

# The Passion of Christ

ISAIAH 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

## INFORMATION

In 2004, Mel Gibson produced a movie known as “The Passion of the Christ”. The movie told the story of the last 12 hours in the life of Jesus, all leading, ultimately, to his crucifixion. The movie brought the movie’s title into popular use. The term “Passion of Christ” however predates the movie by 2000 years. Today, when we think of passion we think of things like “he has a passion for his work” or “they are passionate lovers” or “she passionately loves dogs”. We equate passion with love but more than just love, the exercise and activity driven by love. This is not a poor way to think of the “Passion of Christ,” but we also must know that the word “Passion” comes from a Latin root word that means “suffering.” It is quite appropriate to refer to the passion of Christ as the suffering of Christ.

While the movie is not the topic of the day, it is hard to deny that the brutality and gruesomeness presented in the movie is not far from the truth. Jesus suffered greatly during his last day on earth, culminating in his crucifixion at Calvary. Isaiah 52 verse 14 tells us that “...his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind”. Stop and think about what that meant. Consider what Jesus suffered:

- He was brutally beaten by Roman soldiers
- Scourged – A most brutal device that involved whipping his back with leather or rope that had glass, metal or rocks embedded in it. The intent was to rip the flesh off as the scourge is pulled back.
- His beard was plucked out
- He was spat upon
- Was forced to wear a crown of thorns
- Was crucified
- Separated from the Father

Consider also that Jesus could, at any point, have relieved himself of this suffering. Matthew 26:53 tells us that He could have called for more than 12 legions of angels to defend Him. More than that, He could have spoken as God incarnate, and He would have had anything He desired. Instead, He allowed Himself to be wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, yet, we were healed by His stripes. Jesus lived a sinless life and chose to suffer punishment, betrayal, abuse and crucifixion, all for the sake of mankind. This is the passion of Christ; the willingness to die for His people, suffer for their sins, and deny Himself relief from His pain and suffering.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

Our sins are the reason for his suffering; they are the reason for his passion. Little or big, it makes no difference. Sin has a price, and that price is death. Jesus chose to pay our debt by suffering and dying. Little sins cause big suffering. Try to avoid all sin by remembering the price!

# Additional Thoughts

The sufferings of Jesus were foretold. Isaiah 53 foretells his suffering.

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? 2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. 3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. 9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. 10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. 11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

# PASSION WEEK

Passion Week is Jesus final week on the earth prior to his resurrection. The resurrection is included in this list because it is the culmination of Jesus ministry on the earth.

SUNDAY SATURDAY FRIDAY THURSDAY WEDNESDAY TUESDAY MONDAY SUNDAY

## **PALM SUNDAY**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

Jesus triumphant entrance to Jerusalem  
Multitude spreads garments and palm leaves on the ground as he rides an ass into the city.

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Jesus curses the fig tree that had no fruit, Weeps over Jerusalem, Cleanses the temple the second time

**Mark 11:13-14**  
**Luke 19:41**  
**Matthew 21:12**

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Jesus comes across the cursed fig tree - it has withered, Prophecies destruction for his enemies, Olivet discourse, Judas makes a deal with Jewish leaders to betray Jesus

**Mark 11:20**  
**Matthew 21:28-46**  
**Mark 13**  
**Mark 14:10-11**

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The gospels do not provide events for Wednesday

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Peter and John find the room for the Passover and make other preparations. Jesus washes disciple's feet, the first 'Lord's Supper', Jesus is betrayed by Judas, Peter denies Jesus 3 times

**Mark 14:13-16**  
**Matthew 26:26**  
**Matthew 26:47-48**  
**Matthew 26:69-75**

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## **GOOD FRIDAY**

Jewish leaders condemn Jesus, Jesus before Pilate, Jesus is beaten, scourged, mocked. Judas hangs himself. Jesus crucified & dies, buried before sunset

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**Mark 14:64**  
**Mark 15:1,15,25**  
**Mark 15:37,46**

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Pilate puts guards on the tomb

**Matthew 27:62-66**

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## **RESURRECTION SUNDAY**

Jesus rises from the dead, appears five times to disciples

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**Mark 16:6,9,12,14**

# Additional Thoughts

Jesus rose again and showed himself to his disciples. Jesus conquered the grave!

## **Matthew 28:9-10**

And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. 10 Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

## **Matthew 28:16-20**

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

## **Luke 24:13-15**

And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

## **Luke 24:33-36**

And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. 35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. 36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

## **John 21:1**

After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.

## **Acts 1:1-3**

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: 3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: