

Peter has crept into the inner courtyard of the building. But he is recognized as a disciple of Jesus and narrowly escapes exposure by denying three times in a row that he knows Jesus of Nazareth.

9 Friday - early morning

Questioning before the High Council.
> Luke 22:66-71

The Jewish Supreme Court (High Council or Sanhedrin) convenes. Perplexity spreads because the interrogations have not brought anything tangible to light. To the high priest's question, "So you are the Son of God?", Jesus replies, "You say that I am." – The Jews immediately grasp at this straw and accuse Jesus of blasphemy because they do not want to admit that he is indeed the Son of God. Jesus is handed over to the Roman procurator Pilate, who is to condemn him to death.

10 Friday morning (1)

Questioning by Pilate in the Praetorium (within Antonia Castle?).
> Luke 23:1-7; John 18:28-38

The talks with Pilate do not go as the leaders of the Jews would like. Pilate establishes beyond doubt: Jesus is not guilty – and certainly not of anything that calls for the death penalty. When Pilate learns that Jesus comes from Nazareth in Galilee, he uses the classic removal tactic, because the tetrarch Herod is responsible for the region of Galilee.

11 Friday morning (2)

Questioning by King Herod (in his palace).
> Luke 23:8-12

Herod is pleased to see Jesus, of whom he has already heard a lot. But when the Lord Jesus remains silent to all accusations, the tetrarch has only contempt left for him. He has him treated contemptuously and mocked by his soldiers and sends him back to Pilate without having found any reason to condemn him.

12 Friday morning (3)

Judgment by Pilate. Gabbatha (place in the town uncertain).
> John 19:4-16

As Roman governor of the troubled province of Judea, Pilate finds himself in no easy situation. Legally, it is clear to him that the only option for Jesus is release. But a disturbance in his province, which could come to the ears of the

emperor – the Roman fears that above all. He desperately searches for a way to appease the angry Jews. But he does not succeed. And so he releases an already condemned murderer named Barabbas, washes his hands of the matter and condemns the innocent Jesus Christ to death on the cross. Jesus is scourged. That is, his bare back is whipped with a whip with pieces of metal or bone attached to the end. Afterwards, the Roman soldiers cruelly mock and mistreat him because they have heard that he is called the King of the Jews.

13 Friday morning (4)

The way to the cross.
> Luke 23:26-32

Escorted by Roman soldiers, the Lord Jesus goes out of the city to the execution hill Calvary. First he has to carry the cross himself, then a man named Simon is forced by the Romans to carry the cross behind him.

14 Friday – 9 a.m.

Crucifixion. Calvary.
(Place outside the town uncertain)
> Matthew 27:33-50; Mark 15:24-37;
Luke 23:33-46; John 19:18-30

Jesus is nailed to the cross. He prays for his tormentors, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!" – The gawking crowd mocks him. Of two robbers crucified with him, one repentantly turns to Jesus. He says to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in paradise." Christ then intercedes for Mary, his mother, and asks John to take care of her. After three long hours on the cross, an eclipse occurs at noon and lasts again for three hours. In a loud voice Jesus cries out, "My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?" The answer is not forthcoming. Jesus asks, "I thirst." Then he cries, "It is finished!" – and dies with the words, "Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit!"

15 Friday evening

Burial. Close to Calvary.
> John 19:38-42

The rich Jew Joseph of Arimathea is a secret disciple of Jesus. He boldly goes to Pilate and asks permission to remove Jesus' dead body from the cross and bury it in his own rock tomb. Pilate allows him to do so.

16 Sunday

Ressurrection.
> Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-13; Luke 24;
John 20:19-23

At dawn – some women have come early to the tomb to embalm Jesus according to Jewish custom – a great earthquake occurs. Angels roll the stone from the tomb where Christ lay: It is empty! The Roman guards, whom Pilate had ordered to the tomb at the insistence of the Jews, are frightened to death. The women hear the message of an angel: "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he is risen, as he said." The women tell the disciples in Jerusalem of their discovery. Peter and John make their way to the tomb to check it out. They, too, find the tomb empty – in an orderly state that precludes any outside interference. Subsequently, the Lord Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene, to several women, to His disciple Peter, who has so shamefully denied Him, and to two other disciples who, disappointed, are on their way on foot to their home village. Then the risen Jesus appears for the first time to the apostles, shows them his stigmata and says to them: "Peace to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you."

17 The following time

Jesus appears to the disciples for the second and third time.
> John 20:26-29 and John 21;
1 Corinthians 15:3-8

Eight days later, with his second appearance, Jesus also removes any doubt about his bodily resurrection from Thomas, who was not with the disciples at the first meeting. Again some time later, Jesus appears for the third time to some disciples at the Sea of Galilee. Here a special debate takes place between Jesus and Peter, which makes it clear: Jesus' love for Peter is infinitely greater than Peter's love for Jesus. In addition, Christ appears to 500 believers at once.

18 40 days after resurrection

Jesus' farewell-words to His disciples on the Mount of Olives. Ascension.
> Matthew 28:20; Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53

With the words "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age," the Lord Jesus takes leave of His disciples on the Mount of Olives and returns to heaven to God His Father.

