



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022



Take your Pulse

What is your favorite animal?

What animal is so scary for you that you get squeamish just thinking about it?

Today's Reading

Matthew Chapter 21

What we now call “Holy Week” begins here in Chapter 21. The events of Palm Sunday and Holy Monday are recorded. Though, we have to be careful when trying to line these stories up with our modern understanding of time. The author gives us no indication it is a Sunday or Monday. We line it up that way to fit our worship patterns today. Instead of tying these events to specific days of the week, the author is bringing us further into the conflict between Jesus and the Jewish authorities. Jesus’ entry clashes with the official Passover parade. Jesus tosses the marketplace, upsetting the ways the temple has always operated. Jesus teaches with authority that doesn’t come from those who give permission to the teachers. The conflict is getting stronger, and will have only one outcome — the outcome we know too well.



Start the Thinking

The parable of two sons, can be exemplified by my asking my sons to do a chore, and the one says “no way,” and ends up doing it anyway, and the other says, “Sure,” and promptly forgets about doing it. Who does the will of the father? Why?



Conversing with God

God of palm branches and singing hosannas, let our voice join with those singing the praises of your Son, may our ears be ready to hear his teachings, may we charge headlong into conflict with the empire and the harmful passivity of our culture that seeks to keep the status quo rather than opening the way for your Kingdom. In Jesus holy name, we pray. Amen



Be blessed

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’ face shine brightly upon you that you experience all God’s grace. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen