

# HOLY WEEK: WALKING WITH JESUS

## *The Week Before the Cross*

*By Anne Graham Lotz*



*Every year I read through the Gospel accounts of what took place from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday as I seek to wrap my heart and mind around those days. This year I'm inviting you to join me each day for a brief reading of Scripture that helps give us a meaningful grasp of what took place in the life of our Lord Jesus during Holy Week.*

*Anne Graham Lotz*

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## MONDAY

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*On Monday after Palm Sunday, Jesus went to the heart of Jerusalem. He went to the temple.*

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”

The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were indignant.

“Do you hear what these children are saying?” they asked him.

“Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read,

“‘From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise?’” [1]

“I tell you,” He replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” [2]

“Listen to (this) parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

“The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

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“But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

“He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew He was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest Him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that He was a prophet.

And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night. [3]

*As we conclude our Scripture reading on this Monday after Palm Sunday, Jesus once again desires to go to the hearts of His people...to cleanse us of our sin and wrongdoing. While some may reject this assertion of His authority, others submit with joy, and produce the fruit of righteousness. Which are you? On this Monday, ask Jesus to search your heart, then confess any sin He brings to mind and ask for His cleansing.*

[1] Matthew 21:12-16

[2] Luke 19:40

[3] Matthew 21:33-44, 17

# Thank you

for taking the time to reflect on Jesus and prepare your heart for Easter.  
We pray these Scripture Readings were a blessing to you.

## Who is Jesus?

For more information about how to have a personal relationship with Jesus so you can be sure of Heaven, visit our website using this link: [www.annegrahamlotz.org/jesus-gods-living-word/](http://www.annegrahamlotz.org/jesus-gods-living-word/)



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