

March 22, 2020 – Matthew 20:17-19 **THEME: Are You Prepared**

“Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn Him to death and will turn Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day He will be raised to life!”

How many rolls of tissue paper do you have in the house?

How many weeks of food do you have stored up in your house?

Who will take care of you if you become ill?

These are questions that someone might be asking in this time of COVID-19.

Who would have known this was coming?

Who would have known that it would be so wide spread, that it affects each and every one of us in some way, shape or form? (Canceled Easter Breakfast)

Who would have ever thought that Joint Public Worship Services would have been canceled due to a VIRUS?

As Jesus and His disciples were entering Jerusalem He was preparing them for what was to happen very soon. Jesus would be riding into Jerusalem, on a colt the foal of a donkey, and Jesus would be betrayed into the hands of the chief priests and teachers of the law.

Who would want to betray Jesus? Everyone liked Jesus, - Right? He healed the sick, changed water into wine and saved the day at a wedding, he gave sight to the blind, fed thousands of people at one time from a few fish and loaves of bread, Jesus even raised the dead!

Who would want to betray Jesus?

And what about the chief priests and teachers of the law? They were supposed to be the spiritual leaders of the people, pointing people to God and keeping their eyes open for the fulfillment of the Savior Who was promised again and again in the writings of the O.T. prophets.

Jesus is instructing and preparing His disciples for what would happen, yet when these things did happen, we find that the disciples were together with the doors locked. (John 20:19)

When the women reported to the disciples that they had seen the risen Lord Jesus, the disciples thought that the words of the women - “was nonsense”. (Luke 24:11)

During this time of trial due to COVID-19 do you believe the words of Jesus when He says things such as the following:

“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink or about your body, what you will wear.” Matt. 6:25

“Fear Not little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the Kingdom.” (Lk. 12:32)

“Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matt. 28:20b)

Are we as prepared as we thought we were when time of trial and tribulation would come?

Are you prepared for Christ's second coming? Jesus says: No one knows about that day or hour." (Matthew 24:36)

Jesus also tells us: "Keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."

Jesus told His disciples what would be happening. He would be crucified.

It was there upon the cross of Calvary that the Lord Jesus took all our sin upon Himself.

Every time we failed to trust His Word, every time we failed at keeping the Ten Commandments.

It was there on the cross that Jesus suffered hell in our place, as Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me." so that we need not fear hell.

It was there on the cross that Jesus went head to head with death and Satan and Jesus WON!

We know Jesus won because on Easter Sunday Jesus rose from the dead.

Jesus told these things to the disciples walking with Him that day as they were going to Jerusalem.

Jesus has told you in His Holy, Inspired, Inerrant, Infallible Word, The Holy Bible.

Keep Watch, Keep studying and hearing the Word of Your Lord, keep on praying.

And know that "God has said, - Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5-6) AMEN