

BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS

Between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New, about 400 years elapsed. This period is called the “four hundred silent years,” because during this time there was no direct message from God to His people. However, there were events which vitally affected the Bible story. Study about these events below:

A. Events at the Close of the Old Testament Era:

1. Through the seventy years' captivity, **Babylon** had **caused the Jews to realize and turn from their great sins of idolatry and immorality**, so they would be a pure nation, ready to receive the Messiah when He would come.
2. When **Persia** succeeded Babylon in world leadership, she had **permitted the Jews to return to their own land**, rebuild their temple and the city of Jerusalem, and enjoy religious freedom and some degree of self-government under their high priest. This continued for about 100 years after the close of the Old Testament story.

B. Events Between the Testaments:

1. Alexander the Great of **Greece united the world under one common language**. He conquered the Jewish homeland in 333 B. C. and planted the Greek language there. Under Alexander's rule, many of the Jews were moved to cities in Egypt where Greek culture flourished. In 285 B. C. a group of Jews who had settled in Alexandria, Egypt, **translated the Old Testament into the Greek language**. This translation, called the Septuagint (LXX), was studied carefully by many Jews everywhere, so that there was an increasing expectation in all nations of the coming Messiah.
2. In the conflict which followed the division of Alexander's empire at his death, the Jewish homeland eventually fell to **Syria** in 198 B. C. This country **made the great geographical divisions** referred to in the New Testament: Galilee, Samaria, Judea, and Perea. Later, Antiochus Epiphanes tried to supplant the Jewish religion with Greek idolatry, but loyal Jews revolted. After a long struggle, the Maccabees led the Jews in gaining national independence in 142 B. C. This continued until 63 B. C.

C. Events Just Before the New Testament Era:

1. In 63 B. C., the **Romans** under Pompey took possession of the Jewish homeland, **made the Jews a part of their great world government, and linked them to their great world-system of roads**. Some Jews became Roman citizens.
2. The Romans still ruled the world when the New Testament story began.

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. For what great event did each of these nations prepare the world?

2. If Jesus had been born even 100 years sooner, what might have happened?

INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT GEOGRAPHY

Before you begin the study of the New Testament itself, you will need to have an understanding of some basic facts about the land in which its story begins. Study Map 1 and seek to master the important facts as follows:

A. The Names of the Land:

1. The area pictured on the map was known in early Old Testament days as the land of **Canaan**, after the Canaanites, outstanding inhabitants of the area at that time (Genesis 12:5, 6).
2. Later, it was called the **Promised Land**, since it was promised to Abraham and his descendants as their national homeland (Genesis 15:7, Deuteronomy 27:3).
3. After Abraham's descendants conquered the Canaanites and took possession of the land, it was called **Israel** because of their national name, the Israelites (See Genesis 32:28, Joshua 11:23 for the origin of this name).
4. When the nation Israel was divided in the days of Solomon's son, the northern part was called Israel and the southern part was called **Judah**. After the northern part was carried into captivity, the southern part became known as **Judea**, since only Judah remained there. This name was still used for the southern part in the days of Christ (Ezra 5:8, Matthew 2:1).
5. Three hundred or more years after the time of Christ, the area began to be called **Palestine**, after the ancient Philistines who inhabited the coastal section of the land (Genesis 13:17, Exodus 15:15). It is by this name that the whole area is commonly known today.
6. In 1948, a small part of this area was given back to Abraham's descendants, the Jews (2 Kings 16:6), as their national homeland. It is called by their ancient name, **Israel**.

B. Outstanding Geographical Features of the Land:

1. Learn the names and locations of the following:
 - a. The sea on which the land borders.
 - b. The mountain that juts out into the sea.
 - c. The three important bodies of water within the land.
 - d. The important river that connects these bodies of water.
 - e. The four main geographical divisions during the time of Christ.
2. Be able to draw in the dotted lines that separate these divisions.
3. From a relief map, tell:
 - a. What is the chief characteristic of this land?
 - b. What makes it fertile?

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How much of the earth's surface is included in this map?

