

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Sunday, April 14

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service
- 12:30PM Deaconess Meeting
- 6:00PM Youth Leader Meeting

MISSIONS

<http://www.lbac.org/missions>

GROWTH GROUPS

<http://www.lbac.org/gg>

Mid-week Bible Studies for all Adults (break)

Monday, April 15

- 6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous
- 7:00PM Pure Desire

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/children>

Sunday Mornings

Gospel Project @ 9:30AM

Tuesday, April 16

- 10:00AM All Staff Team Meeting
- 7:00PM The Process * High School
- 7:00PM Women Connecting with Missions

AWANA

<http://www.lbac.org/awana>

Wednesday Nights through May

Wednesday, April 17

- 6:30PM AWANA

YOUTH MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/youth>

The Process High School ~ Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

Junior High Live ~ Thursdays @ 7:00PM

Thursday, April 18

- 5:00PM Lydia House Women's Outreach
- 7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/women>

Woman To Woman Mentoring

Contact: sheryllynnelbac@gmail.com

Lydia House Meals Ministry

Contact: mcoliver789@msn.com

Friday, April 19

- 6:30AM Men's Bible Study
- 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

Women Connecting with Missions

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00PM

Crafty Women

2nd Saturday of each month @ 10:00AM

Saturday, April 20

- 9:00AM Easter Egg Hunt
- 9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

MEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/men>

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

Sunday, April 21

- 8:30AM Easter Breakfast
- 9:00AM Easter Worship & Celebration Svc 1
- 10:30AM Easter Worship & Celebration Svc 2

long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue · long beach, ca · 90808-4113

phone: 562.420.1478 · office@lbac.org · www.lbac.org

church office hours: tuesday-thursday, 10:00AM-5:00PM

www.lbac.org

church staff team

meghan brearley, children's director
562.708.9261 • megan@lbac.org

jesse duckett, youth pastor
562.454.7122 • jesse@lbac.org

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer
562.420.1478 • tina@lbac.org

scott trickett, associate pastor
562.972.5306 • scott@lbac.org

michelle crammer, office manager
917.288.3424 • michelle@lbac.org

chris lankford, lead pastor
562.685.4132 • chris@lbac.org

kyle rand, facility needs
562.900.0921 • kyle@lbac.org

ben shaw, worship & celebration intern
562.420.1478 • ben@lbac.org

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

Weekly Schedule



**THE
ALLIANCE**

THE LIFE & DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH
PALM SUNDAY * APRIL 14, 2019

LBAC Women's Ministry presents...



Save the Date

Jolly Holiday Tea

MAY 11 2019

11:00AM to 1:30PM

Long Beach Alliance Church

Who: High School Seniors and Up

Tickets on Sale: April 28 and May 5

Ticket Price: \$14

If you're interested in hosting a table or have any questions

Contact: Meghan Brearley, meghan@lbac.org, Phone: 562.708.9261

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER & OBSERVANCE

APRIL 18 → 6:00PM-8:00PM

MAIN DINNER SEATING: \$12/SEAT

INCLUDES STEAK & CHICKEN, SALAD, RICE, PITA BREAD, HUMMUS & DRINKS

CHILDCARE & CHILDREN'S MEAL: \$5/TICKET

ONLY 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE → NEED MORE INFO? OFFICE@LBAC.ORG

LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$11,977.03	\$7,976.53	66.6%
Month-to-Date:	\$11,977.03	\$7,976.53	66.6%
Year-to-Date:	\$383,264.96	\$405,126.86	105.7%
Disbursed YTD:	\$380,963.00	GOF Balance: \$24,163.86	

JOIN US THIS EASTER!

KIDS EASTER EGG HUNT

FREE! @ WARDLOW PARK, LONG BEACH
SATURDAY, APRIL 20 • 9:00AM-11:00AM

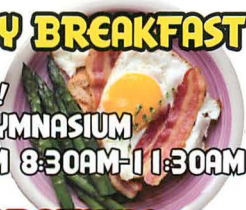


GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL

FRIDAY, APRIL 19 @ 6:30PM

FREE EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY!
SUNDAY, APRIL 21, GYMNASIUM
ANYTIME FROM 8:30AM-11:30AM



EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

COME HEAR THE GREAT STORY OF EASTER!
SUNDAY, APRIL 21 @ 9:00AM & 10:30AM
NURSERY • KIDS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE!



LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH

LOVING GOD • LOVING OTHERS • SERVING THE WORLD

3881 PALO VERDE AVENUE
LONG BEACH • 90808

☎ 562.420.1478

🌐 WWW.LBAC.ORG

✉ OFFICE@LBAC.ORG





ALLIANCE YOUTH

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

IN MEMORY OF GARY MAY

LAKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

3101 EAST CARSON STREET, LAKEWOOD, 90712

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019 • 1:00 PM SHOTGUN START/BEST BALL TOURNAMENT
(REGISTRATION OPENS @ 11:00 AM)

ALL PROCEEDS GO
TOWARD FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR
FAMILIES OF CHILDREN & TEENS
FOR SUMMER & WINTER CAMPS
AND OTHER LIFE-CHANGING
ACTIVITIES!

FREE PUTTING CONTEST • 11:00 AM-12:30 PM
HOLE IN ONE, LONGEST DRIVE, CLOSEST TO PIN CONTESTS!

ALL INCLUDED W/ YOUR REGISTRATION!

ALL CONTESTS INCLUDE GREAT PRIZES FOR WINNERS!
INCLUDES 6:00 PM AWARDS BANQUET & SILENT AUCTION
OPPORTUNITIES FOR DODGERS & ANGELS TICKETS.

COOL LOCAL FAMILY EVENTS, SPORTS MEMORABILIA, & MORE!

REGISTER NOW @ ALLIANCEYOUTHGOLF.COM

THE PASSION WEEK OF JESUS THE CHRIST

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH :: PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019 :: PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

FOR I DELIVERED TO YOU AS OF FIRST IMPORTANCE WHAT I ALSO RECEIVED:
THAT CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES,
THAT HE WAS BURIED, THAT HE WAS RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES...
→ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4 (ESV)

1) THE PASSION WEEK OF THE CHRIST

A) THE ACCOUNTS OF THE LIFE OF JESUS THE CHRIST (THE GOSPELS) HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS "PASSION WEEK STORIES WITH EXTENDED INTRODUCTIONS."
THE STATISTICS CLEARLY VALIDATE THIS ESTIMATION:

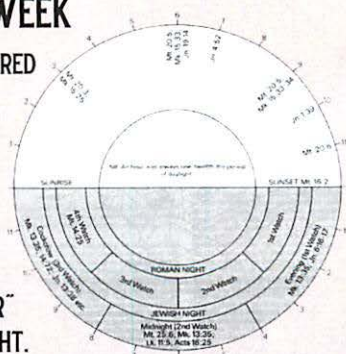
- . MATTHEW --> CHAPTERS 21-28 (28.5%)
- . MARK --> CHAPTERS 11-16 (37.5%)
- . LUKE --> CHAPTERS 19-24 (25%)
- . JOHN --> CHAPTERS 12-21 (47.6%)

B) THE GOSPEL WRITERS WERE INSPIRED TO PLACE A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THIS SINGULAR WEEK OF CHRIST'S LIFE LEADING TO HIS CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION! THIS SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD NOT BE MISSED! THE "PASSION WEEK OF THE CHRIST" DESERVES OUR CAREFUL ATTENTION AS EASTER APPROACHES.

C) WITH THIS IN MIND, I INVITE YOU TO JOIN WITH CHRISTIANS ALL OVER THE WORLD IN OBSERVING "PASSION WEEK" BY WALKING WITH CHRIST THROUGH THIS CLIMACTIC WEEK OF HIS LIFE.

2) SOME BACKGROUND FOR PASSION WEEK

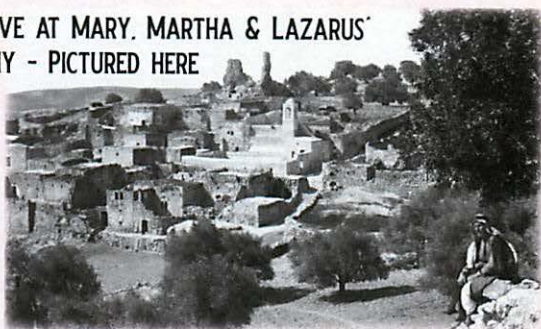
A) IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT TIME IS MEASURED VERY DIFFERENTLY IN THE BIBLE THAN WHAT WE ARE ACCUSTOMED TO IN THE MODERN DAY. FOR A HEBREW, THE DAY WAS SPLIT INTO 24 DIVISIONS (OR HOURS), OF WHICH THERE WERE 12 IN THE DAY, AND 12 IN THE NIGHT. THERE WERE ALWAYS 12 HOURS A DAY, AND ALWAYS 12 HOURS A NIGHT. IN OTHER WORDS, "AN HOUR" SIMPLY MEANT 1/12 OF EITHER THE DAY OR NIGHT.