What does Easter mean to me?

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

The Bible – Gospel of John 3:16

This verse explains why Jesus has died and is risen in Jerusalem.

Real love ...

... comes from God. **God is holy and good. That is why he can love selflessly.** Unfortunately, this is not the case with us. We are often selfish, become guilty of other people and thus also guilty before God. What is the reason for this? Because of our hearts, which are corrupted by sin. That is why the Bible's judgment is accurate: "There is none who does good, no, not one" (Romans 3:12). And this has the inevitable consequence: "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

God's love is so great ...

... that he gave his only son Jesus Christ. **God can forgive our sin only when someone pays for our guilt. That can only be someone without guilt.** That is the Lord Jesus. He was the first man who did not commit a single sin during his entire life. Jesus Christ is the Son of God who became man in order to die on the cross out of love for someone else's guilt.



God's love is for ...

... all people – including you! The love of God can be seen in the suffering story of Jesus Christ. Jesus gave up his life voluntarily **so that everyone can be redeemed from his sins.**

Whoever wants to experience God's love ...

... has to acknowledge his guilt before God, ask him for forgiveness and believe that Jesus Christ paid for it on the cross. Nothing else? No, more is not necessary, but also not possible! No one can earn God's grace – neither by belonging to a religious community nor by good works. **God gives eternal life to everyone who believes in Jesus.**

Whoever does not believe in Jesus ...

... must reckon with God's just punishment for his sins and will once be lost, that is: separated from God forever. **You can accept Jesus as Savior only as long as you live.**

Whoever believes in Jesus ...

... God forgives all sins and makes him His child! Whoever believes in the Lord Jesus knows that Christ has risen from the dead and is alive. **Christians look forward to a glorious future with God and experience God's help in everyday life right now.** They enjoy fellowship with other Christians who are guided by the Bible.

The Easter-Poster

What happened in Jerusalem?



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What happened in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago?

During the Easter season, people from all over the world remember the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. – What actually happened in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago?

The Easter poster shows the stages of the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, which occurred in Jerusalem in springtime around the year 32 AD. The reports about it come from the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Matthew and John were disciples of Jesus. Mark was a close associate of Peter, Luke accompanied the apostle Paul and gathered reports from eyewitnesses. The four Gospels paint a very detailed picture of the Passion of Christ. It is thus one of the best documented events of antiquity.

The events are summarized here chronologically in 18 stages, which are explained in more detail on the back-side.

Some biblical places can be precisely located by excavation. For others, there are different opinions about the location. For still others, the determination is no longer possible today.

But that does not change the fact that the events took place as the writers of the Bible recorded them under the direction of God.

Discover with us what happened at that time.

The depiction of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus and the reconstruction drawings were made by the archaeological architect Leen Ritmeyer. He was involved in excavations at the Western Wall and Southern Wall of the Temple Mount and created several models of the buildings of ancient Jerusalem.

0 100 m 200 m 300 m 400 m 500 m



During excavations this 600 m² palace was found – possibly the residence of the high priest Annas.

The High Priest's Palace

Jesus is buried in the new tomb of the Jewish councilor Joseph of Arimathea. The tombs at that time are hewn out of the rocky mountainside. The entrances are usually low; the disciples have to bend down to enter. Only rich people like Joseph could afford a rolling stone to securely close the tomb (Matthew 27:60; Luke 24:12; John 20:5).



Rock tomb

Calvary? 14

Calvary? 14 15 16

Herod's Palace 11

8

Antonia Castle 10

Temple 9

to Bethany (approx. 1 km) 4

High Council, Sanhedrin 9

Golden Gate 1

Gethsemane 6 7

Mount of Olives 3 18

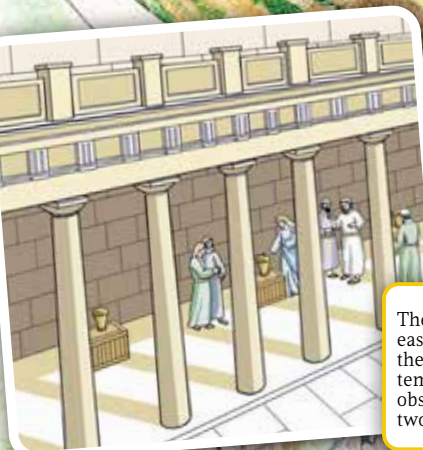
Jesus' disciples marvel at the splendor and grandeur of the temple whose destruction Christ predicts in his end-time discourse (Matthew 24:2). And so it happens: In 70 AD, the Roman commander Titus conquers the city, and thereby the temple accidentally catches fire and is completely destroyed.

Antonia Castle 10

Temple 2 3

Solomon's porch 9

In the years before the birth of Jesus, King Herod the Great (73–4 B.C.) built Antonia Castle to the north of the Temple Mount and Solomon's Hall of Columns to the south. The castle houses the Roman soldiers, and the High Council, consisting of 71 members, meets in the southern building complex.



