A hand holding a palm frond against a blue background. The hand is brown and is holding the stem of the palm frond. The frond is green and has many long, narrow leaves. The background is a gradient of blue, from dark at the bottom to lighter at the top.

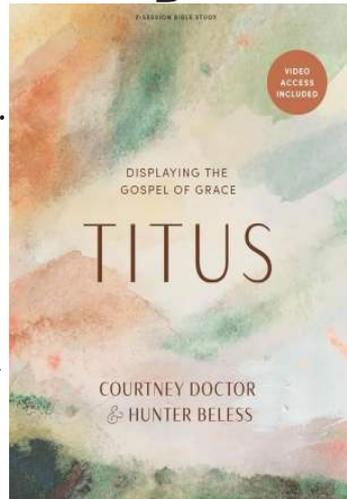
† PALM SUNDAY

*Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest
heaven!*

**Palm Sunday • March 29, 2026
Welcome to Long Beach Alliance Church**

Women's Bible Study

In this study, we will explore every verse of Paul's letter to his friend Titus. You'll see the essential connection between right belief and right character and the way both testify to the goodness of the gospel. And you'll be reminded that our world will be attracted to the gospel when they see its beauty displayed in us.



Tuesdays 6:00-8:00PM
Beginning April 7, 2026

At the home of Michelle Moses
5454 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Contact Deya Slade for more information @ 562.761.5464

JESUS IN THE PASSOVER DINNER THURSDAY, APRIL 2 @ 6:30PM

**TODAY!!
LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!**

**ADULT TICKETS \$25
KIDS TICKETS \$10**

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN THE COURTYARD!



EASTER 2026

**PALM SUNDAY
BAPTISMS & COMMUNION
MARCH 29 @ 9:30AM**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER
APRIL 2 @ 6:30PM**

**COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT
APRIL 4 @ 9:00AM @ WARDLOW PARK**

**SUNDAY MORNING EASTER BREAKFAST
APRIL 5 @ 8:00AM**

**SUNDAY MORNING EASTER SERVICE
APRIL 5 @ 9:30AM**

**LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH
3331 PALO VERDE AVENUE, LB, 90808**



IRON SHARPENS IRON

MEN'S MINISTRY EVENTS

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

2nd Saturday
each Month
8 am at LBAC

- April 11th
- May 9th
- June 13th



(contact John Moses 562.755.0920)

MEN'S WORKOUTS

1st & 3rd Saturday
each Month
8 am at LBAC

- April 4th & 18th
- May 2nd & 16th
- June 6th & 20th



(contact Aaron Steele 909.957.6333)

TUESDAY BREAKFASTS

2nd Tuesday
each Month
8 am at Denny's
2860 N Bellflower Blvd

- April 14th
- May 12th
- June 9th



(contact Dave Miller 562.773.9100)

- C) It is also important to note that Jesus and His disciples spent the entire "Passion Week" in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in Bethany (Mark 11:11-12; John 12:1). The picture below is looking out from the Southern steps of Jerusalem toward the Mount of Olives with Bethany high in the background. Bethany was very close by and a convenient location for Jesus & His disciples to stay while visiting the busy city of Jerusalem.



- D) The reason Jesus and His disciples travel into Jerusalem each day from Bethany is for the Passover feast, which will occur at the end of the week (John 12:1). The Passover was a memorial feast of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and protection

by God from the 10th plague (death of the firstborn son), which was avoided by applying the blood of a pure lamb on the doorposts of the family home (Exodus 12:23, and also note Leviticus 17:11, 20:26).