- B) THE "HEBREW DAY" WAS 24 "HOURS" LONG, BUT BEGAN AT SUNSET AND RAN THROUGH THE NEXT SUNSET. FOR OUR PURPOSES, I WILL USE "WESTERN DAYS" (MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT, TO WHICH WE ARE ALL ACCUSTOMED), BUT IF YOU STUDY THE TEXT CLOSELY, YOU MIGHT NOTE SLIGHT DIVERGENCES ON HOW THE DAYS ARE IDENTIFIED. THIS IS WHY, AND NOW YOU KNOW!
- C) IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES SPENT THE ENTIRE "PASSION WEEK" STAYING IN THE HOME OF MARY, MARTHA, AND LAZARUS IN BETHANY (JOHN 12:1). BETHANY IS LOCATED JUST TWO MILES AWAY FROM JERUSALEM, AND THE MOUNT OF OLIVES IS LOCATED IN-BETWEEN BETHANY AND JERUSALEM.
- D) THE REASON JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES TRAVEL INTO JERUSALEM EACH DAY FROM BETHANY IS FOR THE PASSOVER FEAST, WHICH WILL OCCUR AT THE END OF THE WEEK (JOHN 12:1). THE PASSOVER WAS A MEMORIAL FEAST OF ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT AND PROTECTION BY GOD FROM THE 10TH PLAGUE (DEATH OF FIRSTBORN SON) THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF BLOOD ON THE DOORPOSTS OF THE FAMILY HOME (EXODUS 12:23, NOTE LEVITICUS 17:11, 20:26).

3) SATURDAY - SUNDAY, BEGINNING OF PASSION WEEK

- A) JESUS & HIS DISCIPLES ARRIVE AT MARY, MARTHA & LAZARUS' HOME IN BETHANY (BETHANY - PICTURED HERE TO THE RIGHT IN 1898, WAS A SMALL VILLAGE LOCATED ≈3 MILES FROM JERUSALEM), SIX DAYS BEFORE THE PASSOVER FEAST BEGINS (JOHN 12:1).



- B) THAT EVENING AT SUPPER, MARY ANOINTS JESUS WITH "COSTLY PERFUME" (JOHN 12:2-8). THE PERFUME IS TRULY VALUABLE (ONE YEAR'S WAGES), AND REVEALS MARY'S DEVOTION AND HUMILITY.
- C) JUDAS ISCARIOT, NOTING THE VALUE OF THE PERFUME, CRITICIZES MARY'S GENEROSITY, INSTEAD VOICING THAT THE PERFUME COULD BE USED TO SUPPORT THE POOR (12:4-5). HOWEVER, IT IS NOTED THAT JUDAS WAS A THIEF (AND

THE TREASURER FOR THE DISCIPLES), AND IT SEEMS THIS MOMENT CONTRIBUTES TO HIS DISILLUSIONMENT WITH JESUS AND HIS SENSE OF LOSS AS CHRIST HEADS TOWARD THE CROSS.

- D) THE CONTRAST BETWEEN JUDAS, THE BETRAYER, AND MARY ARE DRAMATIC. JUDAS COULDN'T FIGURE OUT JESUS, AND WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY MORE SELFISH. ON THE OTHER HAND, MARY (WHO ALSO DIDN'T ALWAYS GRASP WHAT JESUS WAS DOING, CF. JOHN 11:31-33) CHOSE TO WORSHIP JESUS.
- E) FOLLOWING JESUS CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST UNNERVING AND CONFUSING EXPERIENCES IN LIFE. TRUSTING CHRIST WITH OUR WHOLE LIVES IS A CHOICE, IT DOES NOT COME NATURALLY. AS YOU BEGIN THIS JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH THE PASSION WEEK, CONSIDER YOUR OWN RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. IS IT ONE OF SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP OR ONE OF SELFISH WANT-FOR-MORE?
- F) THE NEXT DAY, JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES LEAVE BETHANY AND HEAD INTO JERUSALEM (JOHN 12:12). WORD HAS GOTTEN OUT THAT JESUS IS COMING INTO JERUSALEM, AND THERE IS A CROWD TO WELCOME HIM IN THE MISPLACED HOPE HE IS WARRIOR-KING (MATTHEW 21:1-11; MARK 11:1-10; JOHN 12:12-18).
- G) JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM ON A DONKEY/COLT, FULFILLING PROPHECY (ZECHARIAH 9:9). HIS 'TRIUMPHAL ENTRY' INTO JERUSALEM ON SUNDAY IS MARKED WITH "HOSANNA" (GOD SAVE!) A WELL-KNOWN OLD TESTAMENT MESSIANIC TITLE (PSALM 118:25-26) WHICH CALLED UPON GOD FOR FUTURE DELIVERANCE FROM OPPRESSION AND PROVISION OF SALVATION.
- H) KNOWING THAT JESUS HAS ALREADY PREDICTED HIS DEATH (MARK 10:33-34), WE KNOW WHY HE HAS COME TO JERUSALEM. HOWEVER, THE PEOPLE ARE WELCOMING JESUS BECAUSE THEY THINK HE WILL BE A MIRACULOUS MILITARY DELIVERER. THIS TURNS OUT TO BE A TERRIBLE MISCONCEPTION, AND WILL (EVENTUALLY) LEAD TO A FAR DIFFERENT CRY FROM THE PEOPLE.
- I) ALL OF US COME TO JESUS WITH OUR OWN PRE-CONCEIVED NOTIONS. PERHAPS YOU COME TO JESUS FOR HEALING. PERHAPS IT IS FOR FINANCIAL RELIEF. PERHAPS IT IS TO FIND A SPOUSE. PERHAPS IT IS TO BE RELEASED FROM SOME SORT OF ADDICTION. WILL YOU TAKE THIS DAY TO TRUST JESUS. NO MATTER

