

Lenten devotionals: Holy week

Monday

How soon after Jesus rides into Jerusalem, the crowds shouting and honouring him, do the leaders, scribes and Pharisees become tired and afraid of the following Jesus has.

They begin to scheme against him, wanting to discredit him and turn the people against him.

Jesus appears to be on a mission and enters the temple, noticing the extortion of the money lenders and the sellers of sacrifice birds and animals, no doubt charging greater rates to those wanting to offer sacrifice for the coming Passover.

Was Jesus angry? Yes, and disappointed and sorrowful and bowed down with the ordeal he knew was approaching.

Did Jesus show mercy and love? Yes, for those abused by the system and power. Yes for those out into a position of obedience to mans interpretation of the law, rather than the law of compassion and understanding.

Did Jesus show divine authority? Yes, as he pronounced judgement on those having disrespect for the place of worship. Authority that amazed the crowd as they listened to his teaching. Authority that frightened the teaches of the law as they saw the crowds gathering to hear Him and witness His miracles.

John, the writer who gives more of the depth of Jesus' teaching, goes on to provide Jesus talking about his death. Jesus calls himself the light. The light that soon will be hidden in the darkness of sin and death.

Soon the darkness will descend. But the best is yet to come.

Words of comfort

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Tim. i. 15.