3) Saturday-Sunday, The Start Of Passion Week

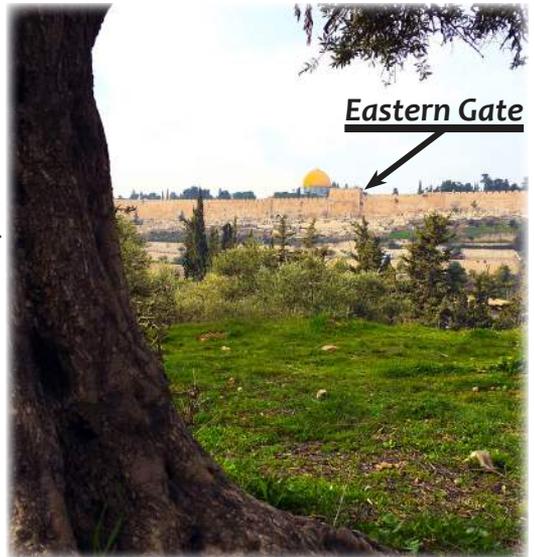
- A) Jesus & His disciples arrive at Mary, Martha, and Lazarus' home in Bethany (pictured here (modern day Bethany) from high in the town, looking toward the Mount of Olives, was a small village located around 2½-3 miles from Jerusalem). Jesus and His disciples arrive around 6-7 days before Passover begins (John 12:1).

- B) That evening, while at Simon the Leper's home for supper, Mary anoints Jesus with "costly perfume" poured out from an alabaster jar (John 12:2-8, see also Matthew 26:6-13, Mark 14:3-9). The perfume

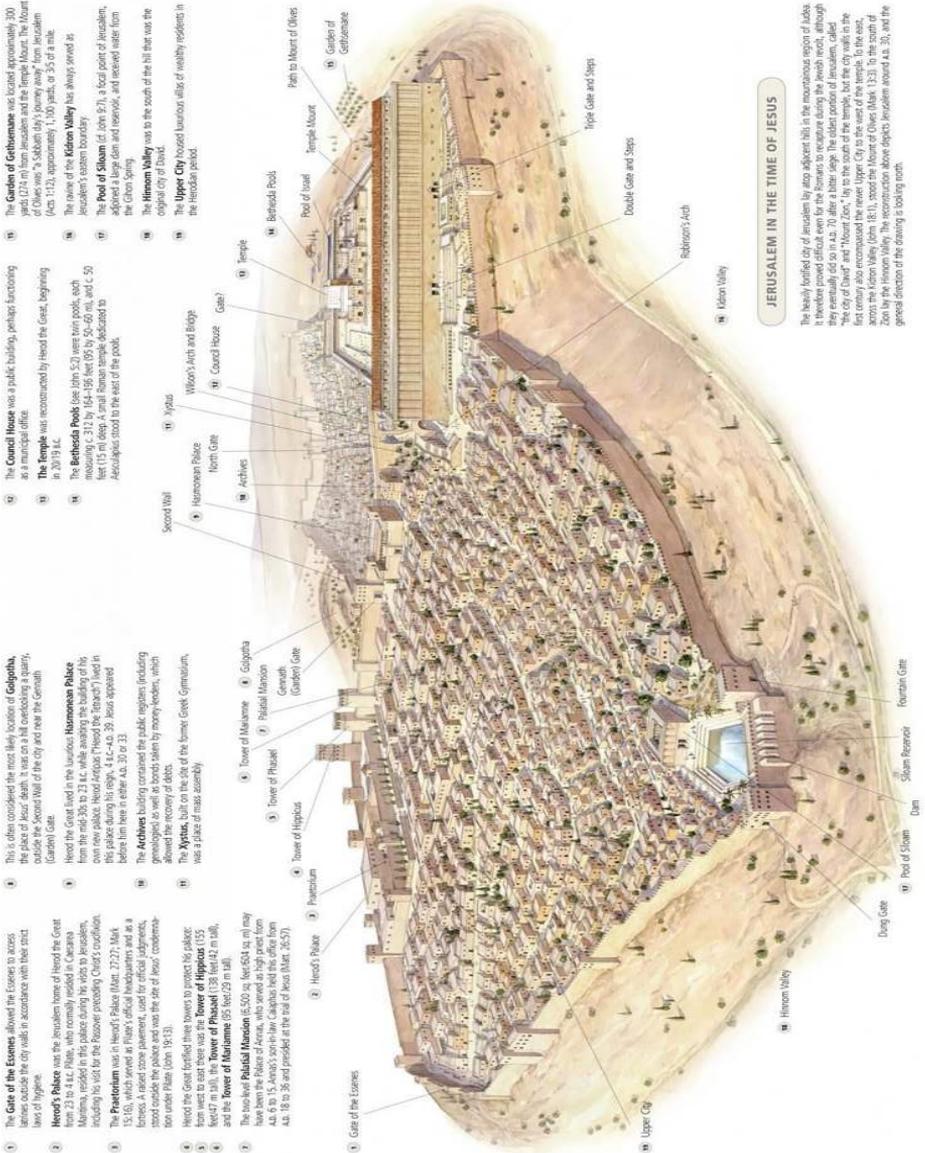


is truly valuable (a full year's common wage), and anoints Christ with the blessing of Mary's treasure of devotion and humility.