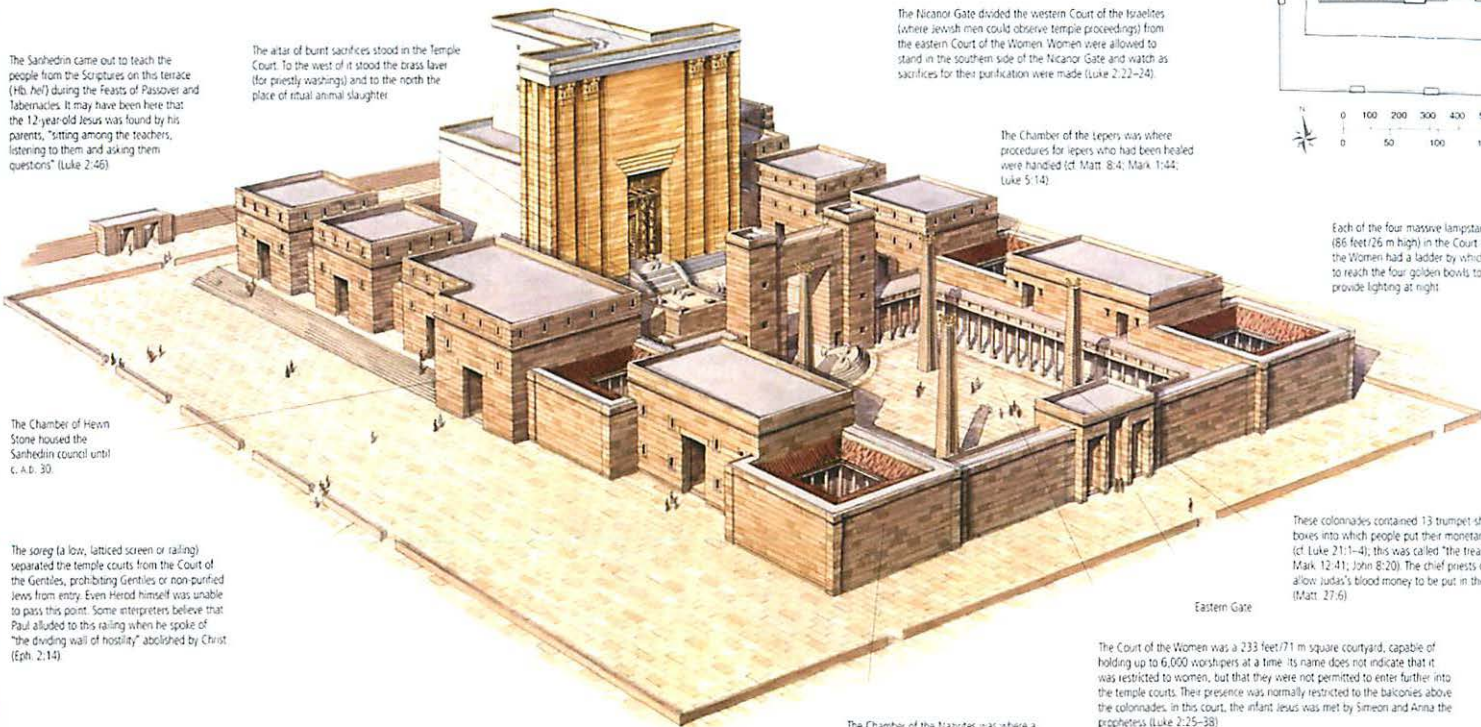
HEROD'S TEMPLE COMPLEX IN THE TIME OF JESUS

When the Gospels and the book of Acts refer to entering the temple or teaching in the temple, it is often not a reference to Herod's temple itself, but rather to this temple complex, including a number of courts and chambers that surrounded the temple. These latter structures were the great and wonderful buildings referred to by the disciples in Matt. 24:1; Mark 13:1-2.

