



God is Asking us a Question

(Palm Sunday)

John 3:16 (NKJV)

**[16] “For God so loved the world that He
gave....”**

Palm Sunday

The day we remember as Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey and.....

- The reason Jesus was going to Jerusalem was to die.**

Palm Sunday: Triumphal Entry (Last days before death)

Resurrection Sunday: Rise to a new life / power over death

Romans 6:1-6 (NKJV)

[1] What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? [2] Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? [3] Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

[4] Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. [5] For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, [6] knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Romans 6:8 (NKJV)

[8] Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

Romans 6:11-13 (NKJV)

[11] Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [12] Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. [13] And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

The Summary of the first section of this week:

Jesus died to deal with our sin.

The death to our old nature / sin and freedom from serving it (which we identify with Jesus through Water Baptism) is the focus of Jesus' Death and Burial.

Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life and freedom from death.

The new life which we are given to live (which we identify with Jesus through Water Baptism) is the focus of Jesus' Resurrection.

John 15:12-14 (NKJV)

[12] “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13] “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. [14] “You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

**Suffering is the theme of the last week of
Jesus....**

By Mary Fairchild

Updated on February 03, 2020

Lent is the Christian season of spiritual preparation before Easter. In Western churches, it begins on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial, and spiritual discipline. The purpose of the Lenten season is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—to consider his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection.

Hebrews 5:7-9 (NKJV)

[7] who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, [8] though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. [9] And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

1 Peter 4:1-2 (AMP)

[1] SO, SINCE Christ suffered in the flesh for us, for you, arm yourselves with the same thought and purpose [patiently to suffer rather than fail to please God]. For whoever has suffered in the flesh [having the mind of Christ] is done with [intentional] sin [has stopped pleasing himself and the world, and pleases God],

[2] So that he can no longer spend the rest of his natural life living by [his] human appetites and desires, but [he lives] for what God wills.

The Crucifixion & Burial being a picture of our own Death to sin, and Resurrection is a picture of us living a new life without sin.

What are you doing to advance the Kingdom of God?

**Application: What difference are we making /
what are we contributing toward
the advancement of the Kingdom
with our lives right now?**

**When we leave this earth, will the Kingdom
even know the difference?**

**What are you doing to advance the Kingdom of
God?**

Advance the Kingdom. What does that mean?

It means: Enlarging the influence of God's Kingdom.

: Doing what he asked us to do, not for us but for others.

It means: Influencing others away from Satan & Sin and toward God, Righteousness, Eternal Life.

**It means: Influencing others away from Satan
& Sin and toward God,
Righteousness, Eternal Life.**

**What are you doing to advance the Kingdom of
God?**

**Everyone will say: Well, I suppose I could do
more.**

Immediately he said:

**Then why don't you? (If you know you
could.....)**

The basic reason we're complacent in this area:

- **What are you doing to advance the Kingdom of God?**
- **Has to do with - Suffering.**

The main reason we don't do much / could do more is:

We don't like to suffer.

1 Peter 4:1-2 (AMP)

[1] SO, SINCE Christ suffered in the flesh for us, for you, arm yourselves with the same thought and purpose [patiently to suffer rather than fail to please God]. For whoever has suffered in the flesh [having the mind of Christ] is done with [intentional] sin [has stopped pleasing himself and the world, and pleases God],

[2] So that he can no longer spend the rest of his natural life living by [his] human appetites and desires, but [he lives] for what God wills.

1 Peter 4:1-2 (TPT)

[1] Since Christ, though innocent, suffered in his flesh for you, now you also must be a prepared soldier, having the same mind-set, for whoever has died in his body is done with sin.

[2] So live the rest of your earthly life no longer concerned with human desires but consumed with what brings pleasure to God.

The main reason we don't do more for the Kingdom is because we basically we don't want to.

(If we wanted to, we'd find a way)

We don't want to because we don't want to:

- a. Be inconvenienced.**
- b. Change our plans / schedules.**
- c. Give up our life the way we like to run it.**
- d. Etc.**

We say:

- a. I'm tired. I'm old.**
- b. I've done my part, it's time someone else.....**
- c. I have children. I'm raising a family.**
- d. I don't have time.**
- e. Etc.**

The picture of this week is Laying out old life down so we can live a new life.

- **To celebrate the Crucifixion / Death / Burial of Jesus is to die to ourselves. (That's what it's picturing)**

If we tie Love into it: it's laying down our life for God and doing what he wants, not what we want.

That's the greatest Love.

To summarize the first aspect of this week is:

To be willing to suffer enough that we will die to ourselves / old nature - so we will stop living our life by our personal / selfish desires, and actually focus on others and advancing the Kingdom of God.

Another way to say it:

Learning to Love him more than we Love ourselves.

Which is seen in the degree of our Obedience to him.

Reinhardt Bonke

We can make an impression on this world, if the world doesn't make too much of an impression on us.

- The goal of the American World is to become financially independent, so we can stop work and do whatever we want.**
- That's the mindset we're fighting.**

1 Peter 4:1-2 (AMP)

[1] SO, SINCE Christ suffered in the flesh for us, for you, arm yourselves with the same thought and purpose [patiently to suffer rather than fail to please God]. For whoever has suffered in the flesh [having the mind of Christ] is done with [intentional] sin [has stopped pleasing himself and the world, and pleases God],

[2] So that he can no longer spend the rest of his natural life living by [his] human appetites and desires, but [he lives] for what God wills.

John 3:16 (NKJV)

[16] “For God so loved the world that He gave....”