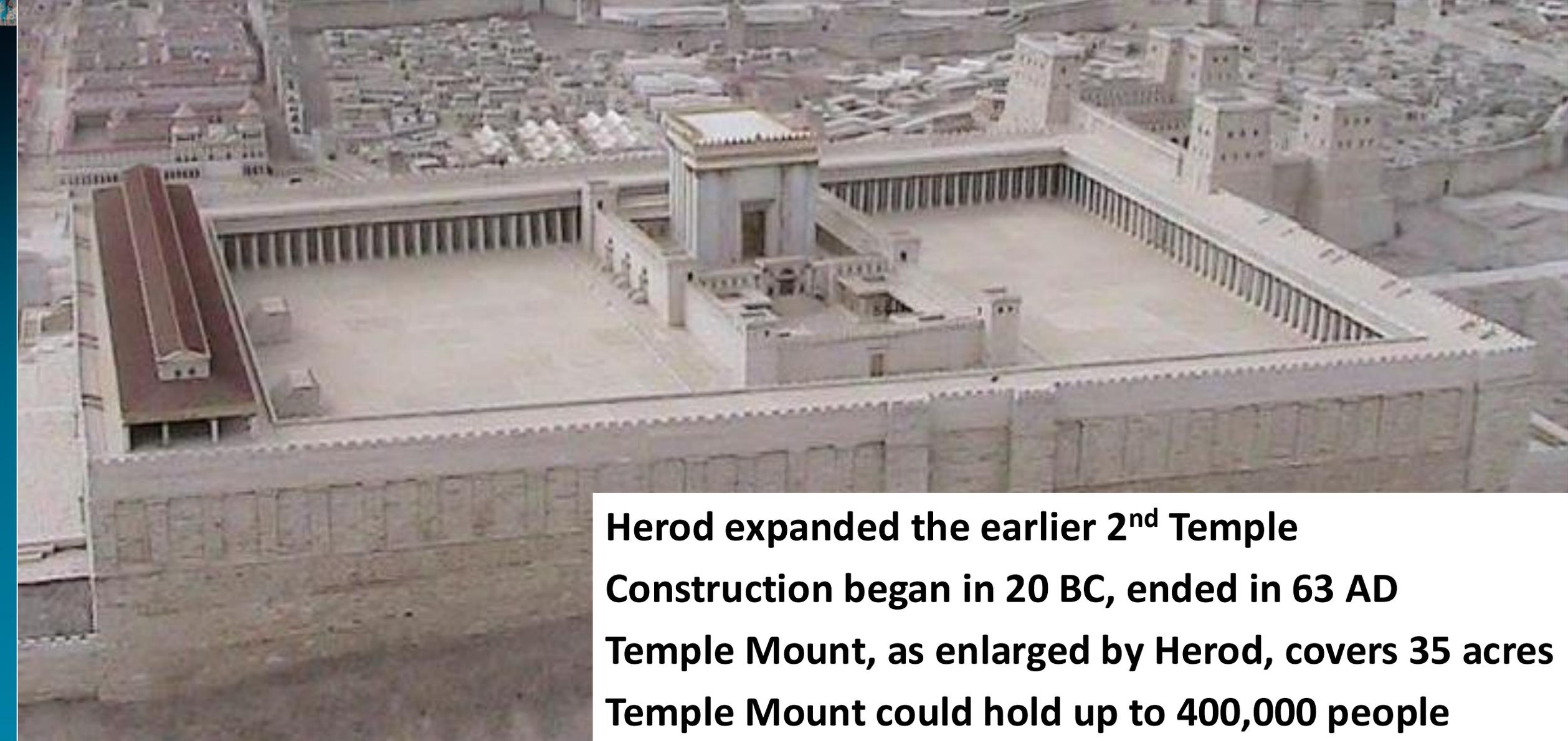
Matthew 21:28-23:39;  
Mark 12:1-44; Luke 20:9-21:4

