

1. The last week of the life of Jesus (before the crucifixion):

- 1) Sunday - The Triumphal Entry
- 2) Monday - The Cursing of the Fig Tree and the Cleansing of the Temple
- 3) Tuesday - A day of controversy with the religious leaders

2. Six sections to Mark chapter 12: (all in the same order as found in Luke and Matthew - the repetition is a great learning tool for us)

- 1) The Parable of the Tenants
- 2) The question regarding the appropriateness of paying taxes to Caesar
- 3) The Sadducees rather cynical question regarding marriage and the Kingdom of Heaven
- 4) The much more sincere query from a scribe regarding the Greatest Commandment
- 5) Jesus' question to the religious leaders about the identity of David's Lord - and -
- 6) The observation of the widow and her sacrificial offering

3. The controversy is happening on the day after Jesus cleansed the Temple - tension is high.

4. The Parable of the Vineyard

- 1) The servants were the prophets who had come before Jesus.

- 2) The son of the owner was Jesus, the Son of god.

5. The tax question was a shrewd attempt to trap Jesus; in His answer Jesus left us wisdom as to how to be a good Christian and a good citizen.

6. The Sadducees' question about marriage in heaven was based on the Sadducees' disbelief in any life after death.

7. The new part of this chapter is similar to what we encountered in the Book of Luke.
- 1) It is a question, apparently more sincere, coming from one of the scribes: “Which is the most important commandment?”
 - 2) Jesus’ summation: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” “And love your neighbor as yourself.”
8. The desire to summarize the law is found in other passages in the Old Testament:
- 1) Psalm 15
 - 2) Isaiah 33:15
 - 3) Micah 6:8
 - 4) Isaiah 51:6
 - 5) Habakkuk 2:4

STUDY PAGES/NOTES

KNOW THE WORD

WEEK 32, DAY 2

1. In Mark 13, we again encounter the Olivet Discourse.
2. With the conclusion of Chapter 12, Jesus’ public ministry ended.
3. As they left the Temple, Jesus began to talk to the disciples about its destruction.
 - 1) Jesus began His teaching with the coming destruction of Jerusalem by the armies of Titus in 70 A.D.
 - 2) He ended with the His Second Coming.
 - 3) Jesus gives His disciples a panoramic view of the rest of human history.

4. The first century church took Jesus' words seriously and survived the destruction of Jerusalem by fleeing to Pella in Trans Jordan.

5. Jesus spoke as he did - running the events of the first century and His Second Coming together - so that Christians in every century would live in the light of this - "Jesus is coming soon."

6. The end times began when He was crucified and will end when He returns in glory. (Read to I John 2:18)

7. An important truth: Jesus warns His disciples that suffering and persecution are going to be "par for the course" in the last days. "He who endures to the end will be saved" - the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints.

8. The 'abomination that causes desolation' - this phrase is rooted in the Book of Daniel

- 1) Antiochus Epiphanes
- 2) The destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.
- 3) Profaning of the altar of a rebuilt Temple just before the return of Christ?

9. Christ's insistence that NO ONE will know the time of His coming - we must be ready!

1. In Mark 14:

- 1) The anointing of Christ in Bethany, which probably occurred on Tuesday night
- 2) Wednesday was the quiet day.
- 3) The Last Supper most likely occurred on Thursday.
- 4) The arrest and trial carries us into the early morning hours of Friday.

2. Of the four Gospels, only John identifies the woman who anointed Jesus as Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha.

3. This woman came to give something to Jesus, not to take from Him - very rare occurrence in Jesus' life.

4. Jesus was willing and anxious to accept her gift of worship.

5. "The institution of the Lord's Supper in this chapter, as Jesus transformed a Passover ritual into a distinctively Christian practice, is, of course, the origin of our Communion Service.

- 1) Transubstantiation - The Roman Catholic doctrine that the bread and wine mystically become the actual body and blood of Christ.
- 2) Protestant view - the bread and wine are metaphorically the body and blood of Jesus.

6. Jesus took, James, John and Peter into the Garden of Gethsemane with Him.

7. What was the “cup” to which Jesus was referring in the Garden of Gethsemane?

- 1) His impending death?
- 2) His separation from God

8. The content of His prayer is the most instructive thing for us:

- 1) He places His petition before His heavenly Father
- 2) He resigns Himself to His Father’s will in complete submission

9. The four recorded prayers of Jesus in the Bible:

- 1) The one we read today in Mark 14.
- 2) The one He prayed the same night, found in John 17
- 3) The Lord’s Prayer, Luke 11
- 4) The prayer He prayed on the cross for God to forgive those who had put Him there, Luke 23.

10. Jesus’ trial was totally illegal by all Jewish legal standards.

11. The unidentified young man who fled naked from the scene in the Garden was most likely John Mark himself, the writer of this Gospel.

1. In Mark 15, we view the crucifixion through the eyes of Mark and Peter.

2. In Mark 14, the story of Jesus' prediction of Peter's denial and the actual denial are told. This is Peter's account, and it is the harshest one in all of the Gospels.

3. Pilate's question to the mob "Why should I crucify Him?" - Jesus had committed no crime.

4. Why did the religious leaders hate Jesus so much and what were the real 'human' reasons for the crucifixion?
 - 1) Because Jesus claimed to be the Messiah

 - 2) Because Jesus claimed to hold divine prerogatives, to be God's Son in some special way, and even to be equal with God

 - 3) Because they did not like His friends.

 - 4) Because He would not keep their rules - He was not mired down in their legalism.

5) Because Jesus undercut their power.

6) Because they were afraid He would destabilize their arrangement with the Romans.

5. Why did Jesus say it was necessary for Him to go to the cross? “The Son of Man came to give His life a ransom for many” - to redeem, to buy back, to pay the penalty for our sin.

STUDY PAGES/NOTES

KNOW THE WORD

WEEK 32, DAY 5

1. In Mark 16 there is a problem - verses 9-20 do not seem to have been part of the original text of Mark's Gospel.

1) They seem to have been added at a later date.

2) Comparing old manuscripts by using a few simple techniques of textual criticism helps to eliminate misspelled words, identify omitted or duplicated words and establish with a high degree of certainty exactly what Mark or Luke or Paul actually said.

3) The ending of Mark's Gospel is one of the rare examples of “primitive error” - one that occurs so far back in the copying process that we are not totally sure what the original text said.

4) Either the Gospel ends abruptly with verse 8, or someone else “finished” the Gospel and added verses 9-20.

5) We can accept the content of this disputed paragraph of Scripture even if we are not certain about the actual words, because the content occurs in other places

6) Or we can disregard verses 9-20 and lose nothing of our faith or practice.

7) This is the most serious textual problem in the whole New Testament, and not one single item of faith or practice is in any way disturbed by it.

2. Jesus conquered death, and upon that conquest all of our hope rests for all of eternity.

3. The first witnesses of the resurrection were women:

- 1) Mary Magdalene
- 2) Mary, the mother of James
- 3) Salome

4. The message of the angel is crucial, “Go tell His disciples AND Peter.”

5. The greatest proof of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the existence of the church.