The Sanhedrin came out to teach the people from the Scriptures on this terrace (Hib. *He'l*) during the Feasts of Passover and Tabernacles. It may have been here that the 12-year-old Jesus was found by his parents, "sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions" (Luke 2:46).

The altar of burnt sacrifices stood in the Temple Court. To the west of it stood the brass laver (for priestly washing) and to the north the place of ritual animal slaughter.

Herod's Temple



The Chamber of Hewn Stone housed the Sanhedrin council until c. A.D. 30.

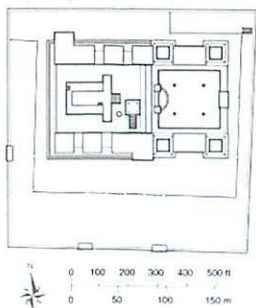
The *soreg* (a loss, latticed screen or railing) separated the temple courts from the Court of the Gentiles, prohibiting Gentiles or non-purified Jews from entry. Even Herod himself was unable to pass this point. Some interpreters believe that Paul alluded to this railing when he spoke of "the dividing wall of hostility," abolished by Christ (Eph. 2:14).

The Chamber of the Hearth was the building which housed priests who served when their division was on duty (cf. Zechariah in Luke 1:8).

The Nicanor Gate divided the western Court of the Israelites (where Jewish men could observe temple proceedings) from the eastern Court of the Women. Women were allowed to stand in the southern side of the Nicanor Gate and watch as sacrifices for their purification were made (Luke 2:22-24).

The Chamber of the Lepers was where procedures for lepers who had been healed were handled (cf. Matt. 8:4; Mark 1:44; Luke 5:14).

Temple Complex Architectural Plan



Each of the four massive lampstands (86 feet/26 m high) in the Court of the Women had a ladder by which to reach the four golden bowls to provide lighting at night.

These colonnades contained 13 trumpet-shaped boxes into which people put their monetary offerings (cf. Luke 21:1-4); this was called "the treasury" (see Mark 12:41; John 8:20). The chief priests did not allow Judas's blood money to be put in the treasury (Matt. 27:6).

Eastern Gate

The Court of the Women was a 233 feet/71 m square courtyard, capable of holding up to 6,000 worshippers at a time. Its name does not indicate that it was restricted to women, but that they were not permitted to enter further into the temple courts. Their presence was normally restricted to the balconies above the colonnades. In this court, the infant Jesus was met by Simeon and Anna the prophetess (Luke 2:25-38).

The Chamber of the Nazirites was where a Nazirite would bring his sacrifices upon completion of his vow.

4) MONDAY, DAY OF JUDGMENT

- A) ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM THE NEXT MORNING, JESUS CURSES A BARREN FIG TREE (MARK 11:12-14; CF. MATTHEW 21:18-22). THE DISCIPLES ARE AMAZED AND PERPLEXED BY THE CURSING. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- B) JESUS ARRIVES IN JERUSALEM AND HEADS INTO THE TEMPLE AREA (MATTHEW 21:12-13; MARK 11:15-17). AND PROCEEDS TO CLEAR OUT THE TEMPLE OF MONEY CHANGERS AND SELLERS. WHY WOULD HE CHALLENGE THE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM AND RELIGIOUS RULERS IN SUCH AN OPEN AND CONFRONTIVE MANNER?

- C) ONCE THE TEMPLE WAS CLEARED, JESUS PERFORMED HEALINGS AND CHALLENGED THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS (MATTHEW 21:14-16; MARK 1:18). JESUS, AS WAS HIS CUSTOM, THEN RETURNS TO BETHANY (MATTHEW 21:7; MARK 11:19).

- D) ON THIS DAY, ALLOW JESUS TO CLEAN OUT THE AREAS OF YOUR LIFE (THE TABERNACLE, CF. 1ST CORINTHIANS 3:16) THAT MIGHT HAVE BECOME POLLUTED WITH "PAGAN MONEY" (VALUES AND IDEAS OF THE WORLD). ALLOW CHRIST TO BRING HEALING TO YOUR TEMPLE, AND AVOID THE CURSE OF THE FIG TREE!