Taught disciples  
on the Mount of Olives

Matthew 24-25; Mark 13:1-37;  
Luke 21:5-38



# Model of Temple Mount in the days of Jesus



**Herod expanded the earlier 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple  
Construction began in 20 BC, ended in 63 AD  
Temple Mount, as enlarged by Herod, covers 35 acres  
Temple Mount could hold up to 400,000 people**



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# Matthew 21



When He [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John [the Baptizer] was from what source, from heaven or from men?” And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Then why did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet.” And answering Jesus, they said, “We do not know.” He also said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.” Matthew 21:23-27



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2023 Teaching Series



# STORY TIME

Discovering the Parables of Jesus



“But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in the vineyard.’ And he answered, ‘I will not’; but afterward he regretted it and went. The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, ‘I will, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them [religious leaders], “Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you. For John [the Baptizer] came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing this, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.”  
Matthew 21:28-32



## There are many churchgoers that imitate the second son

- They admit that the Word of God is true.
- They intend to get serious about it someday.
- They talk about doing the Father's work.
- They keep up the external appearance of religion, but their heart is not right with God.
- They think that words and promises are enough.

What matters is living for God, not saying the right words.

- David Guzik



Then the Pharisees went and plotted together how they might trap Him in what He said. And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any. Tell us then, what do You think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, “Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax.” And they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” Then He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s; and to God the things that are God’s.” And hearing this, they were amazed, and leaving Him, they went away. Matthew 22:15-22



**Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's:** Jesus affirmed that the government makes legitimate requests of us. We are responsible to God in all things, but we must be obedient to government in matters civil and national.

- Peter said it like this: Fear God. Honor the king. (1 Peter 2:17)
- “Every Christian has a double citizenship. He is a citizen of the country in which he happens to live. To it he owes many things. He owes the safety against lawless men which only a settled government can give; he owes all public services.” (Barclay)

**And to God the things that are God's:** Everyone has the image of God impressed upon them. This means that we belong to God, not to Caesar, or not even to ourselves.

- “By treating them as distinct Jesus said in effect: The kingdom of God is not of this world, it is possible to be a true citizen of the kingdom and yet quietly submit to the civil rule of a foreign potentate.” (Bruce) - David Guzik



