

# Triumph, Towels, & Trials

## March 25, 2018

## Pathway to Passover



### OPEN

Can you imagine what would it have been like to be part of the crowd as Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem?

Have you ever had an experience of grandeur that you almost missed? Read what Stephen Miller tells about this in his article [The Wow of Worship](#).



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Do we really experience a sense of awe when we worship? Read through Psalm 105 and see how we can grow deeper in our worship of God.

Certain traditional church experiences have been designed to instill a sense of wonder and reverence. How do you respond to the use of architecture or religious pageantry? Does it aid you in developing deeper worship?

What helps you to have a sense of awe and wonder in worship? What does that look like in the private moments of your faith walk? What corporate worship experiences help you worship God on a deeper level?

*“We are perishing for lack of wonder,  
not for lack of wonders.”*  
~ G.K. Chesterton

*“Wonder is the basis of worship.”*  
~ Thomas Carlyle

Jesus was intensely intentional in His mission to save us. Matthew used a tiny little phrase to capture this. We find this phrase only twice in his Gospel related to Jesus. In Matthew 4:17 we see that **“From that time Jesus began to preach, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’”** This was the launch of Jesus’ earthly ministry.

The other time we find this little phrase in Matthew it marks the transition from Jesus’ ministry to His preparation for the cross. In Matthew 16:21 we read, **“From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”**

Let's follow Christ on the Path to Passover. In I Corinthians 5:7 we learn that "Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." Nothing pictures God's heart more passionately than Jesus' sacrifice on Calvary. God wrote His Word Incarnate in bold, crimson words on that rough wooden banner for all to read: "I Love You".

This Easter, don't be satisfied just to pause and remember. Instead, embrace the cross! Hold it close and let its meaning change you forever. The closing chapters of John reveal the culmination of Jesus' mission to die as the ultimate sacrifice for sin.

Read carefully the record of Jesus' readiness to suffer and die on the cross...for you...as John records it. Ponder anew His words of hope as He turns our eyes to the promised Holy Spirit and the victory of Christ's resurrection. Jesus is indeed our Passover - let us celebrate!

March 25	John 12:1-50	The Triumphal Entry Of Christ
March 26	John 13:1-38	The Loving Example Of Christ
March 27	John 14 & 15	The Life Lived Through Christ
March 28	John 16:1-33	The Comforting Presence Of Christ
March 29	John 17:1-26	The Passionate Prayer Of Christ
March 30	John 18:1-40	The Betrayal & Trial Of Christ
March 31	John 19:1-42	The Suffering & Death Of Christ
April 1	John 20:1-31	The Resurrection Of Christ