

KNIGHT: A SIMPLIFIED HARMONY OF THE GOSPELS

Reading Assignment Six-I—Last Days of Ministry in Judea & Perea, Pages 176—181

1. On the way to Jerusalem, the LORD explains what's to happen—arrest, torture, trial, execution and resurrection. Luke records they (the 12) did not understand Him. Why didn't His closest followers understand? Why was the [rhema \(the saying\)](#) hidden from them? Why didn't they [understand "what was said" legomena](#)? Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-33; Luke 18:31-34; pericope 151

2. What places did mommy Zebedee, James & John seek in the kingdom to come? Who will in the final analysis get a seat on the left and right of the Messiah in His kingdom to come? Matthew 20:20; Mark 10:34-45; pericope 152

3. What are the implications of using "baptism" as a metaphor when explaining the significance of what they asked? Why is His call to be a slave such a hard lesson to learn, follow and or accept? Matthew 20:20; Mark 10:34-45; pericope 152

4. How do we tell the Bartimaeus's of our time to "be quiet?"
What did/do you see when He healed your blindness?
Matthew 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43; pericope 153



5. Why did the Christ want to eat with the most public sinner in South Jericho? Do you agree with Knight's analysis of "if" in Zacchaeus' repentance statement? Luke 19:1-10; pericope 154

6. How would you invest \$9600¹⁷ if given to you today? What lesson was the Christ attempting to teach about the ten slaves and their stewardship responsibilities to the king? Luke 19:11-27; pericope 155

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Reading Assignment **Seven-A**—Jesus’ Final Days in Jerusalem, Pages 183-221

1. Knight provides an overview with his theological and orthopraxic predispositions. As you study this next section of the gospels, make sure his predispositions are not coloring your understanding of the actual records provided by Mark, Matthew, John, and Luke. For example, Knight decrees that the Christ rode a donkey (accompanied by its colt) into Jerusalem to “challenge the religious leaders” along with accepting the crowd proclamation He was Messiah indeed. Does Scriptural evidence affirm Knight’s analysis?
2. Should Knight have left out John’s interlude with Miriam’s anointing in this discussion? Why was the presence of Lazarus so disturbing to the powers of the time? Who has been the Lazarus in your life; i.e, whose presence has reinforced the reality and beauty of Yeshua? John 11:55-12:1, 9-11; pericope 156

3. Why did Jesus use a donkey on which to ride into Jerusalem?¹⁸ Why not a mule?¹⁹ Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19; pericope 157

4. What, according to John, made the followers of Jesus the Christ understand the meaning of this “entrance to Jerusalem?” Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19; pericope 157

¹⁷A mina was worth about 3 month’s wages. Thus, at \$20 per hour (40 hours per week) over 12 weeks, each slave was given about \$9600 in today’s American currency.

¹⁸*Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.* —Zechariah 9:9

¹⁹Hebrew believers were not supposed to breed mules, as per Leviticus 19:19. Their use, however, was not uncommon. See their use even by kings and nobles (2 Samuel 18:9; 1 Kings 1:33; 2 Kings 5:17; Psalms 32:9).

5. Why did the Christ weep when He entered Jerusalem, according to Luke? How did the Pharisees express their discomfort with the Christ exciting an entire city, in this case the center of all believers then? What can we do to ensure similar discomfort is real today? Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19; pericope 157

6. To what extent should the incident with the fig tree be interpreted literally, or symbolically or allegorically? Matthew 21:12-19, Mark 11:12-19, Luke 19:45-48; pericope 158. See also Matthew 21:19-22, Mark 11:20-26; pericope 160

7. In what area of the temple did the Christ focus His cleansing? So? Just what was wrong with people providing proper money for tithes and proper animals for sacrifice? Matthew 21:12-19, Mark 11:12-19, Luke 19:45-48; pericope 158. Note “all nations”²⁰ (Isaiah 56:7; I Kings 8:41-43).

Consider this hypothesis: The time of the Messiah is the time of the Greeks—trigger or cause? See John 12:20-23

8. Identify the individual contributions of Matthew, Mark & Luke regarding the temple cleansing incident, noting how religious conservatives were challenged by Jesus being hailed as “Son of David!” Matthew 21:12-19, Mark 11:12-19, Luke 19:45-48; pericope 158

9. What caused Jesus’ “soul to be troubled?” How was that trouble healed? What troubled His hearers about the Son of Man being killed? Jesus’ answer? John 12:20-50; pericope 159

²⁰“...these [who hold fast to My covenant] I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for **all nations**.” –Isaiah 56:7

“As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name—⁴²for men will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when he comes and prays toward this temple, ⁴³then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that **all the peoples of the earth** may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.” –I Kings 8:41-43

10. Why didn't the folks who had actually seen His mighty works and signs believe Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the "Son of Man?" How was Jesus' explication to this question's answer His death sentence, and our hope for glimpsing, if not understanding Father God? John 12:20-50; pericope 159

11. Why did Jesus the Christ have the fig tree withered completely by the next morning? What is one of the conditions for our forgiveness by the Lord God? Why? Matthew 21:19-22, Mark 11:20-26; pericope 160

12. Take Knight's schedule of events on page 189 with a grain of salt, if not a truckload. While all the gospels focus on these "last days" of Jesus before His death and resurrection, none articulate it as a "final week." For example, we don't really know when Passover was celebrated in "33AD." Based on the evidence, we can know assuredly Jesus was tried, crucified and buried on the day before the Sabbath; and He arose from the grave on the first day of the week.

13. On what basis did the religious authorities answer Jesus proposition—"Where did John's baptism come from, heaven or from men?" Why didn't they accept the correct answer? A religiously conservative answer? What are some examples from today? Matthew 21:23-27, Mark 11:27-33, Luke 20:1-8; pericope 161

14. Why did Jesus feel the need to share the parable of the two vineyard workers? What did you learn from His teaching? Matthew 21:28-32; pericope 162

15. Why did Jesus feel the need to share the parable of the vineyard owner? What did you learn from His teaching? What warnings of Jesus parallel today's responses to His message? How was their fear here of social rejection, often a source of God's rejection, used to glorify the Lord God? Matthew 21:33-46, Mark 12:1-12, Luke 20:9-19; pericope 163

16. Why did Jesus feel the need to share the parable of the wedding banquet? What did you learn from His teaching? Who was kicked out of the banquet? What are unacceptable clothes? Matthew 22:1-14; pericope 165