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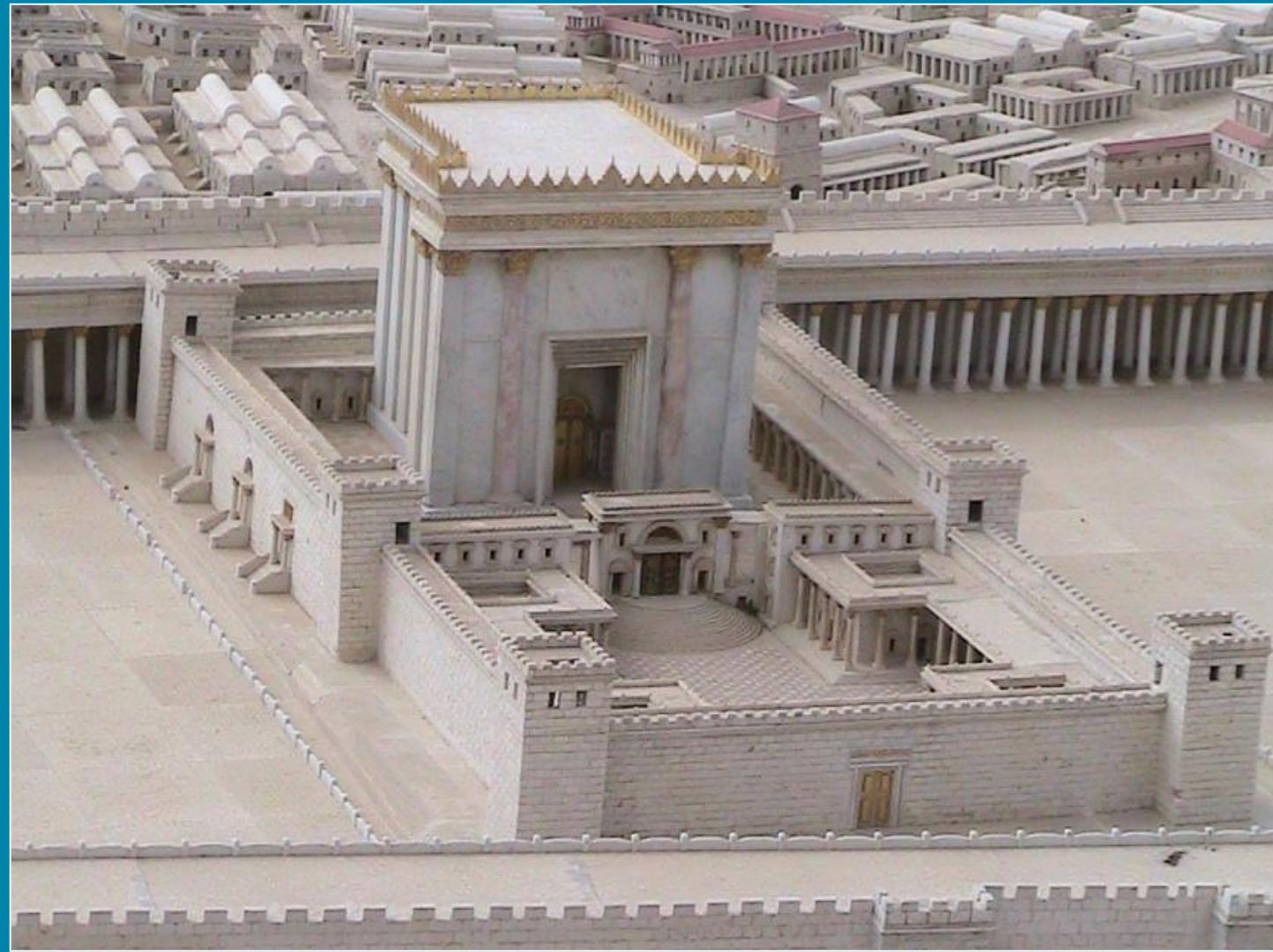
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# Matthew 24



Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

Matthew 24:1



**Model of Jewish Temple in the days of Jesus**



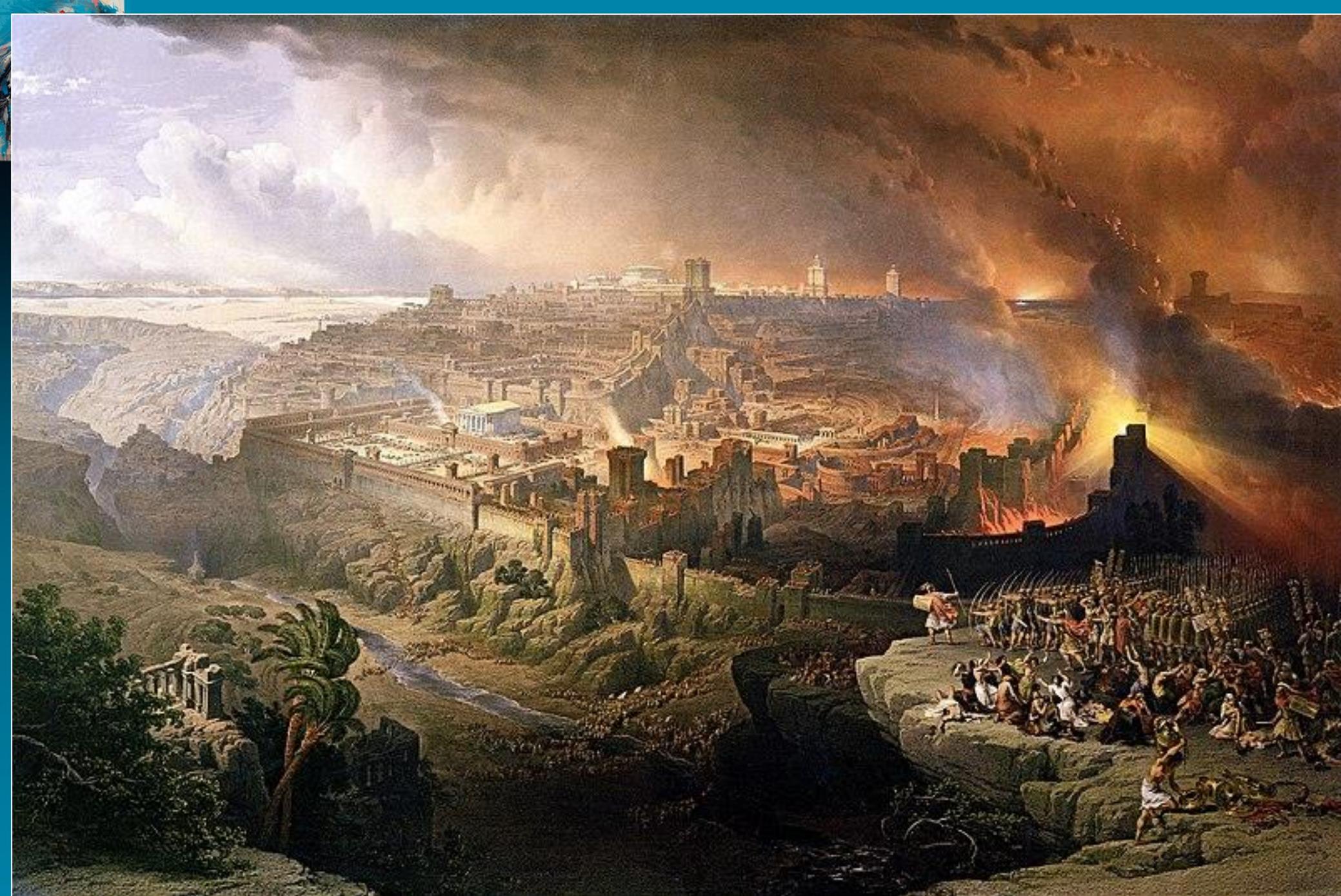
And He [Jesus] said to them [12 disciples], “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.” Matthew 24:2

And while some were talking about the temple, that it was adorned with beautiful stones and votive gifts, He said, “As for these things which you are looking at, the days will come in which there will not be left one stone upon another which will not be torn down.” Luke 21:5-6

\*The conversation took place in the year 29 or 30 AD

**The Siege  
and  
Destruction  
of  
Jerusalem  
by the  
Romans  
under the  
Command  
of Titus,  
A.D. 70**

**By David  
Roberts (1850)**





As He [Jesus] was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

Matthew 24:3

They questioned Him (Jesus), saying, “Teacher, when therefore will these things happen? And what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?”

Luke 21:7

\*This conversation takes place at the end of Jesus’ 3-year earthly ministry



And Jesus answered and said to them,  
“See to it that no one misleads you. For  
many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am  
the Christ,’ and will mislead many.”

Matthew 24:4-5

\*Our world needs trustworthy answers today



Jesus said, “You will be hearing of **wars and rumors of wars**. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, **but that is not yet the end.**” Matthew 24:6



Jesus said, “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.”

Matthew 24:7

Then He (Jesus) continued by saying to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places plagues and famines; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.” Luke 21:10-11



Jesus said, “But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs [ὠδίν *odin*].”

Matthew 24:8

- The Greek term ὠδίνες refer to the birth pangs a woman experiences while in labor.
- In Hebrew, this is referred to by the phrase “*chevlei Moshiach*” חבלי משיח, literally “the birth pangs of the Messiah.”



Jesus said to the disciples, “Then they will deliver you to **tribulation** [θλῖψις *thlipsis*], and **will kill you**, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.” Matthew 24:9

- \* Once the birth pangs reach a certain level, world-wide persecution of Christ-followers will break out. We are not given an exact moment in time to watch for, but this shift to universal "hatred" will likely mark the beginning of the "Great Tribulation." - <https://thelastdays.info/matthew-24-timeline>



Jesus said, “At that time many will fall away and will **betray** one another and hate one another.” Matthew 24:10

Jesus said, “But you will be **betrayed** even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death, and you will be hated by all because of My name.” Luke 21:16-17



# Important Reminders

Q: Haven't these kinds of events happened throughout the centuries?