The Jewish pilgrims gather in the eastern „womens front yard“ of the temple. Also collections for the temple are held there. Here Jesus observes a poor widow who inserts two coins (Luke 21:1–4).

1 Sunday - before the Passover

The entry into Jerusalem. (probably through the Golden Gate)

2 Monday

Purification of the Temple.

3 Tuesday

Discussion with the leaders. End-Time Speeches.

4 Wednesday

Ointment in Bethany. Conspiracy in Jerusalem. Betrayal of Judas.

5 Thursday evening

Passover meal with the disciples. (exact position in the town uncertain)

6 Thursday – late evening

Jesus' prayer to the Father.

7 Thursday to Friday - about midnight

Imprisonment in Gethsemane.

8 Freitag - before sunrise

Questioning by the High Priests in their palace.

9 Friday - early morning

Questioning before the High Council.

10 Friday morning (1)

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11 Friday morning (2)

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15 Friday evening

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16 Sunday

Ressurrection.

17 The following time

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18 40 days after ressurection

Jesus' farewell-words to His disciples on the Mount of Olives. Ascension.

What happened in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago?

1 Sunday - before the Passover

The entry into Jerusalem. > The Bible – Mark 11:1–11

Repeatedly Jesus has announced to his disciples that he will go to Jerusalem to suffer, to die and to rise from the dead. This is now close at hand. The Lord Jesus has his disciples get him a young donkey and enters Jerusalem on this animal – presumably through the Golden Gate. The people spread out clothes and palm branches on the way and cheer Jesus like a king. That is why this Sunday is called “Palm Sunday” in Christian tradition.

2 Monday

Purification of the Temple. > Mark 11:15–19

After spending the night in nearby Bethany, Jesus returns to the city with his disciples the next day. He enters the temple district and begins to drive out the money changers and dove sellers. Jesus accuses them of making the house of God a “den of thieves.” The leaders of the Jews want to kill Jesus Christ, but they fear the common people, who like to listen to him. In the evening Jesus leaves the city again and spends the night again in Bethany.

3 Tuesday

Discussion with the leaders. End-Time Speeches. > Mark 12 and 13

The next day, Jesus teaches again in the temple. There it comes to a direct confrontation with the chief priests and scribes. However, Christ continues to teach in the temple unhindered and then leaves the city to deliver his so-called end-time speeches on the Mount of Olives.

4 Wednesday

Ointment in Bethany. Conspiracy in Jerusalem. Betrayal of Judas. > Mark 14:1–11

While the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem are plotting sinister murders against the Lord Jesus, he is staying in Bethany. There Jesus is anointed with a very precious anointing oil in the house of Simon the leper. Also on this day, the disciple Judas makes a “dark deal” with the Jewish leaders: In exchange for a monetary payment, Judas promises them that he will betray Jesus to them at a favorable opportunity.

5 Thursday evening

Passover meal with the disciples. (exact position in the town uncertain) > Mark 14:12–16; John 13 to 17

The Passover is imminent – the greatest Jewish festival, which commemorates the exodus from slavery in Egypt in the time of Moses. Jesus sends two disciples to the city to prepare a hall for him and his disciples where he wants to celebrate the Passover. This room was probably in a larger house in the upper city. At the beginning, Jesus washes his disciples' feet to show them how, as his disciples, they are to help one another in humility. Then the traitor Judas is exposed by Jesus and leaves the house. At the end of the traditional Passover meal, Jesus institutes for his disciples what is known as the Lord's Supper, with which Christians remember the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus to this day. With loving words, Christ prepares his disciples for the time when he will no longer be with them on earth.

6 Thursday – late evening

Jesus' prayer to the Father. > Matthew 26:36–46; Luke 22:39–46

Following a custom, Jesus leaves the city with his disciples in the evening to spend the night on the Mount of Olives in the Garden of Gethsemane. Here he withdraws from the disciples and prays to his God and Father, knowing what is in store for him: “Father, if it is your will, take this up away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” Three times the Lord Jesus repeats this prayer and each time he finds the disciples asleep afterwards.

7 Thursday to Friday - about midnight

Imprisonment in Gethsemane. > Matthew 26:47–56; John 18:1–15

Around midnight, the light of torches illuminates the night. Weapons clang. The traitor Judas leads a troop of armed servants of the chief priests into the garden to Jesus. They take him prisoner. Peter resists with a sword and wounds a servant. The Lord Jesus heals the servant and then willingly allows himself to be led away. The disciples make a hasty getaway. Only two disciples – John and Peter – follow Jesus with some distance into the city.

8 Freitag - before sunrise

Questioning by the High Priests in their palace. > John 18:13–24; Matthew 26:57–66

The Judas-betrayal in the middle of the night seems to have succeeded – but now the Jewish leaders have a problem: They need a valid accusation to demand the death penalty for Jesus from the Roman occupiers, which they themselves are not allowed to carry out. For hours in the middle of the night, the Lord Jesus is interrogated by the corrupt chief priests Annas and Caiaphas. False witnesses appear. Jesus remains silent, although he could easily justify himself. Meanwhile, under cover of darkness,