

Easter – Prepared for this Day of Truth – April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday is about truth. We discover everything Jesus said was true.

John 18 – Jesus tells Pilate: “For this reason I was born and have come into the world, to *testify to the truth.*” Pilate asks: “*What is truth?*”

Jesus is truth.

- **John 1:14** – “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **John 1:17** – “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”
- **John 14:6** - Jesus said: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

Holy Week. 7 Mysterious events that guide us to truth.

1 – Matt. 21 - Before entering Jerusalem, 2 disciples sent village/ Bethany.

You’ll find a colt; untie it & bring it to him. Asks? “The Lord needs it.”

Did disciples wonder how does He know that? Worry about stealing?

In this small thing, Jesus is teaching the disciples they can trust Him.

Jesus enters Jerusalem riding a colt; palm branches, hosanna.

2 – Mark 11 - Jesus passes fig tree/no fruit. He says to it: “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” Next day: withered, dried up; disciples are amazed

It’s a teaching moment. “Have faith in God.” “Believe and don’t doubt.”

Jesus is teaching faith. Whatever you ask for in prayer will be done.

3 – Matt. 26. Same week, in Bethany. Alabaster jar of expensive ointment.

What a waste? Jesus says she’s done a good thing . . . won’t always have

Him with them . . . she is “preparing his body for burial.” Disciples wonder?

Hindsight - Jesus knew what was to come.

4 – Luke 22. Passover meal. Jesus sends Peter & John into the city. Says

they will meet a man carrying a jar of water; follow him to the house he

enters & say: “The Teacher asks: where is the guest room where I may eat

the Passover with my disciples?” They’re led to an upper room, all furnished.

They found things just as Jesus said. **Truth.** Another mystical event.

- 5 – During Passover – Jesus makes 3 predictions: 1) 1 will betray Him.
2) “I will strike the shepherd, & the sheep of the flock will be scattered”
3) Peter - you will deny me 3 times.

Truth. All happened just as He said.

6 – J makes 3 more predictions – they will be put out of the synagogue. They’ll see Him no more for a while, then see Him again; Grief will turn to joy
“I have told you these things so that you may have peace.” Mean?

Peace b/c you know this **truth**: Jesus knows ... nothing is a surprise.

Truth. Setback in life are setups for God. Allows for a purpose.

Truth. Jesus was teaching Disciples to trust Him – big & small. Faith!

Stories of the Bible teach us to trust Him, too.

- 7 – Jesus resurrected. Empty tomb. Stone gone. Scratched/heads. **Truth.**
Jesus predicted His death more than 3 times... Mark 8; Mark 9; Mark 10.

We miss clues, too. Don’t see signs God at work. Listen to wrong voice.

Truth: You are loved; worth dying 4. **Truth:** You have a purpose: Love.

Truth: No problem is too great for God. He does the impossible!

Truth: Every mysterious moment preparing for greatness. Us, too.

Easter Sunday. We discover that everything Jesus said was true.

Our Savior is Alive. Our Faith can be Alive. We know what is true.

God moves in mysterious ways. But there are no accidents.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Song of the week – “How Great Thou Art” - Joshua Aaron & Aaron Shust
5-3-23- “Restoration Reunion” – 24 days