

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a pond with lily pads, surrounded by trees with vibrant orange, red, and yellow foliage. The scene is captured in a warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

*Welcome To
Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

A black and white arrow pointing to the right, positioned in the center of the image.

“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28

“The Murder of Jesus”

“A Supernatural Transformation”

Luke 23:39-43

September 22, 2024

Passion Week

Month of Nisan
1st month of Hebrew Calendar.
(Exodus 12:2) (March/April)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Jesus arrived in Bethany yesterday (Saturday), and on Sunday the crowds visit Jesus and Lazarus in Bethany, which upset the Jewish leaders (John 12:9-20).</p>	<p>Select the sacrificial lamb. <i>Exodus 12:3 "On the <u>tenth</u> of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves..."</i></p> <p>Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey colt a.k.a. Palm Monday (John 12:12) also see Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:9-20)</p> <p>Jesus visits the temple, looked around, and heals many</p> <p>Jesus returns to Bethany for the evening</p>	<p>Jesus curses the Fig Tree (divine judgment re: Israel)</p> <p>Jesus cleanses the Temple again, He overturned tables, seats, and prevented people from using the temple as a shortcut</p> <p>Jesus' conversation with Greeks (John 12:20-36)</p> <p>God the Father audibly speaks, and everyone hears (John 12:28-33)</p> <p>Jesus talks about His coming death and the unbelief of the Jews</p>	<p>Withered Fig tree is seen again (Mark 11)</p> <p>Jesus teaches all day in the Temple grounds.</p> <p>Jewish leaders official challenge of Christ's authority</p> <p>Jesus tells parables to the chief priests, scribes and Pharisees on the Temple grounds</p> <p>Jewish leaders plot to kill Him</p> <p>Jesus teaches the Olivet Discourse to the Disciples <i>See chapters Matthew 21-25; Mark 11-13; Luke 19-21; John 12</i></p>	<p>Jesus sends Peter and John to prepare for the Passover meal. Note: <i>Jews from Galilee (northern Israel) celebrate Passover on Thursday after sunset.</i></p> <p>Jesus & disciples Last Supper</p> <p>The Upper Room Discourse and Jesus High Priestly Prayer</p> <p>Jesus and Disciples go to Mount of Olives (Garden of Gethsemane) overnight to pray. <i>See chapters Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; John 13-18</i></p>	<p>Early am betrayal and arrest of Jesus</p> <p>6 Trials of Jesus (3 Jewish then 3 Roman)</p> <p>The Passover day. <i>Jews from Judea (southern Israel) would celebrate Passover on Friday.</i></p> <p>Sacrifice the lamb. <i>Exodus 12:6 "You shall keep it until the <u>fourteenth day...to kill it at twilight</u>" and Deut 16:6</i></p> <p>Jesus is crucified Jesus' body put in Joseph's tomb before sunset. Day 1.</p>	<p>Jesus' body in the tomb Day 2.</p> <p>Jewish Feast of Unleavened bread continues for 7 days</p>	<p>Jesus' body in the tomb Day 3.</p> <p>Jesus is resurrected</p> <p>Post-resurrection and appearances over the next 40 days to over 500 people</p>

Note 1:
Biblical days don't start/end at midnight. See slide below for an explanation of Galilean and Judean start/end Sunrise/Sunset

Note 2:
For details on what happened during the hours of Thursday and Friday see the below graphic



Luke 23:39-43

39 One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

41 "And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

39 One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

Matt 27:44

44 The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

Mark 15:32

32 Those who were crucified with Him were also insulting Him.

- At this point these 2 criminals are very similar:
 1. Both are guilty of a crime.
 2. Both are being crucified and are suffering.
 3. Both observe Jesus – the sign over His head and hear the words, “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
 4. Both want to be saved from death.

- **2 ways you can respond to suffering:**
 1. Blame God. “How can a loving God allow suffering?” If He created this world and me specifically, He is obligated to me to keep me from suffering. The majority of the world responds this way.
 2. Admit we are sinners in a fallen world, and do not deserve anything good. We need to cry out for God’s mercy in our desperation. A few respond this way.
- If Jesus saves Himself physically, then He saves no one spiritually.
- Criminal #1 doesn’t want to pay for his crime, he just wants to live. i.e. sin should have no consequences.
- That’s the way most humans relate to suffering.
- God is called upon only in times of distress, crises.

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- Here is a supernatural, miraculous transformation.
- Criminal #2 suddenly rebukes Criminal #1.
- **Note:** #2 doesn't let #1 influence him.

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Let's look at 6 evidences of his transformed life:

1. The Holy Spirit had convicted him of his sin (Jn. 16:8) and granted him repentance (2 Tim. 2:26) and faith (Eph. 2:8). His eyes were opened (Acts 26:18). He was made alive in his spirit (Eph. 2:5). He was born again/regenerated (1Pet 1:3). Ex. Paul.
2. He feared God.

Rom 3:10-18

10 as it is written,

"THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

11 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,

THERE IS **NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD**;

12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;

THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD,

THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE."

13 "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE,

WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,"

"THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS";

14 "**WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS**";

15 "THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,

16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,

17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN."

18 "**THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.**"

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Let's look at 6 evidences of his transformed life:

3. He recognized his own guilt and condemnation.
 4. He recognized the innocence/sinlessness of Jesus.
 5. He believed Jesus was King of a future kingdom.
 6. He pleads for mercy.
- This conversion is the culmination of God's work in his life.

Luke 18:13

13 "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'

“Here is something truly remarkable: a deathbed conversion, and may fairly be said to be the only Biblical example of a last-minute salvation. There is one deathbed conversion in the Bible, so that no one would despair; but only one, so that no one would presume.”

- David Guzik

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“truly” – this is the truth. It may be hard to believe but this is the truth.

“Paradise” = heaven.

2 Cor 12:2-4

2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago — whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows — such a man was **caught up to the third heaven.**

3 And I know how such a man — whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows —

4 was **caught up into Paradise**

Rev 2:7

7 To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the **tree of life** which is in the **Paradise of God.**

Rev 22:1-2

1 Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, **coming from the throne of God** and of the Lamb,

2 **in the middle of its street.** On either side of the river was the **tree of life,**

- As soon as they die, “instant heaven.”

- This text is important because it dispels some false ideas about where we go when we die –
 1. No purgatory.
 2. No time to accumulate merit. Obliterates a system of works. Justification is an instantaneous sovereign work of God.
 3. No baptism required.

Application

1. Justification is the result of the work of God in the life of the unbeliever.
2. Coming to Christ for salvation, may occur in all kinds of situations – at night, in a fox hole, in a hospital, in jail, on a plane, on a bus, in a car, on a boat, in the desert, in a bar, in a casino, in a blizzard, at a funeral, at a fair, at a concert, and even while dying on a cross.
3. Regardless of when or where, all who come, share the same components for salvation.
4. Regardless of the depth of sin and evil in one's life, all stand on level ground at the foot of the cross.