2. Why is this tiny spot so important in world history?

PRE-EXISTENCE (ETERNAL)

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In the Life of Jesus, there are two things that are different from the lives of all others: (1) What happened before His birth, and (2) what happened after His death. Study now in detail the things that happened before His birth:

A. "The Word" Described: Read John 1:1-5

1. When did the Person who is called "The Word" live? John 1:1a

2. With Whom did He live? John 1:1, 2

3. What work did He do then? John 1:3

B. The Word's Action: Read John 1:14

1. What unusual thing did "The Word" do? John 1:14a

2. Who is the only one who fits the description given above, who ever did this? (*THINK!*)

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What did it cost Jesus to leave heaven? Philippians 2:5-8

2. If Jesus was willing to give up all this for me, what should I be willing to give up for Him?

THE ANCESTRY AND INFANCY OF JESUS

Matthew 1 - 2; Luke 1 - 2

In tracing the earthly life of Jesus, it is necessary to begin far back in His ancestry. As you study, notice why this is so important; and then study the first events of His earthly life:

A. The Ancestry in Matthew: Matthew 1:1-17

1. From what two important Old Testament characters is Jesus' ancestry traced in Matthew 1:1?

2. Glance through this **genealogy** (list of ancestors), listing the names of any others you recognize:

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3. Which of Jesus' earthly parents' ancestors are listed in Matthew? Matthew 1:16

4. Who begat (became the physical father of) Joseph? Matthew 1:16a

B. The Ancestry in Luke: Luke 3:23-38

1. In Luke, of whom is Joseph said to be the son? Luke 3:23

2. Notice that this ancestry is the same as that in Matthew, after it reaches what important person in Luke 3:31? _____
3. It goes back farther, however, to what person in Luke 3:38?

4. Since the genealogies in Matthew and Luke are different, what must we conclude concerning them? (*THINK!* In what sense could Joseph have been called "The son of Heli"? Compare this with a similar relationship in 1Samuel 24:16).

C. The Infancy of Jesus: The following seems to be the order of events connected with Jesus' infancy. Read the passages in the order given, noting exactly what the Bible says about each event, and tracing events on Map 2.

1. Luke 1:
 - a. Announcement) of John the Baptist's birth to Zacharias in the temple at Jerusalem.

 - b. Annunciation of Jesus' birth to Mary at Nazareth.

 - c. Mary's visit with Elizabeth (probably at Hebron).

 - d. Birth of John the Baptist (probably at Hebron)

2. Matthew 1:18-24: Marriage of Joseph and Mary (probably at Nazareth).

3. Luke 2:
 - a. Their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. _____
 - b. Birth of Jesus at Bethlehem. _____
 - c. Visit of the shepherds to the manger in Bethlehem.

 - d. Circumcision and naming of Jesus at eight days of age.

 - e. Presentation of Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem at 40 days of age.

 - f. Adoration of Simeon and Anna in the temple at Jerusalem.

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4. Matthew 2:

a. Visit of the wise men to a house in Bethlehem. (How many wise men?)

b. The flight into Egypt. _____

c. Herod's slaughter of the children in Bethlehem. _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How was Jesus received when He came to earth to live? How was He treated?

2. Do I have room in my heart for Jesus? Do I worship and praise Him, or do I fear, like Herod, that He will take away something I want for myself?

THE FORERUNNER AND BAPTISM OF JESUS

Matthew 3; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22; John 1:15-34

No further details of Jesus' life are given after the description of His youth until He was nearly grown. Read the following to discover what happened just before He reached the age when He was considered fully grown:

A. The Appearance of John the Baptist: Read Matthew 3:1-6; Luke 3:1-14

1. Where had John the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth grown up? (See Luke 1:80)

2. What did he wear? Matthew 3:4a

3. What did he eat? Matthew 3:4b

4. What two things did he begin to do after he was fully grown? Matthew 3:1, 6a

5. What was the main theme of John's message to the people? Luke 3:3b

6. What did he say that the people should do? Luke 3:8a

7. What three groups of people were among those who came to hear John?

a. Luke 3:10 (See also Matthew 3:7) _____

b. Luke 3:12 _____

c. Luke 3:14 _____

8. Notice how John suited his message to the exact needs of each group.

B. The Effect of John's Work: Read Luke 3:15-18; John 1:19-28

1. What attitude was aroused in the hearts of people because of John's work? Luke 3:15a

2. Who did they think he might be? Luke 3:15b

3. When he confessed that he was not, then who did they think he must be? John 1:21a, b

4. Who did John say he was? John 1:23

5. For what purpose did John say he came? John 1:31

C. The Climax of John's Work: Read Matthew 3:13-17

1. Where was Jesus when John began his work? Matthew 3:13

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2. When Jesus came asking to be baptized by John, how did John feel? Matthew 3:14

3. Why was Jesus baptized? Matthew 3:15

4. What two things happened when Jesus came up out of the water?

a. Matthew 3:16 _____

b. Matthew 3:17 _____

5. What three divine Persons were present on this occasion? (*THINK!*)

6. Because of this event, what did John later tell the people about Jesus? John 1:32-34

7. What did John later say about the relationship between himself and Jesus? John 3:30

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was the purpose of John's coming? (See B-5 above)