5) TUESDAY, THE OLIVET DISCOURSE

- A) ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM THE NEXT MORNING, JESUS EXPLAINS THE CURSING OF THE FIG TREE TO HIS DISCIPLES (MATTHEW 21:20-22; MARK 11:20-25).

- B) ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, JESUS ENTERS THE TEMPLE AND BEGINS TO GET INTO DEBATES WITH THE RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP AND RELATED TEACHING IN THE TEMPLE COURTYARD (MATTHEW 21:23-23:39; MARK 11:27-12:44).

- C) THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CURSING OF THE FIG TREE, AND THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE, AND THE DEBATES/CHALLENGES OF THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS IS CLEAR... JESUS' JUDGMENTS ARE AGAINST THE FRUITLESS LEADERS OF ISRAEL (FIG TREE) WHO HAVE SOLD-OUT THEIR FAITHFUL LIVES FOR BIG PROFITS (TEMPLE PROFITEERING).

- D) THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS ARE SECURE IN THEIR POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE (AND FRUITLESSNESS/PROFITS) THROUGH THE BURDEN OF TRADITIONS WHICH CANNOT

BE ATTAINED (CF. MATTHEW 23:1-39), WHICH JESUS SUMMARILY DISMANTLES THROUGH HIS TEACHING.

E) THIS APPROACH, AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, WAS NOT POPULAR WITH THE RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT IN JERUSALEM. IT WAS PARTICULARLY TROUBLING FOR THE SADDUCEES AND PHARISEES (CF. MATTHEW 23). JESUS HEADS TO BETHANY, BUT STOPS TO TEACH ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES (MARK 13:1-3).

F) JESUS TEACHES ABOUT SIGNS OF "THE END TIMES" ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES (PICTURED IN THE DISTANCE WITH THE TEMPLE MOUNT, THE SECTION WITH THE ISLAMIC GOLD 'DOME OF THE ROCK,' IN THE FOREGROUND). IN A SECTION OF THE BIBLE POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE 'OLIVET DISCOURSE' (MATTHEW 24:1-25:46; MARK 13:1-37).



G) JESUS TEACHES ABOUT THE TEARING DOWN AND REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE, BOTH A METAPHOR FOR HIS OWN LIFE AND A PREDICTION OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE IN 70 A.D. RATHER THAN THE TEMPLE BEING LOCATED IN A SINGLE PLACE (JERUSALEM), THE NEW TESTAMENT TEMPLE IS LOCATED WHEREVER GOD'S SPIRIT REIGNS (1ST CORINTHIANS 3:16). ALLOW JESUS TO "TEAR DOWN" AND "REBUILD" YOUR OWN TEMPLE THROUGH HIS WORD ON THIS DAY!

6) WEDNESDAY, "SILENT WEDNESDAY"

A) THERE IS NOTHING RECORDED IN SCRIPTURE WHICH WE CAN (FOR SURE) SAY OCCURS ON WEDNESDAY. POPULARLY CALLED 'SILENT WEDNESDAY,' THIS DAY REPRESENTS THE 'CALM BEFORE THE STORM.'

B) JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES REMAINED IN BETHANY ON THIS DAY. NO DOUBT A SIGNIFICANT TIME FOR JESUS WITH THE MEN AND WOMEN WITH WHOM HE HAD SHARED SO MUCH IN THE PREVIOUS THREE YEARS OF MINISTRY LIFE.

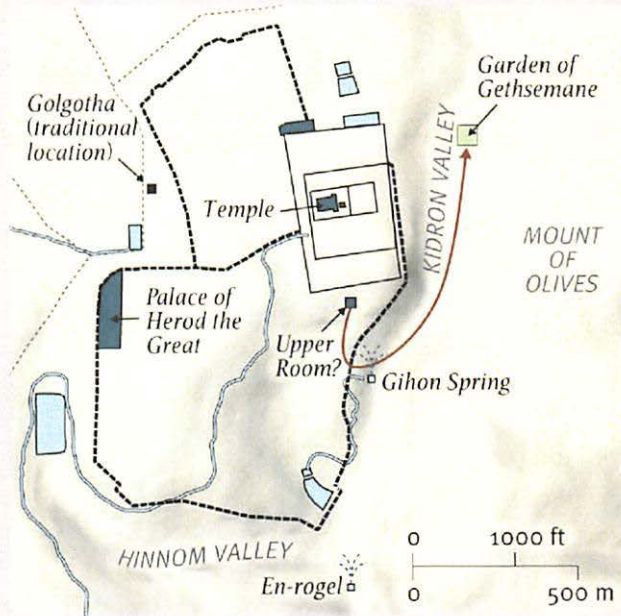
- C) IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS WAS THE DAY JUDAS RETURNED TO JERUSALEM TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF ISRAEL FOR THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS CHRIST (MATTHEW 26:14-16; MARK 14:10-11; LUKE 22:3-6).

