

"He is nearly here!" The rumour buzzed around the marketplace. "He was in Jericho yesterday. He is coming here now." Eagerly Jared listened to the excited chatter and he knew just what he needed to do. Afterall, he had been part of the crowd who watched Jesus raise Lazarus to life. He had to see Him again. He raced home and shared the excited news with his mum. And with her blessing, and a simple packed lunch, he joined the first part of a growing crowd heading out towards the Mount of Olives, the Sunday before Passover.

As Jared got closer, he saw Him. He was standing and talking to two of the men who were always with Him. "Disciples" he had heard them called. Jared just caught the tail end of the conversation. "Go to the village across from here. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says anything, asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'His Master needs him.'"

Jared slipped in behind the two men and followed them to see what would happen. The men walked briskly ahead, into the next village. And sure enough – there was a colt tied to the railing. They undid the rope and just as they were leading the young donkey away, a man ran out of the house and angrily yelled, "What do you think you are doing with my colt?" Quietly the two men turned, looked at the owner and replied, "The Lord needs it." And with that – the owner shrugged, turned and went back inside his house. Jared was amazed.

Jared followed the huge crowd back up the Mount of Olives to where Jesus was patiently waiting. The disciples took off their thick outer robes and put them on the donkey as a saddle. Then Jesus calmly sat on it. Jared had watched the taming of a donkey a few weeks ago. It had been very exciting. He was not sure what to expect with an unridden donkey – but had not expected the young donkey to quietly walk along, especially with all the excitement and noise around him.

Outer clothes were laid on the road in front of Jesus. Jared wondered how the owners of the garments might feel if the donkey decided to lift its tail and make a mess on their clothes? People sang and then a chant began to grow amongst the crowd. It got louder and as the whole crowd joined in:

Blessed is he who comes,  
the king in God's name!  
All's well in heaven!

Glory in the high places!

Five hundred years before, Zechariah had said this would happen and here it was! Surely Jesus would throw the Romans out now. Many in the crowd had been healed by Jesus. They were so happy to shout His praises.

But some of the Pharisees in the crowd told Jesus to calm everybody down. It was disgraceful they said. Jesus smiled and told them that if the people didn't cry out – then the very stones they were walking on would instead.

As they came over the crest of the last hill and saw the magnificent temple, Jesus stopped. The crowd also stopped. Jared was close enough to see that Jesus was crying. Were they happy tears or sad tears? Everyone went quiet. Almost to Himself, Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, if only you could have made different choices. I can see into the future when the city and the people will be captured, massacred and destroyed."

Jared could not make sense of that. Even the Romans had given money to refurbish the temple. It was God's temple. It had to stand forever. What had begun as a very special, exciting day had just turned completely upside down.

What did it all mean?

Jared thought about that as the crowd dispersed and went home as the evening shadows lengthened over Jerusalem. A shadow seemed to hang over Jared's heart as well, as he thought about Jesus' last words. What did it mean for him? Would he live to see that sad day that Jesus had referred to?

# The King Comes!

## Sabbath

Have you ever been cheered on while you run in a race, or cheered someone else on?

Go Tommy! - Speedy man!  
Run the fastest that you can!



How does it feel when someone cheers you on?

Make up a cheer for someone.

## Sunday

A week before the Passover Celebration, Jesus travelled towards Jerusalem. He sent two disciples ahead saying, "Go into that village over there. You will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

So they went and found the donkey, just as Jesus said they would. The owners asked them, "Why are you untying that donkey?" The disciples replied, "The Lord needs it."

So they brought the donkey to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it for Him to ride on.

As Jesus rode the donkey, the crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road ahead of Him. They waved palm branches and shouted and sang as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen. They shouted, "Hosanna to the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace and glory in heaven!"



Some of the Pharisees said, "Teacher, tell your followers they should not be saying things like that!"

But Jesus replied, "If the people didn't cheer, the stones along the road would cheer!"

But as Jesus came closer to Jerusalem and saw the great city, whose name means 'City of Peace', He became very sad, tears filled His eyes and He said, "If only you had known on this day what would bring you peace! But now it is hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will barricade you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will level you to the ground—you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." Luke 19:42-44BSB

## Friday

Jesus called Jerusalem 'the city that killed the prophets' and as a group, the Jewish leaders at that time rejected Jesus, yet we know some individuals did believe in Jesus, and we can look forward to meeting them in Heaven.

