

Passion Week – The Greatest Week in History

Here we are, the week preceding Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the Christian faith, this week, also known as "Passion Week" or "Holy Week", is a significant period that commemorates the final week of Jesus Christ's life on earth. Passion Week begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday preceding Easter, and concludes on Easter Sunday. It holds immense spiritual importance for followers of Christianity as it focuses on the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection. The term "Passion" is derived from the Latin word "passio," which means suffering. During this week, us Christians have the privilege to reflect on the profound sacrifice made by Jesus as He gave His life on Calvary's Cross for the salvation of humanity, and how this has transformed our lives.

Let's take a moment to walk through this incredible journey together.

A Walk-Through Passion Week:

<u>Palm Sunday</u> – Jesus enters Jerusalem as a King, but not as expected. Riding on a donkey, He fulfills prophecy as crowds shout, "Hosanna!" (Matthew 21:1-11).

<u>Monday & Tuesday</u> – Jesus overturns tables in the temple, calling for purity in worship (Matthew 21:12-17). He also teaches profound lessons on faith, authority, and the greatest commandment.

<u>Wednesday</u> – Scripture seems to be silent on this day, possibly because of the previous day's ministry or in restful preparation for the days to come.

<u>Thursday</u> – The Last Supper – Jesus shares a final meal with His disciples, introducing communion and washing their feet—an act of ultimate humility and service (Luke 22:14-20, John 13:1-17).

<u>Good Friday</u> – Jesus is arrested, beaten, mocked, and ultimately crucified. On the cross, He carries the weight of our sin, offering Himself as the ultimate sacrifice (Luke 23:33-46).

<u>Saturday</u> – The Silence – The world falls into stillness. Jesus' body rests in the tomb. But the story isn't over.

<u>Resurrection Sunday</u> – The grave is empty. Jesus is ALIVE, proving that death is defeated and offering new life to all who believe (Luke 24:1-6)!

So, why does Passion Week matter? - Passion Week is a reminder that God's love is relentless. Jesus didn't endure the cross for religion - He did it to offer forgiveness of sins and to bring us into relationship with Him — "In Him we have redemption, through His blood the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches if His grace." (Ephesians 1:7). His resurrection changes everything, offering hope and a fresh start for anyone who believes.

This week, take time to reflect on what Jesus has done for you. Read through the Gospel accounts, pray, and prepare your heart for Easter. It's more than a holiday - it's a celebration of victory, grace, and new life!

Last but not least, if you don't have a home church, please consider joining a local church in worship this weekend. We as local ministers always look forward to seeing wonderful, new faces among us! Thank You!

Love and peace,

Pastor John