7) MAUNDY THURSDAY, PASSOVER (SUNDOWN)

- A) THE DISCIPLES PROCEED INTO JERUSALEM FROM BETHANY TO MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR THE PASSOVER (MATTHEW 26:17-19; MARK 14:12-16; LUKE 22:7-13). THEY SECURE THE "UPPER ROOM" (SEE ON MAP BELOW) FOR THEIR PASSOVER MEAL.

AND MAKE THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS.

- B) AFTER SUNDOWN (REMEMBER, FOR THE HEBREW THIS WOULD MARK THE BEGINNING OF FRIDAY, AND AS SUCH, THE BEGINNING OF PASSOVER). JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES OBSERVE THE PASSOVER MEAL (MATTHEW 26:20-35; MARK 12:17-25; LUKE 22:14-38).



- C) DURING THIS "LAST SUPPER," JESUS TEACHES HIS DISCIPLES IN WHAT IS POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE 'UPPER ROOM DISCOURSES' (JOHN 13-17). DURING THIS TIME, JESUS INSTITUTES COMMUNION (THE LORD'S SUPPER) FOR AN ONGOING REMEMBRANCE OF CHRIST'S PASSION WEEK SACRIFICE.
- D) JESUS ALSO TAUGHT A GREAT DEAL ABOUT SERVANTHOOD AND SPIRIT-FILLED LIVING BY WASHING HIS DISCIPLES' FEET DURING THEIR TIME IN THE UPPER ROOM. THIS POWERFUL SCENE OF LOVE IS REMEMBERED IN THE CHURCH (COMMEMORATING JESUS "NEW COMMANDMENT" FROM JOHN 13:34-35) ON 'MAUNDY THURSDAY' (FROM THE LATIN "MANDATUM," FOR COMMAND).

E) ON THE WAY BACK TO BETHANY, JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES STOP TO PRAY AT THE BASE OF THE MOUNT OF OLIVES AT A LOCATION KNOWN AS THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE (MATTHEW 26:36-46; MARK 14:32-42; JOHN 18:1-11). A MODERN PICTURE OF THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE IS PICTURED HERE. THERE ARE OLIVE PRODUCING TREES STILL GROWING AND WHICH ARE CULTIVATED IN THE GARDEN AREA TO THIS DAY.




F) JESUS PRAYS TO THE LORD IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE THREE TIMES, BEGGING FOR "THIS CUP TO PASS FROM ME: YET NOT AS I WILL, BUT AS YOU WILL" (MATTHEW 26:36FF).

G) WHILE HE PRAYS, HIS DISCIPLES SLEEP. JESUS' PRAYERS ARE SO INTENSE, HE SWEATS PROFUSELY, LIKE DROPS OF BLOOD FROM AN OPEN WOUND (NOT ACTUAL BLOOD, JUST LIKE DROPS OF BLOOD). THE PICTURE IS OF JESUS, ALL ALONE, REALIZING HIS FATHER, WITH WHOM HE HAS ENJOYED A PERFECT HUMAN RELATIONSHIP DURING HIS TIME ON EARTH, WILL NOT HOLD BACK THE CUP OF WRATH -- EVEN FROM HIS OWN SON.

H) ON THIS DAY, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SPEND TIME IN PRAYER TO JESUS FOR THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BREAKING YOU. TAKE TIME TO REMEMBER JESUS IN THE MIDST OF YOUR DAY AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

D) FINALLY, IN LIVING OUT THE PASSION WEEK OF THE CHRIST, TAKE TIME ON THIS DAY TO SERVE THOSE WHO ARE CLOSE TO YOU. WE OFTEN FORGET THOSE WHO ARE CLOSEST TO US, AND CHOOSING TO SERVE THEM IS AN ACTIVE 'LIVING OUT' OF JOHN 13:34-35. THIS WILL PROVIDE A GOOD REMINDER TO BOTH YOU AND THEM OF CHRIST'S LOVE IN ACTION.