2. What is *my* chief purpose in life? What should it be? (See Revelation 4:11b)

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

Matthew 4:1 - 11; Mark 1:12, 13; Luke 4:1 - 13

Although the events which followed Jesus' baptism had definitely established that He was the Son of God, there was one thing yet which was necessary before He was perfectly prepared to enter upon His public ministry. Read about this below:

A. The Cause of Jesus' Temptations: Read Matthew 4:1

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1. Who led Jesus to be tempted? Matthew 4:1a _____
2. Who actually tempted Jesus? Matthew 4:1c _____

B. The First Temptation: Read Matthew 4:2-4

1. Where did Jesus' first temptation occur? Matthew 4:1b

2. What happened for forty days before this temptation came? Matthew 4:2a

3. How did Jesus feel after this? Matthew 4:2b

4. What did the tempter suggest that He do? Matthew 4:3b

5. Had God given Jesus supernatural power in order that He might use it to:
 - a. Meet His own needs? _____
 - b. For what purpose was it given? _____
6. What was Jesus' answer to this temptation? Matthew 4:4

C. The Second Temptation: Read Matthew 4:5-7

1. Where did the second temptation take place? Matthew 4:5 _____
2. What did the tempter suggest that Jesus do? Matthew 4:6a

3. Why did the tempter suggest that this would be safe? Matthew 4:6b

4. What would have happened if Jesus had yielded to this temptation? What would the people below have done?

5. What would have happened to God's plan for Him that He should die for the sins of the world? _____
6. What was Jesus' answer to this temptation? Matthew 4:7

D. The Third Temptation: Read Matthew 4:8-10

1. Where did this temptation take place? Matthew 4:8

2. What did the tempter suggest that Jesus do? Matthew 4:9b

3. What did he promise Jesus if He would do this? Matthew 4:8b-9a

4. If Jesus had yielded to this temptation, could He have died for our sins?

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5. What was Jesus' answer to this temptation? Matthew 4:10
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E. The Results of Jesus' Temptations:

1. Did Jesus yield to any of His temptations? (See Hebrews 4:15)
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2. Where did Jesus get the answers which gave Him victory?
Matthew 4:4a, 7a, 10a
-
3. What is Jesus now able to do, because He endured these temptations? Hebrews 2:18
-
4. In what specific way could Jesus help a person who was being tempted? (*THINK!*)
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QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Is it necessary for a Christian ever to yield to any temptation? (See 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Corinthians 2:14)
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- 2.
2. How well must I know the scriptures, in order to use them successfully in overcoming my temptations? (See Psalm 119:11)
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THROUGHOUT GALILEE AND BACK AT CAPERNAUM
Matthew 4:23, 24, 8:2-4, 9:2-8; Mark 1:39-2:12; Luke 5:12-26

After opening His settled ministry in such a spectacular way, Jesus left the city of Capernaum to visit other cities and towns of Galilee. Read the following to see some of the things that happened during this tour, and on His return to Capernaum:

A. The Tour Throughout Galilee In General: Read Matthew 4:23, 24; Mark 1:39

1. What three things did Jesus do as He toured through Galilee? Matthew 4:23
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
2. What happened as a result of this? Matthew 4:24
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B. A Specific Incident: Read Luke 5:12-16; Mark 1:40-45

1. Who was one of those who came to Jesus? Luke 5:12a

2. What did he do when he saw Jesus? Luke 5:12b

3. What did he believe Jesus could do? Luke 5:12c

4. How did Jesus feel when He saw this man? Mark 1:41a

5. What did Jesus do for him? Mark 1:41b, 42

6. What two things did Jesus tell the man to do? Mark 1:44

7. What did the man do instead? Mark 1:45a

8. What happened as a result? Mark 1:45b

9. What did Jesus then do? Luke 5:16

C. Jesus' Return to Capernaum: Read Mark 2:1-2; Luke 5:17

1. As Jesus was teaching (probably in the synagogue), how many people came to hear Him? Mark 2:2

2. Who were among the crowds that came? Luke 5:17

D. A Specific Incident: Read Mark 2:3-13; Luke 5:18-26

1. While Jesus was teaching, who was brought to Him? Mark 2:3a

2. Who brought him? Mark 2:3b

3. What did they discover after they arrived? Mark 2:4a; Luke 5:19a

4. What did they do to solve this problem? Luke 5:19b

5. What did this show Jesus that they had? Luke 5:20a

6. Because of this, what did Jesus say to the sick man? Luke 5:20b

7. What did the scribes and Pharisees think of this? Luke 5:21

8. Notice that Jesus knew their thoughts. How did He answer them?

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Luke 5:22, 23

9. What did Jesus do to prove that He had power from God? Luke 5:24, 25

10. What three ways did the people react to this miracle? Luke 5:26

11. Where did Jesus have to go to teach after this? Mark 2:13

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What did the leper and the palsied man's four friends have in common?

