

Now Jesus, **going up to Jerusalem**, took the twelve disciples aside on the road and said to them, **“Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And, the third day He will rise again.”**

Jesus goes to Jerusalem for the purpose of suffering and death. This period of time and the sequence of events that happened are commonly called Holy Week and/or the Passion of the Christ. Jesus foretold on several occasions of His impending sufferings; subsequent death; and victorious resurrection. In Matthew 20:17 – 19, Jesus speaks of “going up to Jerusalem.” What do the following verses say in relation to Jesus and Jerusalem? Matthew 21:1, 10 and 23:37

Jesus went to Jerusalem to be:

- **BETRAYED** – to deliver to an enemy by treachery
 - Jesus was betrayed by Judas. Matthew 26:14-16; 26:47-50; 1 Corinthians 11:23
- **DELIVERED** – to take and hand over to someone else; to the chief priests and scribes; those who knew the law and who should have been His greatest defenders. Matthew 26:3, 4. Delivered to the Gentiles; Matthew 27:2
- **CONDEMNED** – to pronounce guilty. Matthew 26:66
- **MOCKED** – to treat with contempt. Matthew 26:67; 27:28 – 31
- **SCOURGED** – to inflict pain with a whip as the instrument of punishment. Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 20:19; compare Deuteronomy 25:3
- **CRUCIFIED** – to put to death by nailing the wrists/hands and feet to a cross. Matthew 27:22, 23, 35

Jesus foretold what was to be for Him because:

- As God, He knows all things. Matthew 12:40; John 2:18 – 20
- He voluntarily “laid down” His life as the sacrifice for sin. John 10:17, 18
- It had been pre-ordained. 1 Peter 1:18 – 20; Hebrews 10:4 – 7
- It had been prophesied in scripture. Psalm 22; Isaiah 53; Luke 18:31

Jesus’ ability to go to Jerusalem:

- His love and obedience to the Father. Matthew 26:39, 42; Philippians 2:8
- That scripture may be fulfilled. Matthew 26:24, 53, 54; Hebrews 10:4 – 7
- The Spirit helped Him. Hebrews 9:14
- His love for us. Matthew 20:28; John 13:1; 15:12,13
- The promise of the resurrection. Matthew 20:19; Mark 9:9, 31; 10:34

Why Jesus said to the disciples, “We are going to Jerusalem:”

- To be witnesses of His sufferings and death. Acts 1:21, 22; 2 Peter 1:16 – 18
- To record so that generations later may read and believe. John 21:25; 2 Timothy 2:2
- To show them the depth of love, mercy, humility, wickedness, deception and evil
- To prepare them for their own personal times of persecution. Matthew 16:21 – 25
- Humanly speaking: for help and support. Matthew 26:38, 40

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