- C) Judas Iscariot, noting the value of the perfume, criticizes Mary's generosity, instead voicing that the perfume could have been used to support the poor (John 12:4-5). However, John notes Judas was a thief (and also the disciples' treasurer!), and it seems this moment contributes to Judas' disillusionment with Jesus and his fear/confusion over losing power and influence as Christ heads toward the cross.
- D) The contrast between Judas the betrayer, and Mary the disciple are dramatic. Judas can't figure out Jesus, and became increasingly selfish. On the other hand, Mary (who also didn't always "get" what Jesus was doing, cf. John 11:31-33) chooses to worship Jesus as the Christ!
- E) Following Jesus can be one of life's most unnerving and confusing experiences! This is especially true in our world after several years of political and social upheaval which has been made even worse by constant incendiary media coverage. Trusting Christ with our whole lives must be intentional. It does not come naturally. As you walk on this journey with Jesus, consider your relationship with Him, is it one of sacrifice and service or are you living always wanting-for-more?
- F) The next day, Jesus and His disciples leave Bethany and head into Jerusalem (John 12:12). Word gets out that Jesus is coming, and there is a crowd to welcome Him in the misplaced hope He is Israel's Warrior-King (Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; John 12:12-18).
- G) Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey/colt (Zechariah 9:9) fulfilling prophecy (Psalm 24:3-10; through the East Gate, sealed by Muslims in the 16th Century (note: Ezekiel 44:2), seen here from the Garden of Gethsemane looking toward the Temple Mount area, see also Zechariah 14:4). Jesus' 'triumphal entry' into Jerusalem on Sunday comes with "Hosannas" (God Save!), a well-known Old Testament Messianic title (Psalm 118:25-26) calling on God for His future deliverance from oppression and provision of salvation (often in the hope of military force or power).



H) Knowing Jesus has already predicted his death (Mark 10:33-34), we know the real reason He has come to Jerusalem (detailed below in a fascinating illustration of the "Old City"). However, the people are welcoming Jesus because they think He will be their miraculous national military deliverer. This turns out to be a terrible misconception, and will (eventually) lead to a far different cry of painful betrayal from many of the same people who 'triumphantly welcome' Jesus.



HEROD'S TEMPLE COMPLEX IN THE TIME OF JESUS

When the Gospels and the book of Acts refer to entering the temple or teaching in the temple, it is often not a reference to Herod's temple itself, but rather to this temple complex, including a number of courts and chambers that surrounded the temple. These later structures were the great and wonderful buildings referred to by the disciples in Matt. 24:1; Mark 13:1-2.

The Sabbathian came out to teach the people from the Scriptures on this terrace (Hab. 2:1) during the feasts of Passover and Tabernacles. It may have been here that the 12-year-old Jesus was found by his parents, "sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions" (Luke 2:46).

The Chamber of Heron
Some housed the
Sanhedrin council until
c. A.D. 30.

The song (a low, latticed screen or railing) separated the temple courts from the Court of the Gentiles, prohibiting Gentiles or non-purified Jews from entry. Even Herod himself was unable to pass this point. Some interpreters believe that Paul alluded to this railing when he spoke of "the dividing wall of hostility" abolished by Christ (Eph. 2:14).

Herod's Temple

The Chamber of the Hearth was the building which housed priests who served when their division was on duty (cf. Zechariah in Luke 1:8).

The Miknor Gate divided the western Court of the Israelites (where Jewish men could observe temple proceedings) from the eastern Court of the Women. Women were allowed to stand in the southern side of the Miknor Gate and watch as sacrifices for their purification were made (Luke 2:22-24).

