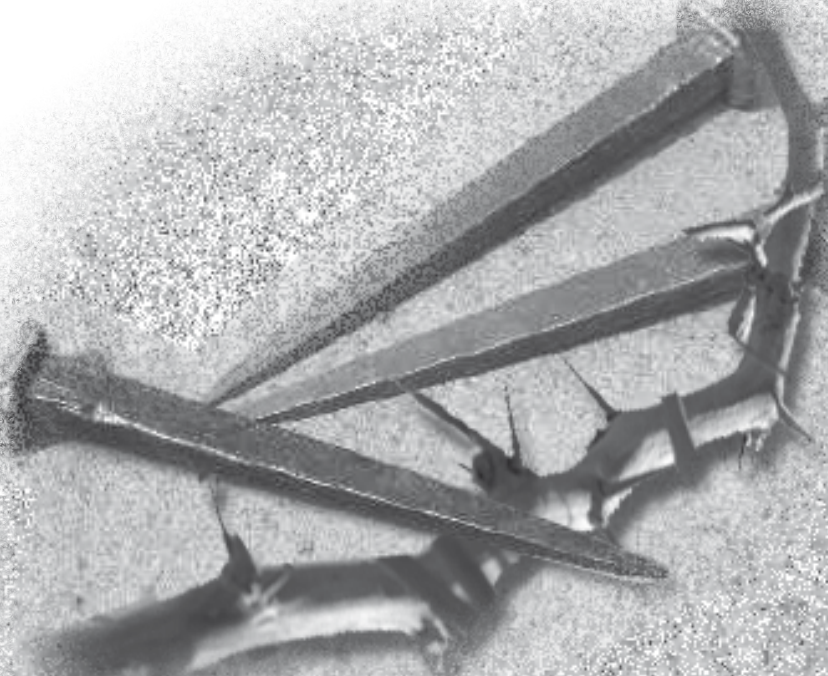


HIS PASSION— OUR PASSION

Scripture Readings in preparation for
Passion Week 2012

Compiled by Koh Siang Kiang



Why this reading plan?

Last Christmas, when I was encouraging people to prepare their hearts for the season, many looked at me and asked, “How?” When I told them to read the Gospels and to reflect on God’s Word they asked, “Where do I begin?”

With Good Friday and Easter coming, I realize that this opportunity of helping people to know God more intimately is not to just ask them to read and respond to God’s Word. I need to give them a tool.

And, I am extending this invitation to you also – with the hope and prayer that the passion for God will grow in YOU!

Introduction:

You may have heard of some Christian events and wondered what they are. Like me, you may be too afraid to ask.

So, let me share the little I do know to encourage you to “dig” deeper.

If you want to know Jesus, a logical place to begin is the Gospels which record His life and teaching.

Of the 89 chapters in the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, 26 of those were dedicated to

the events leading to the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is approximately 1/3 of the writings concerning His life. This fact alone would indicate how important this week is.

Rightly termed, PASSION WEEK, it speaks of God’s love for us when He “...gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

Passion Week, sometimes referred to as “Holy Week,” was that one eventful-packed week beginning with Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and ending with Resurrection Sunday (which we know as Easter)

Most of us are familiar with Good Friday and Easter. But many other significant happenings during that week get glazed over. Don’t! God wants us to know, learn and grow. That’s why He had events recorded for our learning.

About the Reading Plan:

To help you understand, this chronological compilation will unveil events as they happened each day of that week.

Some days you will be reading about one event, from all four

Gospels. Other days you may read from only one. This could either be because only one gospel records that particular account, or the passage is a long one and I've divided the readings for your ease.

Understanding the Gospel writings:

You may have wondered, "Why are some events documented in some gospels and not in others?" or "Why are the details sometimes so different?" Let me assure you from the offset, there are no contradictions or inconsistencies. The style and purpose of each writer is seen here.

Helpful background strictly for our information only:

You may wonder why I began the readings on 22 February? This is because that is the first day of LENT. What is that? Let me explain.

You have heard of the Christian calendar, which includes Christmas, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter – all biblical accounts. But there are other days which some churches observe, which are not mentioned in Scriptures. While the latter may not be observed in your church, don't simply dismiss

them as traditional. There could be value for our learning.

I **AM NOT** advocating you observe this calendar. I'm simply using it as a guide to help us think of the sufferings of Christ and the glories thereafter. I also think it is important that we be aware of what others are doing.

Lent, is a period of 40 days which some churches observe as preparation for holy week.

This period is intended to be a time of heart searching and often involves some abstinence to help one empathize with the sufferings of Christ.

There is another day some of you might want to know about, especially if you have friends from the Anglican church. You may have heard them speak of "**Ash Wednesday**."

As with Lent, Ash Wednesday is not a biblical event. Rather it came from a practice in the early church. The thought of penitence was very much in view. On this day ash is applied to the forehead of priests and worshippers as a sign that one has made an act of repentance.

The concept of helping us think of repentance was good.

But unfortunately over time it degenerated, for some people, to nothing more than a ritual or superstition.

Explaining less familiar events of Holy Week:

Passion or Holy Week refers to the week of Jesus' life leading to the Cross and Resurrection. Some churches hold nightly meetings, Monday to Thursday, recalling the events of each day of that week.