2. Do I have a faith that causes me to come to Jesus with my problems, and trust Him to solve them in spite of the difficulties and impossibilities?

WELL-KNOWN PARABLES

Perhaps the best-known of all Christ's teachings are His parables. Certainly they are the most interesting and fascinating to study. Christ was not the first one to use parables as a means of teaching--nor was He the last; but He was the Master of this type of teaching as, indeed, He was of every type of teaching. As an example of what a parable is, study now what was evidently the first parable which He gave:

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13:1-23, Mark 4:1-25, Luke 8:4-18

A. The Occasion for the Parable: Read Matthew 13:1-3; Mark 4:1-2; Luke 8:4

1. Where was Jesus when He gave this parable? Matthew 13:1, 2

2. To whom was it spoken? Luke 8:4

3. Was this the only parable given at this time? Mark 4:2

B. The Parable Itself: Read Luke 8:5-8

1. What are the two basic nouns in this story? Luke 8:5a

2. From Luke 8, chart briefly the events of this story in the first two columns:

<u>Where the Seed Fell:</u>	<u>What Happened to It:</u>	<u>Meaning:</u>
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vs. 5 _____ vs. 12 _____
vs. 6 _____ vs. 13 _____
vs. 7 _____ vs. 15 _____

3. Was all the soil on which the seed fell of the same kind?

4. Were the results the same in each case?

5. What caused the difference in the effectiveness of the seed in each case?
(Think!)

6. What did Jesus say as He concluded this story? Luke 8:8b

C. The Meaning of the Parable: Read Luke 8:9-18

1. Identify the two basic nouns in the story:
 - a. What is the seed? Luke 8:11 _____
 - b. Who then would be the sower? (*THINK!*) _____
2. What do you think the soil stands for in each case? (Look for something that all four types of soil have in common). Luke 8:12a, 13a, 14a, 15b

3. In the third column above, chart the meaning of each of the four types of soil, as given by Jesus.
4. On the basis of these answers, what would you say makes the difference in the effectiveness of the Word of God when it falls on a human heart? (*THINK!*)

5. Therefore, with what warning did Jesus close His interpretation of this story? Luke 8:18a

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How do I hear God's Word when it is given out? Like which type of soil am I?

2. Do I have an honest and good heart, which hears, understands and accepts the Word of God, and holds it fast patiently until it bears fruit in my life?

THE JOURNEY TO BETHSAIDA AND RETURN THROUGH GENNESARET

Matthew 14:13-36; Mark 6:31-56; Luke 9:11-17; John 6:1-7:1

After the disciples had returned from their trip throughout Galilee, Jesus suggested that they take another trip. Notice the different purpose for this trip, and yet the similar events which occurred:

A. The Reason for the Journey: Read Mark 6:31-34

1. What did Jesus suggest that the disciples do after they returned from their trip? Mark 6:31 _____
2. What was one reason that this seemed so necessary? Mark 6:31b _____
3. Where did they go? Mark 6:32; Luke 9:10b _____

B. Events Near Bethsaida:

1. When the crowds saw them leaving, what did they do? Mark 6:33 _____
2. Why did they do this? John 6:2 _____
3. Where were all these people going? John 6:4, 5a _____
4. How did Jesus feel when He saw them? Mark 6:34a; Luke 9:11 _____
5. What two things did He do for them all day long? Mark 6:34b; Luke 9:11b _____
6. Toward the close of the day, what great miracle did Jesus perform for them? John 6:5-14 _____
7. After this miracle, what did the crowds want to do to Jesus? John 6:15 _____
8. However, what did Jesus tell His disciples to do? Matthew 14:22a _____
9. What did He do to the crowds? Matthew 14:22b _____
10. Notice that although the crowds went on to the Passover Feast in Jerusalem, Jesus Himself did not go. Instead, what did He do? Matthew 14:23 _____

C. The Return Trip through Gennesaret: Read Matthew 14:22-36

1. What kind of trip did the disciples have as they crossed the sea in their boat? Matthew 14:24 _____
2. How did Jesus cross the sea? Matthew 14:25 _____
3. Who else, because of his faith, was able to do this? Matthew 14:26-33 _____

4. What did Jesus do in Gennesaret before returning to Capernaum? Matthew 14:34-36

D. Events in Capernaum: Read John 6:22-7:9

1. The next day, when the people saw that Jesus was no longer near Bethsaida, what did they do? John 6:24 _____

2. Why did Jesus say they did this? John 6:26

3. For what did Jesus say they ought to be working? John 6:27

4. What did Jesus say they should do if they wanted to work the works of God? John 6:28, 29 _____

5. Who did Jesus say He was? John 6:35, 48-51

6. Where was this sermon given? John 6:59

7. What did many of Jesus' disciples do after this sermon? John 6:66

8. This event is often called "The Great Galilean Crisis." What shows how great a crisis it really was? John 6:67 _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Does Jesus today always do things the way I think He should?

