

ENCOUNTER.

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of Mark

Lesson Seven: Encounter the King Mark 11-12

I. Triumphal Entry – Begins the last week of Jesus' life

The King – on a donkey before peasants.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout *in triumph*, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
He is just and endowed with salvation,
Humble, and mounted on a donkey,
Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey
(Zechariah 9:9, emphasis mine).

A. Christ's first coming was as the Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53)

As Warren Wiersbe observes:

In fulfilling this prophecy, Jesus accomplished two purposes:
(1) He declared Himself to be Israel's King and Messiah; and
(2) He deliberately challenged the religious leaders. This set in motion the official plot that led to His arrest, trial, and crucifixion. The Jewish leaders had decided not to arrest Him during the feast, but God had determined otherwise. The Lamb of God must die at Passover.¹

B. Christ's second coming will be as the Conquering King (Revelation 19:11-16)

II. Cursing of the Fig Tree

The fig tree represents Judaism. It had the appearance of being healthy but bore no fruit.

Jesus would initiate the New Covenant in His blood that would produce the fruit of His Spirit in believers. Christianity would be for all people.

III. Cleansing the Temple

Danny Akin writes:

Sadly this is what Israel had become, especially the temple and the religious leaders (the Sanhedrin) who oversaw its operation. They

gave an outward appearance of great spirituality and devotion to God but proved to be hypocrites. Gentiles were denied the opportunity to come close to God, being restricted to the outer court. The poor were exploited by money changers and merchants. The temple culture had grown big and impressive, but it was all a sham, and Jesus cursed them for it (v. 14).²

IV. Teaching and Confrontation with the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes

A. Have faith in God

Believe – Forgive

1 John 5:14-15

John 15:7-8

Our best life will be in eternity where every sad thing will be untrue, every tear will be wiped away. There will be no more disease, death or separation.

Revelation 21:1-4

B. Authority

C. Parable of the Vine-growers

D. Jesus Answers the Pharisees, Sadducees and Scribes

Akin gives us helpful commentary:

Mark 11:27–12:44 records five temple controversies in Jerusalem that parallel five earlier controversies in Galilee (cf. 2:1–3:6). In both cases His opponents are the religious leaders. Now that He is in Jerusalem, the stakes are much higher and the intensity of the conflict much stronger. Things are moving to an inevitable climax: the cross.³

1. Authority
2. Paying Taxes
3. Resurrection
4. The Foremost Commandment
5. Whose Son is the Christ? – Question asked by Jesus

V. The Widow's Mite

Chronology of the Last Week

Sunday	Triumphal Entry
Monday	Cursing of the fig tree, cleansing the temple
Tuesday	Fig tree is withered, parables, confrontation with Sanhedrin, persecutions foretold, the coming of the Son of Man, Stay alert
Wednesday	Plot to kill Jesus, Judas' betrayal
Thursday	Passover preparation, Passover meal, Denial of Peter predicted, The farewell discourse, Gethsemane, Jesus' betrayal and arrest, preliminary hearing before Annas
Friday	Trial before Caiaphas, Trial before Sanhedrin, Peter's denials, Trial before Pilate, Judas Iscariot's suicide, Trial before Pilate, Trial before Herod, Pilate declares Jesus innocent, Jesus or Barabbas? Jesus condemned, Jesus mocked by the soldiers, Road to Golgatha, Simon of Cyrene carries the Cross, Jesus' crucifixion, Joseph of Arimathea requests Jesus body, Joseph and Nicodemus bury Jesus, Female witnesses
Saturday	Disciples rest, Pilate orders soldiers at the tomb
Sunday	Women at the tomb, "He is not here, He is risen!" Jesus appears to the women, Jesus appears to Peter, Jesus appears on Emmaus Road, Jesus appears to the disciples (Thomas absent)

¹ Wiersbe, Warren W. *Be Diligent (Mark): Serving Others as You Walk with the Master Servant* (The BE Series Commentary), p. 132. David C. Cook. Kindle Edition.

² Akin, Dr. Daniel L., *Exalting Jesus in Mark* (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary), pp. 251-252. B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

³ (Akin, Dr. Daniel L., *Exalting Jesus in Mark* (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary), p. 259. B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.