

Holy Week: Order of Events

Today – Palm Sunday

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

Monday

Jesus flips tables over in the temple courtyard, upset about corruption occurring.

Tuesday

Jesus' authority is challenged in the temple.

Jesus teaches with stories and confronts the Jewish leaders.

Wednesday – Spy Wednesday

Judas agrees to betray Jesus.

Thursday – Maundy Thursday

Jesus washes the disciples' feet.

Jesus eats the last supper with his disciples.

Friday – Good Friday

Jesus is put on trial before Pontius Pilate and crucified.

Saturday – Silent Saturday

Jesus' body is laid in the tomb.

Sunday – Resurrection Sunday

Jesus walks out of the tomb.

"Celebration is the completion of worship, for it dwells on the greatness of God as shown in his goodness to us...we concentrate on our life and world as God's work and as God's gift to us." – Dallas Willard

Psalms 150

1 Praise the Lord.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

2 Praise him for his acts of power;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,

praise him with the harp and lyre,

4 praise him with timbrel and dancing,

praise him with the strings and pipe,

5 praise him with the clash of cymbals,

praise him with resounding cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

➤ **Celebrations as remembrance**

Hebrews 10:24-25

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...

"Here is the world, beautiful and terrible things will happen, don't be afraid."

– Frederick Buechner



➤ Celebrations as response

Nehemiah 12:43

And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.

"Thank you for the gift of loving and being loved, for the beauty of the animals on the farm and in the forest, for the sound of a waterfall, for the darting beauty of the trout in the brook.

Thank you for the deer leaping across the meadow, for fire and water and the magic of Monet, for the rainbow after a summer storm, for a steaming cup of hot coffee.

Thank you for the smile on the face of a little child licking a chocolate ice cream cone, for the wagging tail of a dog and the touch of his cold nose against of my face.

Thank you for the four seasons, for each glorious day of sunshine, and most of all for the gift of the Unsetting Sun, Jesus Christ, who by his death and resurrection has set us on the road to glory." – Brennan Manning

"Perhaps nothing helps us make the movement from our little selves to the larger world than God and gratitude." – Henri Nouwen

The Benefits of Celebration (from Richard Foster, *Celebration of Discipline*)

1. It saves us from taking ourselves too seriously.

"It is an occupational hazard of devout folk to become stuffy bores. This should not be. Of all people, we should be the most free, alive, interesting." – Richard Foster

"Learn to laugh; it is a discipline to be mastered. Let go of the everlasting burden of always needing to sound profound." – Richard Foster

2. It lifts the cloud of sadness that can constrict and oppress the heart.

Psalm 34:1-2

I will extol the Lord at all times;

his praise will always be on my lips.

I will glory in the Lord;

let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

"To be grateful for an unanswered prayer, to give thanks in a state of interior desolation, to trust in the love of God in the face of the marvels, cruel circumstances, obscenities, and commonplaces of life is to whisper a doxology in darkness." – Brennan Manning

doxology = short hymn of praise

3. It frees us from a judgmental spirit.

"We must learn to act and think as people who are amazed that our proximity to holy things has not left us vaporized." – Ben Patterson