2. Am I ever tempted to turn back from Him on such occasions? (See Luke 9:62)

EVANGELIZATION OF PEREA CONCLUDED
Matthew 19:1- 20:34, 26:6-13; Mark 10:1-52; Luke 17:11-19:10;
John 11:55-12:11

After Jesus left Bethany following the raising of Lazarus, He again turned toward the evangelization of Perea. Notice His unusual route through this territory, what caused it, and what He did to evangelize this area:

A. The Route of Jesus' Journey: Read Luke 17:11

1. To what city was Jesus traveling? Luke 17:11a _____

2. Why was He going there? John 11:55 _____

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3. Through what two provinces did He go from Ephraim to get there? Luke 17:11b

4. Locate these places on a map. What was unusual about this route? (*THINK!*)

B. The Journey Toward Perea: Read Luke 17:12-18:14

1. As Jesus approached one village, who asked Him for mercy? Luke 17:12, 13

2. What did Jesus tell them to do? Luke 17:14a

3. What happened as they did this? Luke 17:14b

4. What did one of them do when he discovered this? Luke 17:15, 16

5. What was unusual about him? Luke 17:16b

6. What did Jesus say about this? Luke 17:17, 18

7. What did Jesus tell the man? Luke 17:19

8. On what two subjects did Jesus teach the people at this time? Luke 17:20, 18:1

9. What two parables did Jesus tell in connection with this latter topic? Luke 18:1-8, 9-14

C. The Journey Through Perea: Read Matthew 19:1-20:28

1. After Jesus arrived in Perea beyond the Jordan, what happened? Matthew 19:1b, 2; Mark 10:1b

2. On what subject did Jesus teach the people there? Matthew 19:3

3. Later, what did Jesus do? Matthew 19:13-15

4. Who came to Jesus at this time? Matthew 19:22; Luke 18:18, 23

5. About what did Jesus teach the disciples at this time? Matthew 20:17-19

6. What did the mother of James and John ask at this time? Matthew 20:20, 21

D. The Journey through Jericho: Read Luke 18:35-19:10

1. Whom did Jesus heal near Jericho? Luke 18:35-42

2. What were two results of this miracle? Luke 18:43

3. With whom did Jesus stay in Jericho? Luke 19:1-6

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4. Why did some object to this? Luke 19:7

5. What did Zacchaeus promise to do? Luke 19:8

6. What happened as a result of Jesus' visit to his house? Luke 19:9, 10

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What was Jesus' attitude toward every person or group that He met?

2. Do I properly appreciate Jesus' love and compassion toward me, and all that He has done for me?

SUNDAY: JESUS' ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19

As a result of the events connected with Jesus' arrival in Bethany, the interest of the crowds in Jerusalem was thoroughly aroused. Read to see what they did to express this interest:

A. The Procession from Jerusalem: Read John 12:12, 13

1. On the day following Simon's feast in Bethany, what news reached the crowds in Jerusalem? John 12:12

2. What did they do when they heard this? John 12:13

B. The Procession from Bethany: Read Matthew 21:1-8

1. As Jesus left Bethany, to what two places did He come on His journey? Matthew 21:1

2. Find the Mount of Olives on a map of Jerusalem. Locate the road Jesus used.

3. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do at this time? Matthew 21:2

4. What did the disciples do after this? Matthew 21:7

5. Why did Jesus permit them to do this? Matthew 21:4, 5

6. What did the crowds with Jesus do? Matthew 21:8

C. The Meeting of the Two Crowds: Read John 12:17-19

1. What crowd accompanied Jesus from Bethany? John 12:17

2. What other crowd did they meet on the way? John 12:18

3. What did both crowds do as they met? Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9

4. For what were they especially looking? Mark 11:10a

5. What did some of the Pharisees ask Jesus to do? Luke 19:39

6. What was Jesus' answer to them? Luke 19:40

D. Events Near Jerusalem: Read Luke 19:41-44

1. What did Jesus do as He drew near the city of Jerusalem? Luke 19:41, 42

2. What did He predict would happen to the city? Luke 19:43, 44

3. Why would these things happen? Luke 19:44b

E. The Entrance Into Jerusalem: Read Matthew 21:10, 11; Mark 11:11

1. What happened as the procession entered into Jerusalem?
Matthew 21:10, 11

2. Where did Jesus go when He reached Jerusalem? Mark 11:1a

3. Then what did He do, and why? Mark 11:11b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Did the crowds realize what Jesus would do to their personal lives if He should become king?

