Exploring the Last Week of Jesus’ Life on Earth

Luke 1:1-4

Matthew 8:1 reads, “When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him.” (NIV) This verse records the kind of curiosity that the Lord sparked in people during His earthly pilgrimage. Every believer should be intentional about learning as much as possible about the life and ministry of the Master. The end result of learning comprehensively about Jesus should be for individuals to live exclusively for Him. This lesson is designed to examine occurrences that took place during Jesus’ last week on earth.

Breakdown of Luke 1:1-4

1. The **Statements** from Luke. Verses 1, 2
2. The **Study** by Luke. Verse 3a
3. The **Strategy** of Luke. Verses 3b, 4

1. Sunday was a day of **Exaltation** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   - **Mark 11:7-10**
   - “When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. 8) Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. 9) Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” 10) “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”” (NIV)

2. Monday was a day of **Frustration** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   - **Matthew 21:12-16**
   - “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. 13) “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.’” 14) The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. 15) 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. 16) “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’?”” (NIV)
3. Tuesday was a day of **Interrogation** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   **Mark 11:27, 28 ; 12:13, 18**
   “They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. 28) “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you authority to do this?” 12:13) “Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. 18) “Then the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question.” (NIV)

4. Wednesday was a day of **Relaxation** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   **Mark 14:1-3**
   “Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. 2) “But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot. 3) While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.” (NIV)

5. Thursday was a day of **Preparation** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   **Mark 14:12**
   “On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus’ disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” (NIV)

6. Friday was a day of **Expiration** during Jesus’ last week on earth.
   **Luke 23:44-46**
   “It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45) for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46) Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.” (NIV)

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