



Topic: SALVATION: What do Christians believe Jesus did to 'save' people?

Year: 6

Strand: Christianity

HOLY WEEK TIMELINE

1

Palm Sunday: Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and many people put palm branches down for the donkey to walk on as a show of respect for Jesus. Many people thought he was the Messiah, coming to rule Israel.

2

Religious Leaders Plot to Kill Jesus: Jesus was a threat to the religious leaders because he performed miracles and had lots of people believing in him. They wanted the people to keep believing them, so they plotted to have him

3

Last Supper: On Thursday night, Jesus sat down with his disciples to have Passover dinner. He broke bread and said it was a symbol of his body. Then, he blessed wine and said it was a symbol of his blood. He told the disciples he would be murdered and would rise on the third day, and his body and blood were a sacrifice for sins.

4

The Arrest: After supper, Jesus and the disciples went into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. The disciples fell asleep! Jesus prayed, and the soldiers came to arrest him after he was betrayed by his disciple Judas.

5

The Trial: Starting that night, Jesus faced, Annas, Caiaphas, and Pontius Pilate. Pontius Pilate agreed to crucify Jesus between two rebels because the crowd demanded it.

6

The Crucifixion: Jesus was crucified Friday at noon. He lived on the cross for three hours, then said to the Father, "Into your hands I commit my spirit." And he died. There was an eclipse, an earthquake, and the very thick curtain inside the Temple was ripped in two.

7

The Resurrection: Some of Jesus' disciples, Mary Magdalene, and a few other believers saw the empty tomb on Sunday morning. Some saw angels who said, "He is not here; he is risen." Over the next 40 days, 500 people saw the arisen Jesus.

Topic Overview

Christians read the 'big story' of the Bible as pointing out the need for God to save people. This salvation includes the ongoing restoration of humans' relationship with God.

The Gospels give accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection and the New Testament says that Jesus' death was somehow 'for us'.

Christians interpret this in a variety of ways: for example, as a sacrifice for sin; as a victory over sin, death and the devil; paying the punishment as a substitute for everyone's sins; rescuing the lost and leading them to God; leading from darkness to light.

Christians remember Jesus' sacrifice through the service of Holy Communion (also called the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist or the Mass).

Christians believe that Jesus calls them to sacrifice their own needs to the needs of others, and some are prepared to die for others and for their faith.

Retrieval Quiz

1. In which part of the Bible is the Easter story found?
2. Name the four gospels.
3. What happened on Good Friday?
4. What happened on Easter Sunday?
5. Which disciple betrayed Jesus?
6. Which Roman leader convicted Jesus?
7. What does sacrifice mean?
8. How do Christians remember Jesus's sacrifice?
9. Where was Jesus arrested?
10. What is a martyr?

Enquiry Questions

- Who was responsible for Jesus's death?
- Why did Jesus die?
- What does Holy week mean to Christians?
- Why do Christians celebrate Communion?
- What would you be prepared to sacrifice?

Key Vocabulary

Salvation: The deliverance from harm.

Incarnation: A person who embodies a deity (god).

Crucifixion: A form of execution in which a person was nailed to a cross.

Resurrection: The process of rising from the dead.

Sacrifice: To give something up for a specific reason (verb) or a religious offering (noun).

Gospels: The first four books of the New Testament—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Holy Communion: A Christian ceremony to remember Jesus's sacrifice.

Prophecy: A prediction of what will happen in the future.

Martyr: A person who is killed because of their beliefs.