



HOMEWORK FOR March 19, 2024

The Gospel According to Mark

Read Chapters 14-15

When reading these chapters, try to put out of your mind any of the passion narratives from other Gospels.

1) Read Mark 14:1-11. Why isn't Passover time a good time for the Jewish authorities to arrest Jesus? _____

What are the various attitudes toward Jesus people express in this section? _____

Contrast the actions of the woman with the perfume to the actions of Judas. _____

2) Read Mark 14:12-26. What preparations has Jesus made in order to celebrate the Passover with his disciples?

What does Jesus reveal to his disciples during supper? What does their reaction reveal about them? _____

What is Jesus trying to teach his disciples in vv 22-25? _____

How does this meal make sense of Jesus' death and his kingdom? _____

3) Read Mark 14:26-42. Jesus has been predicting his death for quite a while. What is another prediction he makes (vv27-30)? _____

How does their response contrast with their response to his call to stay with him in prayer in the garden? _____

4) Read Mark 14:53-72. How does Mark contrast Jesus and Peter (vv 53-54, 61-62, 66-71)? _____

What are the different charges that are brought against Jesus? _____

5) Read Mark 15:1-15. How does Jesus respond to his accusers? _____

Pilate wasn't looking to crucify Jesus. What different motivations of Pilate were revealed by his questions and actions? _____

6) Read Mark 15:16-39. Mark builds up the story of Jesus' crucifixion through small pictures, one detail after another that together tell Mark's version of the story: a clipped sequence, moving swiftly from scene to scene. What short snapshots does Mark capture? _____

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Read this reflection from the writer of Hebrews:

“Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.” (Hebrews 10:19-22)

We can see how the author has interpreted the events of Jesus last days. Pray this Scripture as a prayer to God this week, adding to it anything that might be more personal to you.