

Good Friday – 2024

Friday, 3/29 at 11 am & 7 pm



The Holy Week Journey

Crucifixion
Death
Entombment

Based on the Booklet
Days 36-39

Text: Mark 15:21-47 NAS-95

Holy Week: Th 11 & 7; Fr 11 & 7; Sa 4 | **Easter:** 9 (breakfast 10:30)

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: This year at Bethlehem, *during the season of Lent*, we have been following the booklet: **The Holy Week Journey**, which focuses on the contents of Holy Week according to **St. Mark. 16 of the 40 days in the booklet** focus on the details of Good Friday.

In this sermon, †Jesus is crucified, †Jesus lays down His life, and †Jesus' dead body is placed into a new tomb.

It's Good Friday, about 8:30 in the morning. Jesus has been arrested, tried, beaten, mocked, and condemned. **Now**, He is *greatly struggling* to carry His *100 lb. crossbar* to Golgotha.

Day 36 (Tu, 3/26) – The Crucifixion – Part 1: 15:21 They pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross [either both men together, or Simon alone].²² Then they brought [Jesus] to the place [called] Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull.²³ They tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh; but He did not take it [because He wanted to be fully alert as He finished His saving work].

²⁴ And they crucified Him [nailing His hands and feet to His cross], and divided up His garments among themselves, casting lots for them *to decide* what each man should take. ²⁵ It was the third hour [9 AM] when they crucified Him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against Him read, “THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

- 4,000 years earlier, the Son of God had created a perfect world in six days. **But then the fall** brought pain, suffering, sadness, and death.
- Therefore, 2,000 years ago, the Messiah, the Christ, the Holy One of God endured the horror of His cross for six hours (9 to 3) – *to take away the sin of the world!*
- God is calling all people – *to repent and believe!*

Day 37 (We, 3/27) – The Crucifixion – Part 2: 15:27 They crucified two robbers with Him, one on His right and one on His left. ²⁸ *And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And He was numbered with transgressors.”* ²⁹ Those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads, and saying, “**Ha! You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days,** ³⁰ **save Yourself, and come down from the cross!**” ³¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes, were mocking *Him* among themselves and saying, “**He saved others; He cannot save Himself.**” ³² **Let this Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, so that we may see and believe!**” Those who were crucified with Him were also insulting Him.

- Mocking: Adding insult to injury! ♦ Earlier with the Jewish leaders, ♦ then with the Roman soldiers, and ♦ then those passing by, the Jewish leaders again, and both criminals – *one on His left and one on His right.*
- Let’s think about our lives: Do our words and deeds **insult** Jesus, **or** show that we **trust** Him and **love** Him?

Day 38 (Th, 3/28) – The Death of Jesus: 15:33 When the sixth hour came [*that is, noon*], darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour [*that is, 3 PM*].³⁴ At the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “**ELOI, ELOI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?**” which is translated, “**MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?**”³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they *began* saying, “**Behold, He is calling for Elijah.**”³⁶ Someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink, saying, “**Let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down.**” // During the 3 hours of darkness, Jesus bore *our sins* – which separated Him from God, **and God’s wrath** – which we deserved! The bystanders *misunderstood* Jesus’ shout of “Eloi” for Elijah; however, the drink He received fulfilled a prophecy (Ps. 69:21).³⁷ And Jesus uttered a loud cry [**“It is finished”** (Jn. 19:30)], and breathed His last.³⁸ And the veil of the temple was torn in two [*by God*] from top to bottom.³⁹ When the centurion, who was standing right in front of [Jesus], saw the way He breathed His last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!” // Jesus shouted: **IT HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL!** God is calling everyone to receive His **gift** of eternal life! **How?** †Give up on what you are doing to earn heaven, †trust in Jesus for heaven, and †live a new life by following Jesus in everything!⁴⁰ There were also *some* women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the Less **and** Joses, and Salome.⁴¹ When [Jesus] was [doing His ministry] in Galilee, [those women] used to follow Him and minister to Him; and *there were* many other women who came up with [Jesus] to Jerusalem. // Except for John, Jesus’ disciples had fled, *yet those women did not run away!*

Day 39 (Fr, 3/29) – The Entombment of Jesus’ Body: 15:42 When evening had already come [*just before sunset*], because it

was the preparation day, that is, the day before the Sabbath,
⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea [about 20 miles northwest of Jerusalem]
came, a prominent member of the Council [but also a disciple
of Jesus (Jn. 19:38)], who himself was waiting for the kingdom
of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before
Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. // Think about Joseph:
While most other council members **h**ated Jesus and
hesperately wanted Him dead, *Joseph publicly showed His*
trust in and love for Jesus! By the Holy Spirit, let us ✓gather
courage and ✓live for Jesus – even when it is difficult!

⁴⁴ Pilate wondered if [Jesus] was dead by this time [since
many continued to live for at least 24 hours after being
crucified (TLSB)], and summoning the centurion, [Pilate]
questioned him as to whether [Jesus] was already dead.

⁴⁵ And ascertaining this from the centurion [that He was
dead], he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ Joseph bought a
linen cloth, [and along with Nicodemus (Jn. 19:39-40)] took
[Jesus] down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in
a tomb which had been hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a
stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene
and Mary the *mother* of Joses were looking on to see where
[Jesus' body] was laid. // Jesus accomplished His GREAT
WORK to take away the sin of the world in one day (Zech. 3:9).
When He died and was entombed, **†**it seemed so final,
†thoughts of resurrection had been forgotten, and **†**all hope
was gone!

Join us on **Saturday at 4:00** for a *resurrection glimpse* and
Sunday 9:00 for *the evidence of victory!*

Let Us Pray: Dearest Jesus, *TYSVM for taking away our sins!*

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