

I. Passion Week Observation

- A. This year we are specifically focusing on observing the traditional and biblical calendar and holidays. So far we have covered Ash Wednesday and Purim. Starting today we are entering into what has historically become known as holy week. During this week, multiple biblical feasts and holidays coincide with the events of the substitutionary work of Jesus on humanity's behalf. In fact, as we covered at the onset of the year, God mandated observance of these days that we would have greater revelation of the person and work of Jesus.
- B. As we set aside the days this week, I would like to remind you to observe these days however you feel led. As you do, bear in mind you need to intentionally engage your heart and mind and ask the Holy Spirit to help...
 - 1. To reveal Jesus - This leads to greater love and personal nearness.
 - 2. To remember Jesus - We constantly forget who He is and His love for us.
 - 3. To realign with Jesus - We set apart times and days for introspection.

II. Sunday (Palm Sunday, Triumphal Entry)

- A. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9. The crowds welcomed him as a king, waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna!" He spent the night in nearby Bethany. (Mt. 21:1-11; Mk. 11:1-10; Lk. 19:28-40; Jn. 12:12-19)

III. Monday (Cleansing the Leaven)

- A. Early in the morning Jesus cursed a barren fig tree as a symbol of the spiritual fruitfulness He was desiring to create. Then He arrives in Jerusalem and cleanses the temple. This is at the same time that all of Jerusalem is clearing out all the leaven from their homes in preparation for the feast of unleavened bread. (Mt. 21:12-22; Mk. 11:15-19; Lk. 19:45-48; Jn. 2:13-22)

IV. Tuesday (Preparing them for His Absence and His Return)

- A. Jesus spent much of the day doing His final teaching in the Temple, engaging in debates with religious leaders who questioned his authority. He then delivered the Olivet Discourse on the Mount of Olives, prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the age. (Matthew 21:23-24:51; Mark 11:20-13:37; Luke 20:1-21:36; John 12:20-38)

V. Wednesday (The Betrayal, Spy Wednesday)

- A. This day is traditionally named for Judas Iscariot's "spying" and agreement to betray Jesus to the Sanhedrin for 30 pieces of silver. The Gospels are largely silent on Jesus' specific activities this day, suggesting a period of rest in Bethany.

VI. Thursday (Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Maundy Thursday, The Last Supper)

- A. The first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread started at sundown and Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples in an upper room. He instituted the Eucharist (Communion) and washed the disciples' feet as an act of service. Later that night, he was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Matthew 26:17-75; Mark 14:12-72; Luke 22:7-62; John 13:1-38)

VII. Friday (Good Friday, Trial and Crucifixion, Sacrificing the Passover Lamb)

- A. Following a series of sham trials before Jewish and Roman authorities (including Pilate and Herod), Jesus was tortured, mocked, and sentenced to death. He was crucified at Golgotha at approximately 9:00 AM and died at 3:00 PM. This was the very hour the priests in the temple sacrificed the passover lamb for the sins of the people. He was buried in a tomb before sundown. (Mt. 27:1-62; Mk. 15:1-47; Lk. 22:63-23:56; Jn. 18:28-19:37)

VIII. Saturday (Silence of the Tomb, Death Realized and Felt, Sabbath Day of Rest)

- A. Jesus' body remained in the tomb, which was sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers. His followers observed the High Sabbath Day. (Mt. 27:62-66; Mk. 16:1; Lk. 23:56; Jn. 19:40)

IX. Sunday (Resurrection Day, Easter Morning, Feast of First Fruits)

- A. Early in the morning, women visited the tomb and found it empty. Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and eventually the eleven, proving He had risen from the dead. This happened at the very hour of the Feast of First Fruits offering to the Lord. (Mt. 28:1-13; Mk. 16:1-14; Lk. 24:1-49; Jn. 20:1-23)

Passion Week
Palm Sunday - Resurrection Sunday

Sunday, March 29, 2026
John 13:1