The Chamber of the Lepers, where procedures for lepers who had been healed were handled (cf. Matt. 8:4; Mark 1:44; Luke 5:14).

Each of the four massive lampstands (66 feet/20 m high) in the Court of the Women had a ladder by which to reach the four golden bowls to provide lighting at night.

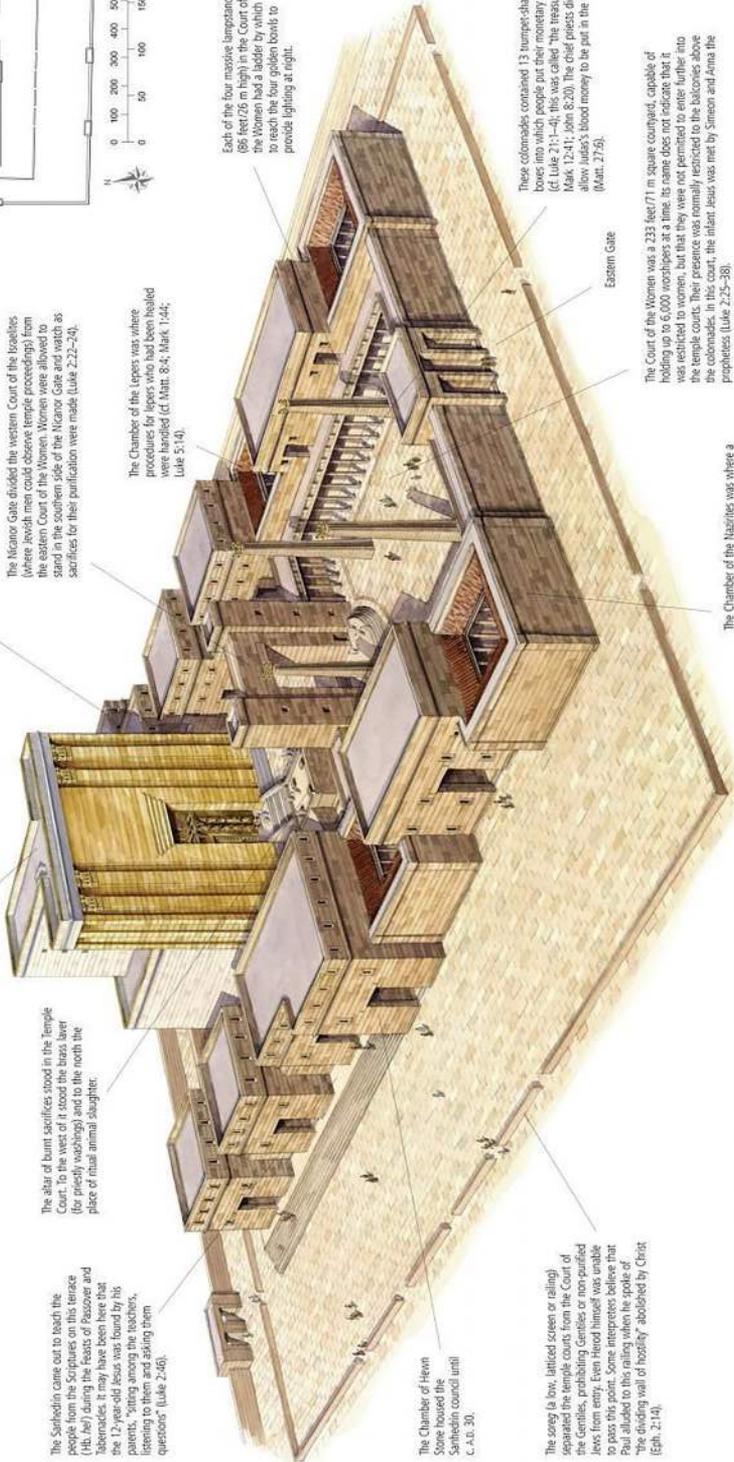
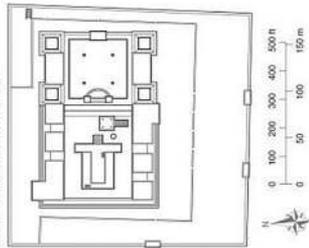
These colonnades contained 13 trumpet-shaped bases, one into which people put their monetary offerings (cf. Luke 21:1-4); this was called "the treasury" (see Mark 12:41; John 8:20). The chief priests did not allow Jesus's blood money to be put in the treasury (Matt. 27:6).

