

DAY THIRTY-THREE 33

Jesus knew the outcome of things all along. He knew why He was here. He knew what was going to happen. He was willing to set aside the "now" for what "would be!"

THE TIME IS HERE

Matthew 26:1-5

And it came about that when Jesus had finished these words, He said to His disciples, "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man is to be delivered up to be crucified."

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas; and they plotted together to take Jesus by stealth, and kill Him. "But not during the festival, or a riot may occur among the people."

ANOINTING THE LIGHT

John 12:1-36

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom He had raised from the dead. So they made Him dinner, and Martha was serving; and Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with Him. Mary took a pound of very costly perfume, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred days wages, and given to poor people?" He said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he carried the money box, used to pilfer from what was put into it. Jesus said, "Leave her alone, in order that she may keep it for the day of My burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

The great multitude of the Jews learned that He was there; and they came, not only because of Jesus, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. But the chief priests conspired to put Lazarus to death as well. Because of him many of the Jews were leaving them and were believing in Jesus.

On the next day the great multitude who had come to the celebration, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of the palm trees, and went out to meet Him, and began to cry out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel."

Jesus was well-acquainted with the prophecies about Him. There were hundreds of particulars, some spoken thousands of years before He came to earth in human form.

The path of following Christ is arduous and costly. This is why Jesus always encouraged His followers to "count the cost" ahead of time. It was all about bringing light into dark places.

And Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand at first; but when Jesus was risen from the dead, then they remembered that these things were written about Him, and that they had done these things to Him. So the multitude who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb, and raised him from the dead, were telling everyone who He was. For this reason the multitude went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign. The Pharisees then said to one another, "What we are doing is not doing any good; look, the whole world has gone after Him."

Now there were certain Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast and they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came, and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep his life eternally. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

"Now My soul is troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 'Father, glorify Your name.'" Then there came a voice out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." The multitude, who stood by and heard it, were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, "An angel has spoken to Him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for you. Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out. If I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to Myself." But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death He was about to die.

The multitude answered Him, "We have heard in the Law that the Christ is to remain forever; how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up and killed'? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "For a little while longer the light is among you. Walk while you have the light, that darkness may not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the light, believe in the light, in order that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and He left and hid Himself from them.

John 12:37-50

Though He had performed so many signs in their sight, yet many were not believing in Him; that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke, "Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Because of this they could not believe, for Isaiah also said, "He has blinded their eyes, and He hardened their heart; or they might see with their eyes, and perceive with their heart, and be converted, and I would heal them." These things Isaiah said, because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him. Nevertheless, even many of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, or they would be put out of the synagogue. For they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

And Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me does not believe in Me, but in Him who sent Me. And he who beholds Me beholds the One who sent Me. I have come as light into the world, that everyone who believes in Me may not remain in darkness. And if anyone hears My sayings, and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him. The word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has commanded me, what to say, and what to speak. And I know that His commandment is eternal life. Therefore the things I say, I speak just as the Father has told Me to speak."