Palm Sunday is the first day of that week that ultimately culminates with the victory of

the Resurrection. In Scripture we know it as Jesus' Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem. From the earliest times "Palm Sunday" has been associated with the waving of palm branches (John 12:12-13)

Maundy Thursday. This is a special service of commemoration the night before Good Friday. "Maundy" means a command and recalls Christ's words at the Last Supper to follow His example by humbly forgiving one another. Churches that hold such services encourage personal repentance and forgiveness. †

Suggested study questions for the more serious reader:

- What event is the writer referring to in this passage?
- What does this passage teach you concerning the event?

Suggested reflection questions:

Don't let the reading just be forgotten. Learn to apply it to your life. Think of lessons you have learned. Think of changes God wants to see affected in you. In other words, make applications to your own life. This is strictly between you and God. And, if you need to take action, ask God to enable you.

Following are some questions to help you apply to your life the teaching of each day's reading:

- What new information did I read/learn today?
 - How has this affected my understanding of Jesus and God?
 - How is today's reading important in my ongoing relationship with God?
 - What one thing must I do in response to what God has spoken?
 - a. **Praise** God for something He did in/for/through you;
 - b. **Confess** to God or someone something you did or did not do;
 - c. **Pray** for a specific issue for yourself or someone else;
 - d. **Pray** for the salvation of someone;
 - e. **Share** a praise item with someone;
 - f. **Share** the good news with someone.
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The Sequel:

40 days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is **Ascension**. As taught in Scripture, He ascended into the heavens and sat at the right hand of God the Father. There He continues to intercede for us (Romans 8:34).

As promised, 10 days after

the Ascension (50 days from Resurrection Sunday), **Pentecost** (sometimes called, Whit Sunday) took place. Before His Ascension, Jesus told His disciples to wait for the promised Holy Spirit Who would come upon them. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is taught by Jesus in John 14 and 16. †

Date Readings In Chronological Order

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	Acts
2012 Holy Week					
Feb. 22 1 st day-Sunday					
-Palm Sunday	21:1-11				
Feb. 23		11:1-11			
Feb. 24			19:28-44		
Feb. 25				12:12-15	
Feb. 26 2 nd day-Monday	21:12-17				
Feb. 27		11:12-19			
Feb. 28			19:45-48		
Feb. 29 3 rd day-Tuesday	21:18-22	11:20-26			
Mar. 1	21:23-27				
Mar. 2		11:27-33			
Mar. 3			20:1-8		
Mar. 4	21:33-46				
Mar. 5		12:1-12			
Mar. 6			20:9-19		
Mar. 7	22:15-22				
Mar. 8		12:13-17			
Mar. 9			20:20-26		
Mar. 10	23:1-12	12:38-40	20:45-47		
Mar. 11	24:27-31				
Mar. 12		13:24-27			
Mar. 13			21:25-28		
<i>(note: there is no record of anything Jesus did or said on the 4th day)</i>					
Mar. 14 5 th day - Thursday	26:17-23	14:12-16	22:14-18		
Mar. 15				13:1-11	
Mar. 16	26:26-29	14:22-25	22:19-20	13:12-30	
Mar. 17	26:30-35	14:26-31	22:31-34	13:31-38	
Mar. 18				14-15	
Mar. 19				16-17	
Mar. 20	26:36-46	14:32-42	22:39-46		

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	Acts
Mar. 21 6 th day-Friday-Good Friday					
Betrayal-Arrest	26:47-56	14:43-52	22:47-53	18:1-11	
Mar. 22 Jewish Trials	26:57-27:10	14:53-15:1a	22:54-71	18:12-27	
Mar. 23 Roman Trials	27:11-30	15:1b-15	23:1-25	18:28-19:15	
Mar. 24 To the cross	27:31-32	15:16-21	23:26-31	19:16-17a	
Mar. 25 Crucifixion	27:33-38	15:22-27	23:32-33	19:17b-18	
Mar. 26 On the cross	27:39-50				
Mar. 27		15:28-37			
Mar. 28			23:34-46		
Mar. 29				19:19-29	
Mar. 30 After He breathed					
His last	27:51-56	15:38-41	23:47-49	19:30	
Mar. 31 The Burial	27:57-28:1	15:42-16:1	23:50-56a	19:31-42	
Apr. 1 Resurrection					
Day-Sunday	28:2-10				
Apr. 2		16:2-8			
Apr. 3			23:56b-24:12		
Apr. 4				20:1-10	
Apr. 5 Appearances		16:9-14			
Apr. 6			24:13-45		
Apr. 7				20:11-25	
Apr. 8 More appearances	28:16-20	16:15-18	24:46-48		
Apr. 9				20:26-21:23	
Apr. 10 Other appearances	I Cor. 15:6-7				

THE SEQUEL

The following happened 40 days after the Resurrection

17-May Ascension			24:50-53		1:1-11
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The following happened 50 days after the Resurrection

27-May Pentecost					2:1-13
28-May					2:14-36
29-May					2:37-47

Dates for Holy Week 2012:

1 st April (Sunday)	1 st Day of Holy Week – Palm Sunday
2 nd April (Monday)	2 nd Day of Holy Week
3 rd April (Tuesday)	3 rd Day of Holy Week
4 th April (Wednesday)	4 th Day of Holy Week – No Record
5 th April (Thursday)	5 th Day of Holy Week
6 th April (Friday)	6 th Day of Holy Week – Good Friday
8 th April (Sunday)	Easter Sunday

Note: You may make copies for your personal use. If you know of people who may be blessed by this compilation, do feel free to share with them. However, **do not make changes to or lift out information from** this compilation without consulting with me.

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