

THE FINAL WEEK - SEVEN DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION:

1. Jesus had just come from the Galilee down through Jericho where He had healed blind Bartimaeus.
2. Jesus had gone home with the little tax collector, Zacchaeus (Lk. 18:39) and radically changed his life.
3. The roads were crowded at this time of the year with people from all sections of the country going up to Jerusalem for the Passover.

EVENTS OF THE LAST WEEK OF OUR LORD'S LIFE ARE FAIRLY WELL DELINEATED BY THE GOSPEL WRITERS.

1. THE ARRIVAL AT BETHANY.

- A. John 12:1: "Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead."

- (1) Jesus probably arrived late Friday and we learn that Lazarus is still alive.

2. ANOINTING OF JESUS BY MARY AT THE HOUSE OF SIMON THE LEPER. (Matt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:2-8)

- A. This anointing is not to be confused with that at the house of Simon the Pharisee in Galilee (Luke 7:36-50).

- (1) Mark says that "And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. And she broke the flask and poured it on His head. ... "

- (2) John says that there in Bethany "they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil."

- a. Judas objected saying, "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" And even the other disciples voiced about the same sentiment together with

some who were guests.

(1) John says in reference to Judas, “This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.”

b. Jesus said, “Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always.”

3. THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY. (Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19)

A. They started from Bethany apparently after the Colt of the Ass had been secured by the two disciples going up to Bethpage at the top of the Mount of Olives.

(1) Luke, Mark, and John make it clear that our Lord rode the colt.

a. Luke says, “And it came to pass, when He came near to Bethpage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, that He sent two of His disciples, saying, ‘Go into the village opposite you, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose him and bring him here. And if anyone asks you, ‘Why are you loosing him?’ thus you shall say to him, ‘Because the Lord has need of him.’ ... And they threw their own garments on the colt, and they set Jesus on him.”

B. A mighty crowd had gathered to usher Him down the mountain into Jerusalem.

(1) Luke tells us that, “And as He went, they spread their clothes on the road. Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying: ‘Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!’”

a. This is probably a quotation from the kingly

Psalm 118:25-26.

- (2) The Pharisees among the crowd wanted Jesus to make the crowd be quiet because they feared the Roman soldiers who were, no doubt, watching from the city walls.
- a. Jesus answered them: "I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

C. On the way down the Mount of Olives, Jesus laments over the fate of Jerusalem.

- (1) Luke 19:41-44: "Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.'"

4. THE CURSING OF THE FIG TREE.

- A. Mark tells us that: "And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve. (Mark 11:11)
- B. Mark further says that: "Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. And when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. In response Jesus said to it, 'Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.' And His disciples heard it.'" (verses 12-14)

Mark later says in verses 19-21: "And when evening had come, He went out of the city. Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, 'Rabbi, Look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered away.'"

- (1) This surely depicts the end of the Jewish nation

which had not produced the full measure of fruit for God down through the ages.

REJECTION OF NATIONAL ISRAEL -

5. THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE:

- A. Mark 11:15-18: “So they came to Jerusalem. And Jesus went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold doves. And He would not allow anyone to carry wares through the temple. Then He taught, saying to them, ‘Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations?’ But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’ And the scribes and chief priests heard it and sought how they might destroy Him; for they feared Him, because all the people were astonished at His teaching.”

(1) Jesus is quoting from Jeremiah 7:11 and Isaiah 56:7.

6. JESUS DISCOURSES WITH THE PHARISEES - AND SADDUCEES.

A. A Personal Question.

(1) The Sanhedrin wanted to know where he got his authority?

- a. Jesus answered by asking them, “Where the authority of John the Baptist had come from?”

B. A Political Question:

(1) Should tribute be paid to Caesar was asked by the Pharisees and Herodians.

C. An Ethical Question:

(1) The Scribe asking which was the greatest commandment.

D. A Doctrinal Question:

(1) The Sadducees asking about the resurrection. They posed the hypothetical question of a woman who had had seven husbands. Whose wife would she be?

E. Jesus Then Delivered the Three Parables of:

- (1) The Two Sons;
- (2) The Wicked Husbandmen;
- (3) The Wedding Garment.

F. He sat by the treasury during the hull of the day and watched the people, including the widow, casting their money into the treasury.

7. THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM DESCRIBED.

A. Matt. 24:1-28; 32-35; Mark 13:1-23, 28-31; Luke 21:5-24, 29-33.

B. "There shall not be a stone left here upon another, that shall not be torn down."

- (1) Fulfilled A.D. 70 by the legions of Titus as they destroyed Jerusalem.

8. THE SECOND COMING PREDICTED.

A. Matt. 24:29-31: "... and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

B. Matt. 25: - The Parable of the Talents, The Virgins, and The Judgment.

9. THE PASSOVER AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

A. Matt. 26:17-29; Mark 14:12-25; John 13:1; Luke 22:1-30.

B. Instructions for securing a room. (Luke 22:7-13)

C. The Passover Supper

- (1) Lamb - Bread - Wine

D. Washing The Disciples' Feet

E. "Lord, Is It I?"

F. Institution of the Lord's Supper.

10. THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMENE.

A. The Prayers

- B. The Mob
 - C. Judas' Kiss
 - D. Peter's Sword.
11. THE FALSE TRIALS.
- A. Caiphas and Annas
 - B. The Sanhedrin
 - C. Pilate
 - D. Herod
 - E. Pilate.
12. THE SCOURGINGS AND CRUCIFIXION.
- A. The night of Beating and Abuse.
 - B. The Road to Golgotha - Calvary.
 - C. Conversation with the Thief.
13. BURIAL AND RESURRECTION.
- A. In Joseph's New Tomb.
 - B. Soldiers on Guard.
 - C. Earthquake and Angel.
 - D. Appearance of Jesus.
14. REUNION ON THE LAKE OF GALILEE.
- A. Teaching Concerning the Law and the Prophets.
 - B. "Peter, Lovest thou me."