2. Do I realize what is involved in having Jesus reign over me?

THURSDAY EVENING: JESUS' BETRAYAL AND ARREST

Matthew 26:26-56; Mark 14:22-52; Luke 22:31-54; John 13:31-18:4

After Judas left the Passover Feast, Jesus and the other eleven disciples continued in the upper room for some time. Read now to see what happened after this:

A. Events After the Supper: Read Matthew 26:26-35; John 13:33-38

1. After Judas had left, what ceremony did Jesus observe with the eleven? Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

2. What new commandment did Jesus give at this time? John 13:34, 35

3. What three things did He say would happen that night?
 - a. To Him: Mark 14:27b _____
 - b. To all the disciples: Mark 14:27a, c _____
 - c. To Peter: Luke 22:31, 32, 34 _____
4. After this, Jesus gave three great sermons ,or discourses, to the eleven, recorded for us in John 14-16. Then what did He do? John 17:1

5. What did they all do just before leaving the upper room? Matthew 26:30

B. Early Events in the Garden: Read John 18:1; Matthew 26:30, 36-46

1. Where did Jesus and the eleven go from the supper room? John 18:1; Luke 22:39

2. What did He tell the eight disciples to do? Luke 22:40

3. After going a little further with Peter, James and John, what did He tell them to do? Matthew 26:37, 38

4. Then what did He do? Matthew 26:39

5. What happened after this? Luke 22:43, 44

6. What did He find the disciples doing after this? Matthew 26:40

7. What did He tell them to do? Matthew 26:41

8. How many times did Jesus repeat His prayer? Matthew 26:42, 44

9. Then what did He tell the eleven? Matthew 26:45b, 46

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C. Later Events in the Garden: Read John 18:2-12; Matthew 26:47-56

1. What happened even as Jesus was speaking? Matthew 26:47

2. How did Judas know where to look for Jesus? John 18:2

3. Even before Judas had a chance to point out Jesus to the officers, what did Jesus tell them? John 18:4-8

4. By what sign did Judas show Jesus to the officers? Matthew 26:48, 49

5. What did Jesus call Judas, even after this? Matthew 26:50

6. What did Peter do as soon as the officers arrested Jesus? Matthew 26:51; John 18:10

7. What did Jesus tell him to do? Matthew 26:52, 53

8. Then what did Jesus do? Luke 22:51b

9. Why did Jesus tell the crowds that they had come out against Him?
Matthew 26:55, 56a

10. What did the disciples do when Jesus surrendered to the officers?
Matthew 26:56b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What made the difference between Jesus' attitude in the face of great danger and temptation, and the attitude of the disciples? (See Matthew 26:41)

2. Is my prayer life such that it keeps me constantly prepared to overcome temptations?

**EARLY FRIDAY MORNING: JESUS' TRIALS AND
CONDEMNATION**

**Matthew 26:57-27:26; Mark 14:53-15:15;
Luke 22:54-23:25; John 18:15-19:16**

Having arrested Jesus, the officers brought Him back into the city of Jerusalem about midnight Thursday night. Notice what happened after this:

A. Jesus Before Annas: Read John 18:13-24

1. How many disciples followed Jesus to His trial? John 18:15

2. After Jesus answered Annas' questions, what did one of the officers do to Him? John 18:22

B. Jesus Before Caiaphas: Read Mark 14:53-72

1. Who had assembled with Caiaphas by the time Jesus arrived in the courtroom? Mark 14:53

2. What happened when they tried to find witness against Jesus? Mark 14:55-59

3. What did Jesus do when He was questioned? Mark 14:61

4. When Jesus later answered that He was the Christ, what did the council call his answer? Mark 14:64a

5. What was His sentence for this? Mark 14:64b

6. How was Jesus then treated? Mark 14:65; Luke 22:64, 65

7. What happened after this "trial" ended? Mark 14:66-72

8. What did it take to make Peter realize His sin, so that He broke down and wept bitterly? Luke 22:61, 62

C. Jesus Before the Sanhedrin (Jewish Supreme Court): Read Luke 22:66-71

1. Notice that this was exactly the same group which had assembled during the night, and that exactly the same verdict was reached. What was the only difference between this "trial" and the previous one? Luke 22:66a