Eastern Gate

The Court of the Women was a 233 feet (71 m) square courtyard, capable of holding up to 6,000 worshippers at a time. Its name does not indicate that it was restricted to women, but that they were not permitted to enter further into the temple courts. Their presence was normally restricted to the balconies above the colonnades. In this court, the infant Jesus was met by Simeon and Anna the prophetess (Luke 2:25-38).

The Chamber of the Nazirites was where a Nazirite would bring his sacrifices upon completion of his vow.

Temple Complex Architectural Plan



- I) All of us come to Jesus with our own pre-conceived ideas. Perhaps you come to Jesus for healing. Maybe it's for financial relief. Perhaps it's to find a spouse. Perhaps it is to be released from some sort of addiction. Can you focus today on trusting Jesus, no matter the circumstances? Will you cry out "Hosanna" (God, help me and save me!) whether Jesus meets your expectations or not? Pray for deeper trust on this day.
- J) While in Jerusalem, Jesus surveys the Jewish Temple area (splendidly illustrated from the ESV Study Bible for us on the previous page, note: Mark 11:11). Jesus returns to Bethany with His disciples, as will be His daily habit through this Passion Week (Matthew 21:17; Mark 11:11).

4) Monday, Day Of Judgment

- A) On His way to Jerusalem the next morning, Jesus curses a barren fig tree (Mark 11:12-14; cf. Matthew 21:18-22). The disciples are startled and perplexed... What is the significance; why curse a useless tree?

- B) Jesus arrives in Jerusalem and heads into the temple area (illustrated here, note: Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-17), and Jesus proceeds to clear out the temple of money changers



- and sellers. Why would He challenge the religious system and rulers in such an open and confrontational manner?
- C) After clearing the temple, Jesus performs miraculous healings. Even children in the temple courtyard attending with their faithful parents (great family discipleship!) recognize Jesus as the Promised Messiah and worship Him (Matthew 21:15-16). Jesus openly defies the religious leaders, making them increasingly angry (Matthew 21:14-16; Mark 1:18). Jesus, as normal, then returns to Bethany (Matthew 21:7; Mark 11:19).
- D) Today, allow Jesus to clean out the areas of your life (i.e. tabernacle, cf. 1 Corinthians 3:16) that have become polluted with "pagan coins" (values and 'wisdom of the world'). Allow Christ to bring healing to your temple & your values, and avoid the curse of the useless fig tree!

5) Tuesday, The Olivet Discourse

- A) On His way to Jerusalem the next morning, Jesus explains the cursing of the fig tree to His disciples (Matthew 21:20-22; Mark 11:20-25). Now we get it, that fig tree wasn't so 'innocent' after all!
- B) Almost immediately, Jesus enters the temple and begins to get into debates with the religious leadership and shares related teaching in the temple courtyard (Matthew 21:23-23:39; Mark 11:27-12:44).
- C) The connection between the fig tree cursing, the cleansing of the temple, and the debates/challenges of the religious leaders is clear... Jesus' judgments are against Israel's fruitless leaders (fig tree) who have sold-out their faithful lives for big profits (temple profiteering).
- D) The religious leaders are secure in their positions of influence (and fruitlessness/profits) through the burden of traditions which cannot be attained (cf. Matthew 23:1-39, also Mark 7:1-4), which Jesus summarily dismantles through His teaching.
- E) This approach, as you can imagine, was not popular with the Jewish religious establishment in Jerusalem. It was particularly troubling for the Sadducees and Pharisees (cf. Matthew 23). Jesus heads to Bethany, but stops to teach on the Mount of Olives (Mark 13:1-3).
- F) Jesus teaches on the Mount of Olives about signs of the 'end times' (Matthew 24:3ff).

