

Palm Sunday

The week the changed to World

4/17/2011

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday.

We celebrate it because it is the beginning of a week that set a series of events into motion that changed the World.

This series of events is what we know as “The week of Passion” or the events leading up to the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This morning I would like to remind you of some of those events in order to get a picture in our minds of the week that changed the world.

I. A whirlwind overview

1. The Triumphal entry

“They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” Matthew 21:7-9

2. The Passover

Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.” Luke 22:8

During the Passover meal Jesus

- Predicts his own death

“I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” Luke 22:15-16

- Instituted the Lord’s Supper

“This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” V.19

- Predicted his betrayal

“But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table.” V. 21

- The disciples again argue over who will be greatest in the kingdom

“A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest.” V. 24

- Told the disciples of their reward

You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” V.28-30

- Predicted Peter’s denial

“Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.” V.34

3. In the Garden

“Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him.” V. 39

What did Jesus do in the Garden?

- He encourage his disciples to pray

“On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” V. 40

- Jesus prayed

“He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed” V.41

- He asked God

“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me” V. 42a

- He put aside his desire for God purpose yet not my will, but yours be done.” V.42b

At this point, things go down- hill in a hurry, and just like Jesus had predicted:

Judas betrays him with a kiss

Jesus is arrested, mocked and beaten

Presented with a crown of thorns, a purple robe and a reed

Delivered to the Sanhedrin

Brought before Pilate

Shuffled off to Herod

Brought back to Pilate “give us Barabbas” “Crucify him”

Jesus was nailed to the cross on Good Friday about 9am

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.” Luke 23:33

Jesus died on the cross at about 3 pm on Good Friday to pay the penalty of my sins before a Holy God.

Here is the Gospel:

- His blood has the power to wash away my sins and give me eternal life.
- I must confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died on the cross was buried and rose again from the dead.

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9