A: Yes, but the fact that they ALL seem to be happening at once in our generation should garner our attention.

We cannot say when The Rapture and Great Tribulation are coming but we can say that the necessary ingredients seem to be present in our generation.



Jesus taught...

“Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. **Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.** But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:11-14



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# Matthew 25



Jesus said, “But when the **Son of Man** comes [Second Coming of Messiah] in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the **nations** will be gathered before Him [Heavenly King]; and He will separate **them** from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.” ” Matthew 25:31-33



- The right hand is the hand of strength, progeny, righteousness and power; the left hand is a symbol of weakness, subjugation and loss.

- Yaakov Brown <https://www.bethmelekh.com/yaakovs-commentary/the-sheep-the-goats>

- Every sheep is a believer in the Savior and a member of God's eternal household.
- Every goat is an unbeliever and has never been a member of God's eternal household.

- <https://thebiblesays.com/commentary/matt/matt-25/matthew-2532-33/>



Jesus said, “Then the King will say to those on His right [sheep], ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”

Matthew 25:34

- Yeshua is not changing the rules of salvation here. These parables do not teach that righteous acts bring about salvation, on the contrary, they show that righteous acts are the natural outworking of an already transformed person.



Jesus said, “For I was **hungry**, and you gave Me something to eat; I was **thirsty**, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a **stranger**, and you invited Me in; **naked**, and you clothed Me; I was **sick**, and you visited Me; I was in **prison**, and you came to Me.” Matthew 25:35-36

- Today’s societal challenges are not new:  
Nutrition, Immigration, Welfare, Healthcare, Crime



Jesus said, “Then the righteous [sheep... believers] will answer Him, ‘Lord, **when did we** see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? And **when did we** see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? **When did we** see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’”

Matthew 25:37-39



“The King [Messiah Jesus] will answer and say to them [sheep... believers], ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even **the least of them**, you did it to Me.’” Matthew 25:40

Then the King will say, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.’

Matthew 25:40 (The Message)



# Categories of the “Least of These”

- Hungry
- Thirsty
- Strangers (in need of hospitality)
- In need of clothing
- Sick (in need of medical care and/or a caregiver)
- In prison



- **“But I am so busy”**

True... so is every helper involved

- **“I can’t help everyone”**

True... but we can help someone

- **“I can’t meet all the needs”**

True... but we can meet some of the needs

- **“I can’t afford to pay for all the aid needed”**

True.. but we can give faithfully out of what the Lord has given us

- **“I don’t even know where to start”**

True... but our church family is already helping those in need

- **“Sometimes I help people and they are not even thankful”**

True... but we are not responsible for their words or actions

## Our Normal Responses



“The King [Messiah Jesus] will answer and say to them [sheep... believers], ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of **these brothers of Mine**, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’”

Matthew 25:40

- The term “My brethren” refers most specifically to the Jewish people. Every man and nation will be judged on how they have treated the Jewish people and the nation of Israel. – Christians United for Israel
- The Lord said to Abram, “And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and **I will bless those who bless you**, and **the one who curses you I will curse**. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

Genesis 12:2-3



# Who are the “least of these”?

“For thus says the Lord of hosts, “After glory He has sent Me against the nations which plunder you [Zion... Jerusalem], for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye.” Zechariah 2:8

Yeshua: “I take it personally how you treat my family. Treat them well or you’re going to have to deal with Me.”

Our commitment to God’s people will be severely tested in the Last Days. As we get closer to Jesus’ return, we will witness an increasing onslaught of anti-Semitism. The sincerity of our commitment to God’s chosen people, the apple of His eye, will be severely tested.



“Then He [Heavenly King] will also say to those on His left [goats... unbelievers], ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; for **I was hungry**, and you gave Me nothing to eat; **I was thirsty**, and you gave Me nothing to drink; **I was a stranger**, and you did not invite Me in; **naked**, and you did not clothe Me; **sick**, and **in prison**, and you did not visit Me.’”

Matthew 25:41-43



“Then they [goats... unbelievers] themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of **the least of these** [especially His Jewish brothers and sisters], you did not do it to Me.’” Matthew 25:44-45

- “If I had known it was Jesus in need, I would have helped.”
- God does not need our help, His people do.



Jesus said, “These [goats... unbelievers] will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous [sheep... believers ] into eternal life.” Matthew 25:46

- The righteous will go into the *Olam Haba*—eternal life, with the Son of Man, Yeshua our King.

- Yaakov Brown <https://www.bethmelekh.com/yaakovs-commentary/the-sheep-the-goats>



- As we can see, **Tuesday** of Passion Week was a busy day of teaching for Messiah Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem and later on the Mount of Olives
- Instead of focusing on Himself, the Savior focused on others from morning to afternoon
- Knowing that He only had a few days left before the Cross, Yeshua spent hours teaching spiritual truths to those who would listen
- He especially focused on the Twelve Disciples, preparing them for what was to come and explaining their roles as His followers



## Day & Location

**Tuesday** in the village of Bethany  
(on the eastern slope of  
the Mount of Olives)



## Event

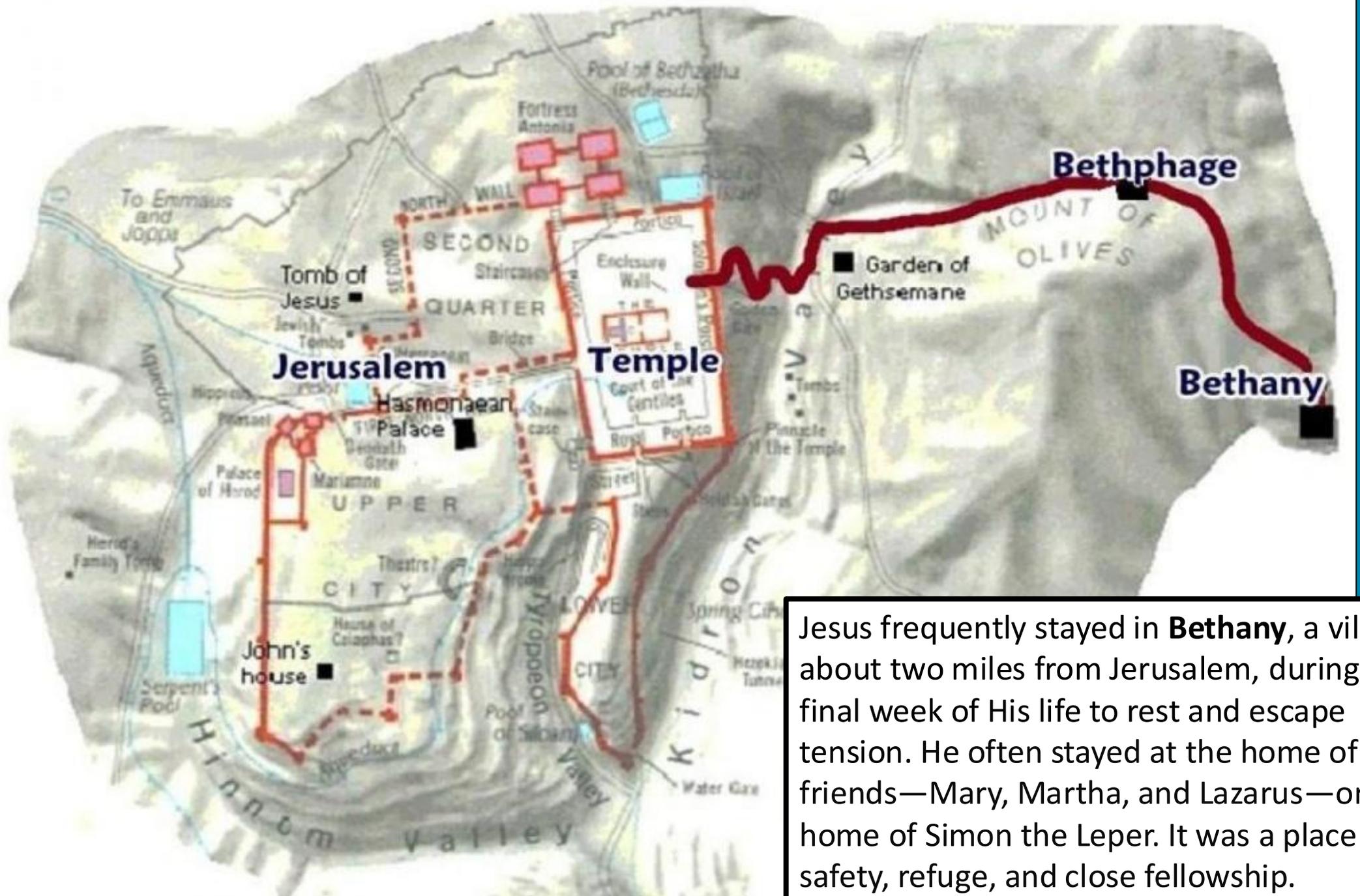
In Simon's home, Mary anointed Jesus' feet