The Mount of Olives is located just East of Jerusalem, and has been a burial site for Jews since before Christ (over 10,000 burial sites), and is considered sacred because it is where the Messiah will return and resurrect His faithful saints to eternal victory (Zechariah



14:3-5). Jesus' teaching on the Mount is popularly known as the 'Olivet Discourse' (Matthew 24:1-25:46; Mark 13:1-37).

- G) Jesus teaches about tearing down and rebuilding the temple (located here in the foreground with the gold 'Dome of the Rock,' (one of the most sacred sites in the Islamic world) in the center, and with the Mount of Olives in the background). His teaching is both a metaphor of His life (and impending death) and a prediction of the destruction of the



temple in 70 A.D. Rather than the temple being located in one place (Jerusalem), the New Testament temple is located wherever God's Spirit reigns (1 Corinthians 3:16). Allow Jesus to "tear down" and "rebuild" your temple by His Word today!

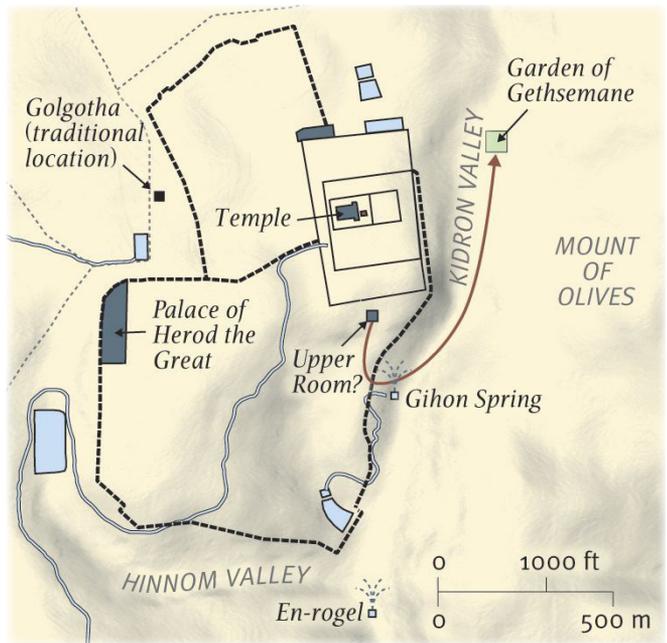
6) Wednesday, "Silent Wednesday"

- A) There is nothing recorded in Scripture we can (with any certainty) say occurs on Wednesday of Passion Week. Popularly called 'Silent Wednesday,' this day represents the final 'calm before the storm.'
- B) Jesus and His disciples remained in Bethany on this day, no doubt a significant time for Jesus with the men and women with whom He had shared so much in the previous three years of ministry life.
- C) It's possible this was the day Judas Iscariot returned to Jerusalem to conspire with Israel's religious leaders to betray Jesus for "thirty pieces of silver" (Matthew 26:14-16; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3-6).

7) Maundy Thursday, Passover (Sundown)

- A) The disciples proceeded into Jerusalem from Bethany to make preparations for the Passover (Matthew 26:17-19; Mark 14:12-16; Luke 22:7-13). They secure an "upper room" (see map on next page) for their Passover meal, and proceed to make the necessary preparations.
- B) After sundown (remember, this marks the beginning of Friday and the beginning of Passover -- see the remarks on "time" on page #1),

Jesus and His disciples observe the Passover meal (Matthew 26:20-35; Mark 12:17-25; Luke 22:14-38).



- C) During this 'Last Supper,' Jesus teaches His disciples several 'Upper Room Discourses' (John 13-17). During this time, Jesus institutes Communion (the Lord's Supper) as an ongoing remembrance of Christ's Passion Week sacrifices.

- D) Jesus also taught a great deal about servanthood and Spirit-filled living as He washed the feet of His disciples at the beginning of their Upper Room meal. This powerful scene of love is remembered in the church (commemorating Jesus' "new commandment" from John 13:34-35) on 'Maundy Thursday' (from the Latin mandatum, for 'command').