8) GOOD FRIDAY, THE DARKEST DAY IN HISTORY

- A) VERY LATE THAT NIGHT (PROBABLY AFTER MIDNIGHT), JESUS IS BETRAYED BY JUDAS ISCARIOT WITH A KISS (A CUSTOMARY GREETING), AND THEN ARRESTED (MATTHEW 26:47-56; MARK 14:43-50). JESUS' DISCIPLES, AFRAID OF BEING ARRESTED THEMSELVES, FLEE THE SCENE.
- B) THIS BEGINS A LONG NIGHT AND MORNING OF TRIALS FOR JESUS, WHICH HAVE TWO PHASES, THE JEWISH TRIALS (3 PARTS), AND THEN THE ROMAN TRIALS (3 PARTS).
- C) DURING THE JEWISH TRIALS, JESUS FIRST APPEARS IN FRONT OF ANNAS, THE RECOGNIZED HIGH PRIEST (JOHN 18:13-24) TO FACE THE CHARGE OF BLASPHEMY, "CLAIMING EQUALITY WITH GOD." JESUS IS PUNCHED BY AN OFFICER OF THE HIGH PRIEST IN THIS TRIAL (JOHN 18:22).
- D) JESUS IS THEN TAKEN TO THE ACTING HIGH PRIEST, CAIAPHAS, AND TO THE PARTIAL SANHEDRIN (ALSO CALLED THE "COUNCIL," THE SUPREME COURT OF THE JEWS: MATTHEW 26:57-75; MARK 14:53-65). DURING THIS TRIAL, JESUS' HEAD IS COVERED WITH A BAG TO BLIND HIS SENSES AND A CIRCLE OF GUARDS BEAT HIM WHILE ASKING HIM TO PROPHECY AND TELL THEM WHO JUST HIT HIM.
- 
- E) AT DAWN THE FULL SANHEDRIN PASSED A JUDGMENT OF GUILTY AGAINST JESUS FOR BLASPHEMY, WHICH CARRIED THE DEATH PENALTY (MATTHEW 27:1-2; MARK 15:1). THE JEWS COULDN'T ENFORCE THE DEATH PENALTY (AS SUBJECTS OF ROME), SO JESUS IS SENT TO PONTIUS PILATE, THE ROMAN GOVERNOR, WHERE THE JEWS SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY FOR JESUS, ACCUSING HIM OF "SEDITION AGAINST CAESAR & ROME" (TREASON AGAINST ROME & TIBERIUS CAESAR).
- F) JESUS APPEARS BEFORE PILATE (THE ROMAN PREFECT OF JUDEA, MATTHEW 27:2-14; MARK 15:2-5), BUT IS QUICKLY SHIPPED TO HEROD ANTIPAS (THE LOCAL GOVERNOR IN GALILEE), WHO HAD JURISDICTION OVER JESUS NAZARETH.

- G) HEROD ANTIPAS ONLY WANTED JESUS TO DO MIRACLES AND PUT ON A "MAGICAL SHOW" FOR HIM (LUKE 23:6-12). BUT HE GETS BORED WITH JESUS AND AFTER A BRIEF TIME, SHIPS HIM BACK TO PILATE FOR JUDGMENT.
- H) PILATE, ATTEMPTING TO PLACATE THE JEWS, TRIES TO RELEASE JESUS AS AN ACT OF KINDNESS, BUT INSTEAD RELEASES BARABBAS, A KNOWN MURDERER (MATTHEW 27:15-26; MARK 15:6-14). BARABBAS' RELEASE AT THE PASSOVER TIME WAS PART OF A ROMAN CUSTOM OF KINDNESS MEANT TO BRING 'PEACE ON EARTH' TO THE LOCAL TERRITORY.
- I) JESUS IS THEN TAKEN AWAY AND BRUTALLY SCOURGED (WHIPPED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS) WITH A "CAT OF NINE TAILS" (A WHIP WHICH HAD BONE, STONES, AND METAL EMBEDDED IN THE 9 LEATHER STRAPS) AND JESUS WAS THEN TAKEN AWAY TO BE CRUCIFIED.
- J) JESUS' CRUCIFIXION TAKES PLACE BETWEEN 9:00AM-3:00PM AT GOLGOTHA (KNOWN AS "THE PLACE OF THE SKULL," MATTHEW 27:27-66; MARK 15:16-39). JESUS IS NAILED TO A CROSS, CRYING OUT AS THE SINS OF MANKIND ARE POURED OUT ON HIM, AND HE DIES (MATTHEW 27:50).
- K) THAT EVENING, JESUS WAS REMOVED FROM THE CROSS AND LAID IN THE PRIVATE TOMB OF JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA (MATTHEW 27:57-66; MARK 15:42-47). MARY MAGDALENE AND OTHERS BEGAN PREPARING JESUS' BODY IN JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA'S TOMB, BUT HAD TO WAIT TO FINISH THE TREATMENT OF THE BODY BECAUSE OF THE SABBATH. BUT WHEN THEY RETURNED ON SUNDAY...

