

Sunday, March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9 - The servant of the LORD submits to suffering

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Whom do you know that is weary? What words could you share that would help sustain them?

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear.

Whom and/or what has God opened your ear to hear? What have you done about it?

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Suffering Servant – expressed most supremely in Isaiah 53.

What was most unexpected – that the Messiah would also be the Suffering Servant.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;
I know that I shall not be put to shame;

⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?
Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Romans 8: 31 – If God is for us, who is against us?

1 John 4: 4 – The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Psalm 31:9-16 Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit.

Three of the seven last words of Jesus are addressed to God the Father –

Luke 23: 34 - Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.

Matthew 27: 46 / Mark 15: 34 - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Luke 23: 46 (crying with a loud voice) - Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

The second and the third are quotations from the Psalms

Psalm 22: 1 – Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

Verse 7 – All who see me mock at me

Verse 18 - They divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots

Psalm 31: 5 – You have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

¹⁰My life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing.

¹¹I am a disgrace to my neighbors; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God."

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Philippians 2:5-11 - Humbled to the point of death on a cross

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Compare the Second Article of the Apostles Creed –
Conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died, and was buried, he descended into hell.*

*On the third day he rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven, sits on the right hand of God
the Father, and shall come to judge the living and the dead.*

Mark 11:1-11 - Jesus enters Jerusalem

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his
disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it,
you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to
you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here
immediately.'"

All they needed to say to be able to take the colt was, "The Lord needs it."

How do you think the owner of the colt felt when he saw Jesus riding his colt?

*Luke 5: 3 – (Jesus) got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put
out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.*

*John 6: 9 – Andrew, Simon Peter's brother: "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and
two fish. But what are they among so many people?"*

What is your boat? What are your five loaves and two fish? What is your colt?

⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying
it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told
them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.

⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had
cut in the fields.

⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"