- E) On the way back to Bethany, Jesus and His disciples stopped and prayed near the base of the Mount of Olives, at the Garden of

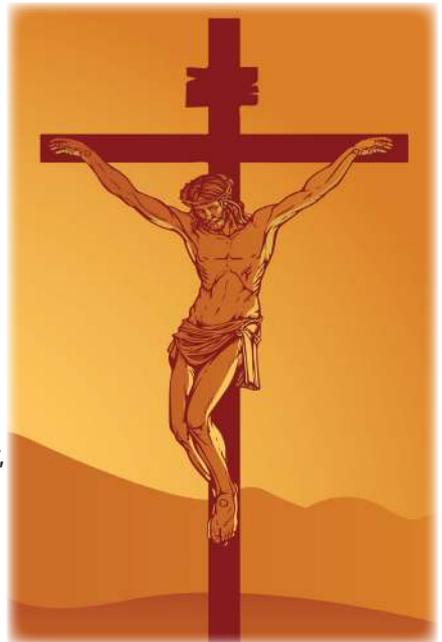


Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; John 18:1-11). A modern picture of the Garden of Gethsemane is here to the left. There are olive producing trees still growing and being cultivated in the Gethsemane garden and nearby area to this day.

- F) Jesus prays to God in Gethsemane three times, begging for "this cup to pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:36ff).
- G) While He prays, His disciples sleep. Jesus' prayers are so intense, he sweats profusely, like drops of blood from an open wound (note: not actual blood, just appeared like drops of blood). The picture is of Jesus, completely alone, realizing His Father (with whom he has enjoyed a perfect human relationship during his time on earth) will not hold back the cup of wrath against sin – even from His own innocent Son.
- H) On this day, I encourage you to spend time in prayer to God for those things which are breaking you. Take time to remember Jesus in the midst of your day and circumstances.
- I) Finally, in living out the Passion Week of the Christ, take time today to serve those close to you. We often forget those who are closest, and choosing to serve them is an active 'living out' of John 13:34-35. This will provide a good reminder for you & them of Christ's love in action.

8) Good Friday, Darkness & Light Battle It Out

- A) Very late that night (probably after midnight), Jesus is betrayed by Judas Iscariot with a kiss (a customary friendly greeting), and is then arrested (Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-50). Jesus' disciples, terrified of being captured, flee the scene.
- B) This begins a long night and morning of trials happening in two phases, the Jewish Trials (3 parts), and then the Roman Trials (3 parts).
- C) During the Jewish trials, Jesus first appears in front of Annas, the recognized High Priest (John 18:13-24) to face the charge of blasphemy, "claiming equality with God." Jesus is punched by an officer of the High Priest during this trial (John 18:22).



- D) Jesus is then taken to the acting High Priest, Caiaphas, and to the partial Sanhedrin (also called the “Council” – the Supreme Court of the Jews; Matthew 26:57-75; Mark 14:53-65). During this trial, Jesus’ head is covered with a bag while a group of guards beat Him demanding a ‘prophetic sign’ from Jesus to tell them who struck Him.
- E) At dawn the full Sanhedrin find Jesus guilty of blasphemy, which carried the death penalty (Matthew 27:1-2; Mark 15:1). The Jews couldn’t enforce the death penalty (as subjects of Rome), so Jesus is sent to Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor of Judea, from whom the Jews seek the death penalty for Jesus, accusing Him of “sedition against Caesar & Rome” (treason, according to His accusers, for Jesus’ attempts to rebelliously usurp the rule Tiberius Caesar & Rome).
- F) Jesus appears before Pilate (Matthew 27:2-14; Mark 15:2-5), but is quickly shipped to Herod Antipas (the local “mayor” in Galilee, to the North), who had jurisdiction over Jesus of “Nazareth.”
- G) Herod Antipas only wanted Jesus to do ‘miracles & magic show’ for him (Luke 23:6-12), but gets bored with Jesus and after a brief time, and ships Him back to Pilate for judgment.
- H) Trying to placate the Jews, Pilate offers to release Jesus, but the crowds demand the release of Barabbas, a known murderer (Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-14).



Barabbas’ release was a Roman custom of kindness at Passover to bring “peace on earth” to the local territory. Pilate turns Jesus over to be brutally scourged (whipped across His back and chest until the accused criminal was rendered unconscious) with a “cat of nine tails” (a whip consisting of bone, stones, and metal embedded in 9 leather straps). After this brutal beating, Jesus was then taken away to be crucified.

