

Based Matthew Chapters 21-27 ESV

Holy Week Summary!

Has God made YOU holy through Jesus?

Services: Sunday, 4/9 at 8:00 & 10:45

Church Year: Palm Sunday – 2017

Holy Thursday: 11 & 7; Good Friday: 11 & 7

Easter Sunday: 7 & 10:45 (Breakfast 8:30; Classes 9:30)

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: This is the **BIG** week for *Jesus* and *His work to save us!* Today we will skim over *Palm Sunday through Holy Saturday* and focus on a couple key readings.

Palm Sunday (21:1-11): Jesus was welcomed by many as the Promised Messiah – *but the Jewish leaders were very angry!*

Holy Monday (21:12-17): Jesus drove out the merchants and money-changers, *so the Gentiles could gather and pray!*

Holy Tuesday (21:18-26:13): *What a day!* Jesus taught so much! *Let us listen, understand, and benefit!*

1. (21:18-22): No fruit, *so Jesus cursed the fig tree!* As a healthy fig tree bears figs, *so let us bear Christian fruit!*
2. (21:23-27): Jesus acted – *under God’s authority*; however, the Jewish rulers *rejected both John and Jesus!*
3. (21:28-32): Jesus, *speaking to those same Jewish rulers*, taught about two sons *to show who is repentant and who is not* (**read 28-32**):
 - a. Who are repentant believers? The Small Catechism gives this answer: They “**are sorry for their sins and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior**” (274).
 - b. What about OPEN SINNERS – like “**the tax collectors and the prostitutes**”? They are like the first son who

said: **“I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went.”** *He repented AND it showed!*

- c. What about those who LOOK RIGHT – *like the Jewish rulers?* They are like the second son who said: **“I go, sir,’ but did not go.”** Even worse, those rulers SAW the great change in the open sinners – *so they knew something highly significant was going on;* nevertheless, they **“did not afterward change [their] minds and believe him.”** **“All those who today confess with their lips but deny by their lives are like those Jewish rulers”** (Lenski, 833).

HYMN: *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

LSB 611, sts. 1-2

4. **(21:33-46):** Jesus taught about those who rented the vineyard – *to show the wickedness of the Jewish rulers!*
5. **(22:1-14):** Jesus taught about a wedding banquet – *to show that everyone is being welcomed into heaven, but each must be wearing the righteousness of Jesus (read 1-14):*
- Who was FIRST invited (3-6)? *The Jews* – they were invited over and over again through the LORD’s called representatives! Even though the Almighty God had richly blessed the descendants of Israel, *most rejected Him over and over again!* Notice why: (Group 1) **“...they...went off, one to his farm, another to his business...”** *They preferred earthly things to heavenly things!* (Group 2) **“...the rest seized his slaves, treated them shamefully, and killed them.”** *Even today, around the world, Christians are being mistreated and killed!*
 - How did the King respond (7) (Gal. 6:7-8)? **“...he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.”** *That statement pointed ahead to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70!*

- c. Who was SECOND invited (8-10)? “...both bad [literally, evil] and good,” those who were criminals and those who lived honorable lives!
- d. What made anyone worthy (11-12)? Only the wedding robe – *an outer garment which the King freely offered to everyone*, thus Jesus’ righteousness, which we received in holy baptism! The man was not speechless, but muzzled, silenced (aorist passive)!
- e. How did the King respond (13)? Since the man *THOUGHT he could partake of the eternal wedding feast without having Jesus*, he was cast into hell!

HYMN: *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

LSB 576, sts. 1 & 4

- 6. (22:15-22): Jesus taught – *give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s!*
- 7. (22:23-33): Jesus taught that after the resurrection – *people will not be married!*
- 8. (22:34-46): Jesus taught the two greatest commandments – *love toward God and love toward neighbor!*
- 9. (23:1-39): Jesus boldly identified the teachers of the law and Pharisees as hypocrites – *so the people would be warned and the leaders would repent!*
- 10. (24:1-51): Jesus taught about His return – *the signs of His return and our inability to know exactly when!*
- 11. (25:1-13): Jesus taught about – *the great need to always be ready for His return; so let us keep a relationship with Jesus!*
- 12. (25:14-30): Jesus taught about responsibility – *rightly using the blessings we have received!*
- 13. (25:31-46): Jesus taught about judgment day – *believers welcomed in, unbelievers sent away!*

14. (26:1-5): The Jewish leaders – *they planned to arrest and kill Jesus!*

15. (26:6-13): Perfume was poured on Jesus – *in preparation for His burial!*

Holy Wednesday (26:14-16): Judas – *agreed to betray Jesus!*

Holy / Maundy Thursday:

1. (26:17-30): Jesus – *ate the Last Supper and instituted the Lord's Supper, thus the NT Passover!*

2. (26:36-46): Jesus prayed – *in Gethsemane!*

Holy / Good Friday:

1. (26:47-56): Jesus – *betrayed and arrested!*

2. (26:57-68): Jesus – *on trial!*

3. (26:69-75): Peter – *denied Jesus!*

4. (27:1-10): Judas – *hanged himself!*

5. (27:11-26): Jesus – *before Pilate!*

6. (27:27-32): Jesus – *is mocked!*

7. (27:33-56): Jesus – *is crucified!*

8. (27:57-61): Jesus – *is buried!*

Holy Saturday (27:62-66): Jesus' tomb – *made secure!*

Conclusion: This week, read Matthew 21-27; *then give thanks for God's great love and Jesus' saving work!* Invite a friend; *then gather with us on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday!*

Let us pray: Dear Holy Jesus, *thank You for Your extremely difficult work on our behalf!* Dear Holy Spirit, *assure us of God's forgiveness and keep us in Jesus!* And all God's people said: Amen!

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