2. What did Judas do when he heard the outcome of this "trial"? Matthew 27:3-10

D. Jesus Before Pilate: Read John 18:28-38

1. Notice that although the Jewish leaders had said Jesus was worthy of death, they could not execute Him. Only the Romans could do that. What four charges were brought against Him before Pilate? John 18:30; Luke 23:2

2. After Pilate had privately questioned Jesus, what was his verdict? John 18:38

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3. When Pilate heard that Jesus was from Galilee, what did he do? Luke 23:6, 7
-

E. Jesus Before Herod: Read Luke 23:8-12

1. Why was Herod glad to see Jesus? Luke 23:8
-
2. What did Jesus do in his presence? Luke 23:9
-
3. How was Jesus treated after this? Luke 23:11
-

F. Jesus Before Pilate Again: Read Matthew 27:15-26

1. When Jesus was returned to Pilate, what did Pilate again say of Him? Luke 23:14, 15
-
2. When Pilate offered to release either Jesus or Barabbas, why did the crowds choose Barabbas? Matthew 27:20
-

3. How was Jesus then treated? John 19:1-3
-

1. Although Pilate made repeated efforts to release Jesus (John 19:4, 6,12,15), what did he finally do? Matthew 27:24-26
-

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was there anything to justify Pilate's decision concerning Jesus?
-
2. What decision have I made concerning Jesus? Was it a just decision?
-

FRIDAY: JESUS' CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL
Matthew 27:27-61; Mark 15:16-47; Luke 23:26-56; John 19:16-42

After Pilate had *scourged* (whipped) Jesus, he turned Him over to the soldiers. Read now to see how they treated Him, and what happened after they left Pilate's court:

A. The Procession Out of the City: Read Matthew 27:27-33; Luke 25:26-34

1. How was Jesus treated before He left Pilate's court? Matthew 27:28-31
-
2. As the procession left the court, who carried Jesus' cross at first? John 19:17a Later? Mark 15:21
-

3. As the crowds followed Jesus, weeping for Him, for whom did Jesus say they ought to be weeping? Luke 23:28

4. What was the name of the place where Jesus was crucified?

a. Latin name: Luke 23:33 _____

b. Hebrew name: John 19:17b _____

c. English translation: John 19:17a _____

B. Jesus' Crucifixion: Read John 19:18-25

1. What title did Pilate put over Jesus' cross? John 19:19, 20

2. Who objected to this title? John 19:21, 22

3. What did the soldiers do with Jesus' clothing? John 19:23, 24

4. What groups of people watched Jesus' crucifixion? Note what each said or did.

a. Luke 23:36, 37 _____

b. Matthew 27:39, 40 _____

c. Matthew 27:41-43 _____

d. Luke 23:39-41 _____

5. Notice the seven sayings of Jesus on the cross:

(1) Luke 23:34; (2) Luke 23:43; (3) John 19:26, 27;

(4) Mark 15:34; (5) John 19:28; (6) John 19:30; (7) Luke 23:46.

For whom do these show that Jesus was concerned?

C. Jesus' Death:

1. What events in connection with Jesus' death took place at the following hours:

a. Third (Probably 9 a.m.): Mark 15:25 _____

b. Sixth (Probably 12 noon): Mark 15:33 _____

c. Ninth (Probably 3 p.m.): Mark 15:34-37 _____

2. What important events took place at the time of Jesus' death?

a. Matthew 27:51a _____

b. Matthew 27:51b _____

c. Matthew 27:52, 53 _____

3. How did the following react to Jesus' death?

a. The centurion: Luke 23:47; Matthew 27:54 _____

b. The crowds: Luke 23:48 _____

c. The women who had ministered to Him: Luke 23:49 _____

4. Who bore testimony to the fact that Jesus actually died? John 19:32, 33, 35

D. Jesus' Burial: Read Mark 15:42-46; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:38-42

1. What two men buried Jesus? Luke 23:50-54; John 19:39, 40
 2. Where was Jesus buried? Mark 15:46; John 19:41, 42
-

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. For whom did Jesus endure all these agonies? (See 1 Corinthians 15:3b)
 2. Have I accepted the atonement that Jesus made for my sin on the cross?
-

RESURRECTION AND APPEARANCES
(FORTY DAYS, BEGINNING WITH RESURRECTION SUNDAY)
Matthew 27:62 – 28:15; Mark 16:1 – 14;
Luke 23:56 – 24:49; John 20 20:1 - 31

Only three hours remained after Jesus' death until the Sabbath began at sundown. After His burial, the time was even shorter. See what was done during this time, and in the days which followed:

A. Events Between the Burial and the Resurrection: Read Matthew 27:62-66

1. After the women saw where Jesus was buried, what did they do that same afternoon?
Luke 23:56a
 2. What did they do after the Sabbath began at sundown? Luke 23:56b
 3. What did the Jewish officials do on the sabbath day? Matthew 27:62-66
 4. What did the women do when the Sabbath was past, probably at sundown on Saturday?
Mark 16:1
 5. When did they come to the tomb? John 20:1; Mark 16:2
 6. What were they discussing on their way to the tomb? Mark 16:3
-

B. Events on Resurrection Morning: Read Matthew 28:1-15

1. What happened probably just before the women arrived at the tomb? Matthew 28:2-4

2. What important event had already happened before this? (*THINK!*)

3. When they saw the tomb already opened, which of the women ran back to tell Peter and John what had happened? John 20:1, 2

4. What message was given to the other women, that Mary Magdalene seems to have missed? Matthew 28:4-6; Mark 16:6

5. Of what did the angel also remind the women? Luke 24:6-8

6. To whom were they to carry the message that Jesus would meet them in Galilee? Matthew 28:7; Mark 16:7

7. What feelings overwhelmed the women as they left the tomb? Matthew 28:8; Mark 16:8

8. When Peter and John came to the tomb in response to Mary Magdalene's message, how did they react? Read John 20:3-10
 - a. Luke 24:12 (Peter) _____
 - b. John 20:8 (John) _____
9. How did the disciples react when they heard the report of
 - a. the women? Luke 24:9-11 _____
 - b. Mary Magdalene? Mark 16:9-11 _____
10. What did the Jewish leaders do when they heard what had happened? Matthew 28:11-15

C. Events Following the Resurrection: Read John 20:19-31

1. To what others did Jesus appear on resurrection afternoon?
 - a. Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5 _____
 - b. Mark 16:12; Luke 24:13-33a _____
2. To whom did He appear on resurrection evening? Mark 16:14; Luke 24:33b-43; John 20:19, 20 _____
3. To whom did He appear a week later? John 20:26-29
(Three other appearances of Jesus following His resurrection will be studied in connection with the following lesson.)

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Could there be any possible doubt that Jesus really rose from the dead?

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(See Acts 1:3a)

2. What emotion does the certainty of Jesus' resurrection bring to my heart?
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LAST COMMISSION AND ASCENSION
Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:44-53;
John 20:21, 21:1-25; Acts 1:1-14

Having proved by His many appearances to His disciples in Jerusalem that He had indeed risen from the dead, Jesus continued to appear at intervals for over a month after His resurrection. Study now the events connected with the last three of His earthly appearances which are recorded for us:

A. Jesus' Appearance at the Sea of Galilee (Sea of Tiberias):

Read John 21:1-17

1. How many of the disciples were present at this time? John 21:2

2. What did Peter decide to do? John 21:3a

3. What did the others also decide? John 21:3b

4. What was the result of their efforts? John 21:3c

5. In the morning, who stood on the shore? John 21:4

6. What did He tell them to do? John 21:6a

7. What was the result of obedience to His orders? John 21:6b

8. What did John decide as soon as he saw what had happened? John 21:7a

9. After they had had breakfast together, to whom did Jesus begin to speak? John 21:15

10. What did He tell this disciple to spend his time doing from now on, if he really loved Him? John 21:15b, 16b, 17b

B. Jesus' Appearance on a Mountain in Galilee: Read Matthew 28:16-20

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1. Who were present at this appearance of Jesus? Matthew 28:16

2. What did those present do when they saw Him? Matthew 28:17

3. What did Jesus tell them on this occasion? Matthew 28:18

4. Therefore, what three things did He tell them they were to do from now on?
 - a. Matthew 28:19a _____
 - c. Matthew 28:19b _____
 - d. Matthew 28:20a _____
5. What did He promise to all who would do this? Matthew 28:20b

C. Jesus' Appearance in and Near Jerusalem: Read Luke 24:44-53, Acts 1:1-12

1. What had the Scriptures predicted must happen after Jesus rose from the dead? Luke 24:47

2. For what must the disciples wait before they could begin this work? Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8a

3. What happened after Jesus led the disciples out to Bethany on the Mount of Olives? Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9

4. What did the disciples do as this happened? Acts 1:10a, 11a; Luke 24:52a

5. What message was given to them at this time? Acts 1:10, 11

6. Where did the disciples then go? Luke 24:52b; Acts 1:12, 13

7. What did they spend their time doing for the next few days?
 - a. Luke 24:53 _____
 - b. Acts 1:14 _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Did Jesus leave any room for doubt as to what He wanted His followers to do after He left them to return to heaven?

2. Am I concerned about doing that which Jesus has left me on earth to do?
(See 2 Corinthians 5:15)

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