Look up these verses to find out the names of some leaders who believed in Jesus.

Mark 15:43 \_\_\_\_\_ (1a)

John 3:1, 19:39-40 \_\_\_\_\_ (3a)

Acts 9:1-30 \_\_\_\_\_ (6a)

Today much of the world is again rejecting God, but you as an individual need to choose God's way.

Read God's promise given in Ezekiel 36:25 – and remember, since God says He will do this, all you have to do is Ask Him to do this, Believe e will and Claim your reward.

"Then **I** will sprinkle \_\_\_\_\_ (7a) water on you, and you will be \_\_\_\_\_ (7d). Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer

worship idols. And **I** will give you a new \_\_\_\_\_ (8a), and

**I** will put a new \_\_\_\_\_

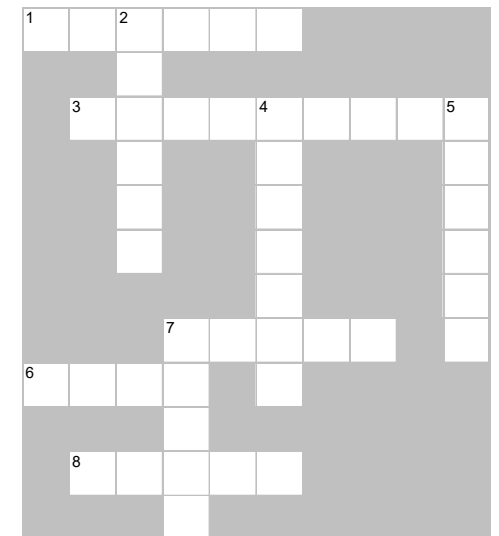
(5d) in you. **I** will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

And **I** will put **My S** \_\_\_\_\_

(2d) in you so that you will follow

**My** \_\_\_\_\_ (4d) and

be careful to obey **My** regulations."



Solve the crossword.

## Thursday

Fill in the missing words from Jesus' reply in Mark 11:22-25

"Have \_\_\_\_\_ in God. Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this \_\_\_\_\_, 'Go, throw yourself into the \_\_\_\_\_,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, \_\_\_\_\_ that you have \_\_\_\_\_ it, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, \_\_\_\_\_ them, so that your Father in heaven may \_\_\_\_\_ you your \_\_\_\_\_."

Do you remember the A.B.C of prayer?

A \_\_\_\_\_ - God wants us to do this when we need things.

B \_\_\_\_\_ - If we don't do this then God can't answer our prayers, and it is also hard for God to answer our prayers if we hold anger and unforgiveness in our heart towards others.

C \_\_\_\_\_ - this word means to reach out and grab it, or to receive it. Our actions show that we know we have what we have asked for.

We can use the A.B.C – Ask-believe-claim prayer, for anything that God has

promised, and know that He will give us what we ask for because He has promised, and God cannot lie.

Find the missing words in the grid.

L	D	F	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	I	U	V
N	E	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	L	I	R
Y	O	U	R	S	E	A	S	B	U	G	B	L
E	A	R	G	V	B	L	K	E	A	I	E	V
L	F	A	I	T	H	D	C	L	A	I	M	F
I	U	V	V	N	E	L	I	I	R	U	G	B
L	E	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	A	R	V	B
L	A	I	E	V	L	D	F	V	I	U	V	N
E	L	I	R	U	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	D

## Monday

Jesus' donkey ride into Jerusalem was predicted by the prophet Zechariah who wrote:

*Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem!*

*Look, your king is coming to you.*

*He is righteous and victorious, yet He is humble,  
riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey's colt.*

*I will remove the battle chariots from Israel and the warhorses from Jerusalem. I will destroy all the weapons used in battle, and your king will bring peace to the nations.*

*His realm will stretch from sea to sea and from the Euphrates River to the ends of the earth.*

*Because of the covenant I made with you, sealed with blood, I will free your prisoners from death in a waterless dungeon.*

*Come back to the place of safety, all you prisoners who still have hope!*

*I promise this very day that I will repay two blessings for each of your troubles.*