## Scripture Reference

Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8



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Jesus frequently stayed in **Bethany**, a village about two miles from Jerusalem, during the final week of His life to rest and escape tension. He often stayed at the home of His friends—Mary, Martha, and Lazarus—or at the home of Simon the Leper. It was a place of safety, refuge, and close fellowship.



Now when Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper, a woman [Mary of Bethany] came to Him with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at the table. But the disciples were indignant when they saw this, and said, “Why this waste? For this perfume might have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor.” But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you bother the woman? For she has done a good deed to Me. For you always have the poor with you; but you do not always have Me. **For when she poured this perfume on My body, she did it to prepare Me for burial.** Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in memory of her.” Matthew 26:6-13



While He was in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head. But some were indignantly remarking to one another, “Why has this perfume been wasted? For this perfume might have been sold for over **three hundred denarii [nearly a year’s wages]**, and the money given to the poor.” And they were scolding her. But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you bother her? She has done a good deed to Me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them; but you do not always have Me. **She has done what she could; she has anointed My body beforehand for the burial.** Truly I say to you, wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in memory of her.” Mark 14:3-9



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Multiple eyewitness accounts of Jesus having resurrected and the discovery of empty tomb.  
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HAT  
UNITY

## Day & Location

Wednesday in Jerusalem

## Event

Judas Iscariot's plot against Jesus

## Scripture Reference

Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16;

Mark 14:1-2, 10-11;

Luke 22:1-6





When Jesus had finished all these words, He said to His disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man is to be handed over for crucifixion.” Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas; **and they plotted together to seize Jesus by stealth and kill Him.** But they were saying, “Not during the festival [of Passover], otherwise a riot might occur among the people.” Matthew 26:1-5



Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What are you willing to give me to betray Him to you?” And they weighed out thirty pieces of silver to him. From then on he began looking for a good opportunity to betray Jesus. Matthew 26:14-16

- The friend becomes a betrayer
- Judas sold out Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, the cost of a slave
- How could he do it? Would I do it?
- Judas was responsible for his own sin even though it fit into God’s eternal plan



Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover [Pesach], was approaching. The chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might put Him [Jesus] to death; for they were afraid of the people.

**And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot,** belonging to the number of the twelve. And he went away and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Him to them. They were glad and agreed to give him money. So he consented, and began seeking a good opportunity to betray Him to them apart from the crowd. Luke 22:1-6



# Old Testament Prophecy of the Betrayal of Messiah Jesus

Even my close friend in whom I  
trusted, who ate my bread, has  
lifted up his heel against me.

Psalm 41:9



# A Warning from the life of Judas Iscariot...

You can admire Jesus' love and compassion

You can hear Jesus' words

You can observe Jesus' miracle power

You can witness Jesus' impact on other people

AND

You can walk away from Jesus unsaved



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