J) Jesus, even after being kept up all night long with ongoing beatings and whipping, was still required to carry His cross from Pilate's palace to the crucifixion site, just outside the Old City of Jerusalem's walls. The traditional path which Jesus took, named the *Via Dolorosa* ("the way of grief") is commemorated in Jerusalem (see picture on previous page) with 12 different "stations of the cross" which culminate in the traditional (but difficult to authenticate) location where Christ was crucified. The picture below is from the 12th and final 'Station of the Cross,' and is the (supposed) "rock of Calvary" where Christ's cross was located. The inscription from Mark 15:21-25 says "and they brought him to the place of Golgotha... it was the third hour when they crucified him." The very large rock is split in two (this is just the top of the rock, it is at least 15-feet high, maybe larger). The crack is the supposed result of "the rocks were split" by an earthquake as Christ died (Matthew 27:51).



K) Jesus' crucifixion lasts from 9:00AM-3:00PM at Golgotha, "the place of the skull," (from a distance the outline of a skull can be seen in the rock formation making up the Golgotha site, Matthew 27:27-66; Mark 15:16-39). Stripped naked, Jesus is nailed to a cross, but prays in compassion for the mocking crowd (Luke 23:34). At around 3:00PM, Jesus cries out to God the Father "Eloi, Eloi, Lama Sabachthani?" (Aramaic for "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" - prophetic words from Psalm 22:1-2 in Mark 15:33-34). Then comes a final agonizing scream from Christ as mankind's sins are poured into His sinless soul. Without fanfare or drama, Jesus our Messiah, dies (Matthew 27:50).

L) That evening, Jesus was removed from the cross and laid in the private (and previously unused) tomb of Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57-66; Mark 15:42-47). Mary Magdalene and others began preparing Jesus' body inside of the tomb, but had to pause and wait to finish the treatment of the body because of the Sabbath. But when they returned on Sunday, the old world had been miraculously rolled away, and a new age of "living hope" was born (again) "through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3), and the great provision of salvation for our souls (1 Peter 1:9)!

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

Sunday, March 29 • Palm Sunday!

- 9:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service
- 1:00PM LBAC Dirtbags Baseball Game @ Blair Field in Long Beach

Monday, March 30

- 6:30PM Life Group @ Schaub's Home
- 7:00PM Betrayal & Beyond Mtg. @ Eberhart's
- 7:00PM Pure Desire Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 31

- 7:00PM Men's Bible Study @ Miller's
- 7:00PM Middle/High School Youth Group

Wednesday, April 1

- 6:00PM AWANA • Neon Night
- 7:00PM Women's Homeschool Study @ Marikka Ostermann's Home

Thursday, April 2 • Maundy Thursday!

- 9:30AM Women's Bible Study @ Miller's
- 6:30PM Jesus in the Passover Dinner

Friday, April 3 • Good Friday!

- 8:00AM Men's In-Person & Zoom Bible Study
- 8:00PM NA In-Person Meeting

Saturday, April 4

- 8:00AM Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt @ Wardlow Park (Bring Friends!)

Sunday, April 5 • Easter Sunday!

- 8:00AM Community-Wide FREE Breakfast
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service

LIFE GROUPS

Contact: office@lbac.org
Mid-week Adult Bible Studies

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LBAC Children's Ministries!

Sunday Mornings:
Gospel Project @ 9:30AM

AWANA

LBAC AWANA

Wednesday Nights September-May

YOUTH MINISTRIES

LBAC Youth Ministries!
LBAC Youth Instagram Page
Every Tuesday Night @ 7:00PM

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

LBAC Women's Ministry!
Women's Ministry Event Information
Contact: office@lbac.org

Lydia House Meals Ministry
3rd Thursday of each month

Women Connecting with Missions
Contact Kathie Metz: kathiemetz@msn.com

Crafty Women

3rd Saturday of each month @ 10:00AM

MEN'S MINISTRIES

LBAC Men's Ministry!
Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

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**THE
ALLIANCE**