*Judah is my bow, and Israel is my arrow. Jerusalem is my sword, and like a warrior, I will brandish it against the Greeks. The LORD will appear above His people; His arrows will fly like lightning! The Sovereign LORD will sound the ram's horn and attack like a whirlwind from the southern desert. The LORD of Heaven's Armies will protect His people, and they will defeat their enemies by hurling great stones. They will shout in battle as though drunk with wine. They will be filled with blood like a bowl, drenched with blood like the corners of the altar.*

*On that day the LORD their God will rescue his people, just as a shepherd rescues his sheep. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown. How wonderful and beautiful they will be! The young men will thrive on abundant grain, and the young women will flourish on new wine.*

Zechariah 9:9-17NLT

That night Jesus and His disciples returned to Bethany. The following morning as they left Bethany, they passed a fig tree by the roadside. Since Jesus was hungry, He went over to look for some figs, but there were none. Then the disciples heard Jesus say to the tree, "May no one ever eat your fruit again."

The next day they again walked past the same tree and the disciples were amazed to find that the tree was dead!

When Peter exclaimed over it, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, have faith in God and you can tell a mountain to move, and it will. But there must be no doubt in your heart, and you must first forgive anyone you had a grudge against, so your Heavenly Father will forgive your sins. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for."

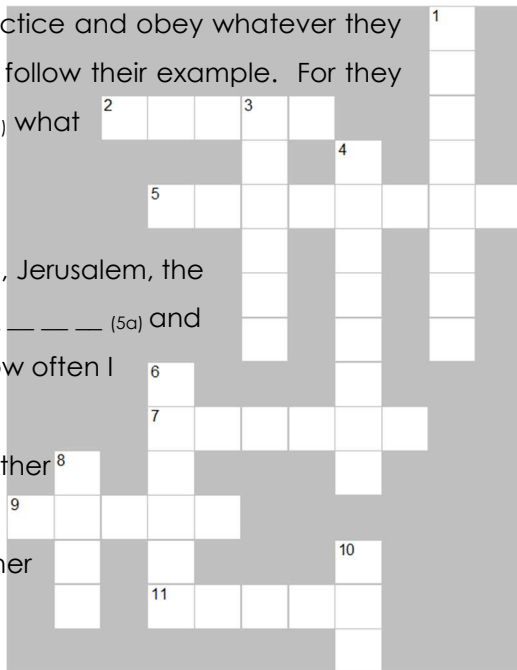
Tuesday

The word Jerusalem means 'City of Peace', and God's plan for Abraham, the Israelites, Jews and Jerusalem, had been that they would be a light, bringing God's peace to the rest of the world. But they had rejected this call. Use a NIV or NLT Bible to fill the missing words in these verses and solve the crossword.

Luke 19:42-44, "If only you had known on this day what would bring you \_\_\_\_\_ (9 across)! But now it is \_\_\_\_\_ (7a) from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will barricade you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will level you to the \_\_\_\_\_ (3d) —you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one \_\_\_\_\_ (11a) on another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." BSB

In Matthew 23:3, Jesus talked to the people about the religious leaders, saying, "Practice and obey whatever they \_\_\_\_\_ (8d) you, but don't follow their example. For they don't \_\_\_\_\_ (1d) what \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) they teach."

Matthew 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the  
city that kills the \_\_\_\_\_ (5a) and  
stones God's messengers! How often I  
have wanted to gather your  
\_\_\_\_\_ (4d) together \_\_\_\_\_  
as a \_\_\_\_\_ (10d) protects her  
\_\_\_\_\_ (6d) beneath her  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2a), but you  
wouldn't let Me."

Wednesday

This term we will be learning about the things that happened during Jesus last week before His crucifixion. The crucifixion was the most important thing Jesus would do while on earth, but the people of His day, including His own disciples, did not understand that until later.

Use the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9-16 to answer these questions.  
(Verse 9)

What would the king be riding? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

What would the people to do? \_\_\_\_\_

(Verse 10)

What would God 'bring' or 'proclaim' to the nations? \_\_\_\_\_

How far would the kingdom extend? To the \_ \_ \_ \_ of the  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(Verse 11)

What would God do to the prisoners? \_\_\_\_\_ them

(Verse 16)

What would God's people be compared to? '\_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_'

(Verse 13-15)

What would God do with them? \_\_\_\_\_

Knowing these verses, can you imagine what the people in the procession were thinking as they watched and cheered, Jesus riding into Jerusalem on the donkey?

Were they expecting Jesus to die?

