

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 05 March 2017..... Matthew 14-16 ..... Who is this Jesus?
- 2) 12 March..... Matthew 17-18 ..... Is Jesus Fully God?
- 3) 19 March..... Matthew 19-20 ..... What is Required?
- 4) **26 March..... Matthew 21:1-17 ..... More Than a Prophet?**
- 5) 02 April..... Matthew 21:18-46 ..... What Happens If I Reject Jesus?
- 6) 09 April..... Matthew 22-23 ..... Offered to All?
- 7) 16 April..... Matthew 28a ..... Where is Jesus?
- 8) 23 April..... Matthew 24-25 ..... What About the Future?
- 9) 30 April..... Matthew 26a ..... How Do We Remember?
- 10) 07 May..... Matthew 26b ..... Do I Have the Strength?
- 11) 14 May..... Matthew 26c ..... Loyal to Whom?
- 12) 21 May..... Matthew 27 ..... Crucified for What?
- 13) 28 May..... Matthew 28b ..... What Do We Do Now?

**INTRODUCTION**

- This chapter deals with Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and a Triumphant entry at that.....[21:1-11](#)
- Jesus also had to take matters into His own hands and cleanse the Temple of all the merchants plying their wares and to restore God's House to a House of Prayer.....[21:12-13](#)
- Finally, we see the Blind & Lame coming to Him in the Temple to be healed.....[21:14-17](#)

Passage	Comments
Matthew 21:1-11	<p><b>Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every meticulous detail of this event from the riding on the foal of a donkey (<a href="#">Zech 9:9</a>), to the crowds shouting praises (<a href="#">Ps 118:26</a>), even to the exact timing of the event (<a href="#">Daniel 9:25</a>) was foretold prophetically</li> <li>• Remember, nothing validates Scripture as fulfilled prophecy does. This will resonate with the disciples later to strengthen their faith when they need it most.</li> </ul>
Quick Facts about Bible Prophecies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of Promises in the Bible: ..... 1,260</li> <li>• No. of Commands: ..... 6,468</li> <li>• No. of Predictions: ..... over 8,000</li> <li>• Fulfilled Prophecies: ..... 3,268</li> <li>• Unfulfilled Prophecies: ..... 3,140</li> <li>• Out of 365 Messianic prophecies, over 60 have been fulfilled; 15 at Jesus' birth and 30 at His resurrection.</li> <li>• The chance of just 8 prophecies being fulfilled in one person is 10<sup>17</sup>; and the chance of 48 prophecies being fulfilled in one person is 10<sup>157</sup></li> <li>• According to the scientific laws of probabilities anything over 1x10<sup>50</sup> is impossible</li> <li>• Therefore, scientifically, Jesus is who He said He is – the Messiah, the Son of God, the Son of Man</li> </ul>
21:12-13	<p><b>The House of Prayer Needs Spring Cleaning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who should have been responsible to keep the Temple clean from misuse and fulfilling its intended purpose?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Answer: The Priests, Levites, &amp; civic rulers. But they were a big part of the problem because of GREED</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>What should a House of Prayer look like?</b></li> <li>• Does our church resemble a House of Prayer?</li> <li>• If not, what needs to change, and who should lead the charge, and when should it happen?</li> </ul>
Principles of Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The shepherds (Elders and Pastors) have authority from God to invoke biblical change within God's House</li> <li>• If shepherds are missing, weak, or wicked, then faithful saints need to remain faithful, not usurp authority</li> <li>• To change people, it either takes a miracle, such as salvation, or a lot of praying – or a cattle prod</li> <li>• Ezra and Nehemiah used "Mob Rule" to change things, but they were in Elder roles..... <a href="#">Ezra 10:3; Neh 5:7</a></li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
21:14-17	<p><b>The House of Prayer Becomes the House of Healing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not only is God's House a House of Prayer, it is also a House of Healing. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> and last Crowd Healing in the Gospel of Matthew.....<a href="#">see table below</a></li> <li>• But if God is not healing supernaturally / instantaneously these days (how many restored missing legs and resurrections can you count since the time of Christ), then what types of healings can people expect?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Answer:</b> God heals providentially these days, yes, through prayer and even timely medical intervention</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Food for Thought:</b> If God is not restoring missing limbs &amp; healing Down Syndrome today, why do we think He can cure headaches &amp; cancers? Can He only heal easy stuff? Since nothing is too hard for God, we must realize He is working differently today.</li> <li>• <b>Consider This.</b> Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. ....<a href="#">James 5:14-15</a></li> </ul>

Passage	Healings of Crowds in Matthew's Gospel
1 Matthew 4:23-24	Jesus healed every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people
2 8:16-17	Jesus cast out demons and healed ALL who were ill
3 9:26, 35	While teaching in the Synagogues, Jesus healed every sickness and every disease among the people
4 10:1-9	Jesus healed every kind of disease and every kind of illness (Mark adds "they were healing everywhere")
5 12:15-16	Many followed Jesus and He healed them ALL
6 14:14-21	While feeding 5000+, Jesus healed [ALL] their sick
7 14:35-36	[ALL] those who touched His cloak were healed
8 15:30-38	While feeding 4000+ He healed [ALL] their lame and crippled.
9 19:2	Large crowds followed Him & He healed them [ALL]
10 21:14	Many blind and lame came to Jesus in the temple and He healed them [ALL]

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS.** Caution on taking matters into your own hands because of any righteous indignation or zeal you might have, even for God's House.

- ♦ Jesus, Ezra, & Nehemiah had proper authority from God to do what they did
- ♦ The rest of us must work within the system to change things: Patience, prayer, lead by example, challenge overt sin, rebuke properly, be faithful when others are not, etc.
- ♦ Consider the faithful saints who were in less-than-desirable churches in Revelations 2-3. God laid no other burden on them except to remain faithful while others were behaving badly.

**NEXT WEEK: Matthew 21:18-46.** We see Jesus cursing a fig tree for not producing figs and turns it into a powerful lesson on faith. We also see Jesus' authority being challenged and He responds with some dire warnings of God's approaching judgment.

