



HOLY WEEK



DAY 2: BACKGROUND

If Monday's arrival in the temple was marked by Jesus' living parable of cleansing God's house, Tuesday's entrance was marked by a direct, verbal confrontation from the religious leadership, the Sanhedrin. They demanded to know who gave Jesus the right to behave as He has in their temple (Mark 11:27-33). This entire confrontation was an attempt to put Jesus in His place by forcing Him to yield to the Sanhedrin's authority. But when they tried, they failed. Jesus asked smarter questions and gave clearer answers than they did (Matthew 21:23-27).

When they tried to question His motives, He exposed their hearts. When they attempted to intimidate Him by coming to Him in numbers, He never showed the slightest sign of backing down. They tried to discredit His ministry, but there were people walking around in the temple who, only days earlier, had been blind and lame (Matthew 21:14).

Tuesday afternoon would be the last time Jesus would publicly teach in the temple as a free man. His words on that day would be His closing argument—His manifesto. (Excerpt from *She Reads Truth*)

DAY 2 - APRIL 7th

READ: LUKE 21:1-38 NIV

1As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. 2 He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. 3 “Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. 4 All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.” The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times 5 Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, 6 “As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.”7 “Teacher,” they asked, “when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?” 8 He replied: “Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them. 9 When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away.” 10 Then he said to them: “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. 12 “But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. 13 And so you will bear testimony to me. 14 But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. 15 For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. 17 Every one will hate you because of me. 18 But not a hair of your head will perish. 19 Stand firm, and you will win life. 20 “When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city.



DAY 2 - APRIL 7th

22 For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. 23 How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. 24 They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. 25 “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is

drawing near.” 29 He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. 30 When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. 34 “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.” 37 Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple, and each evening he went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives, 38 and all the people came early in the morning to hear him at the temple.

Luke 22: 1-2 NIV

1 Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, 2 and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, for they were afraid of the people.



DAY 2 - APRIL 7th

Daniel 7:13-14 NIV

13 “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, o coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

RESPOND:

1. Why do you think we get so wrapped up in comparing ourselves to others?
2. Why is what Jesus is saying about the widow so profound?
3. How do we best avoid the traps of life according to Jesus?
4. Why is fear of men such a dangerous trap? Have you ever been ensnared by that trap?
5. How can we best avoid the trap of the fear of men?
6. How can we best remember that Jesus’ opinion and affection towards us is the most important thing about us?



DAY 2 - APRIL 7th

ACTIVITIES:

ADULT ACTIVITY

It is a crazy thing to think about how messy this life is. Jesus speaks to the mess that will happen, but not to walk in fear, because He is in control and he walks us through the mess. In light of the goodness of Jesus in the messiness of life. Let's make a dirt cake to remind us that even in the midst of the mess, Jesus is good and is bringing beautiful things and goodness out of the messiness of this life.

Dirt Cake (recipe from Taste of Home):

Ingredients:

- 28 Oreo cookies
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 3-1/3 cups cold whole milk
- 2 packages (3.4 ounces each) instant French vanilla pudding mix
- 1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed

DIRECTIONS:

- In a food processor or blender, process the cookies until finely crushed. Set aside 2 tablespoons of crumbs for topping.
- In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, butter and sugar. In a bowl, whisk the milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Add to cream cheese mixture; mix well. Fold in whipped topping.
- Place half of the cookie crumbs in 2-1/2-qt. container or bowl; top with half of the pudding mixture. Repeat layers. Sprinkle with reserved crumbs. Refrigerate until serving.

NUTRITION FACTS:

1 serving: 463 calories, 25g fat (15g saturated fat), 48mg cholesterol, 494mg sodium, 52g carbohydrate (37g sugars, 1g fiber), 6g protein.



DAY 2 – APRIL 7th

PRE-K ACTIVITY:

Day 2: Jesus will return

In today's story, Jesus tells his disciples (friends) that one day He will come back to earth in a grand style – coming through the clouds.

Activity: Jesus will return

Fill a container with cotton balls, packing peanuts, or white paper wadded up into balls. Put a toy figure in the container under the “clouds.” Guide your child to reach into the “clouds” to find Jesus. When they find him, shout “Jesus is the Son of Man!” or “Hosanna!” Explain that one day Jesus will return to earth coming through the clouds.

KIDS ACTIVITY:

Day 2: Jesus is “The son of Man”

Fill your sink with warm water while pouring in some dish liquid or laundry detergent. (The goal is to make a LOT of bubbles!) Then drop in a toy action figure or character that can get wet. Allow the kids to take turns reaching in to find the submerged toy action figure or character. Once they pull it out, remind them how Jesus will come back to earth one day descending through the clouds (bubbles). In the end days, things will seem hopeless, but as a follower of Jesus, we can have hope in knowing that Jesus is still God and always keeps His promises.

