

The Living and Abiding Word of God

Palm Sunday, April 10/22

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3

Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for all flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flowers of the field. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.

1 Peter 1:23 – 25

We should settle in our minds that everything the Father and the Son say to us in and through Scripture relates, one way or another, to the person, place and purpose of Christ, to the realities of God's kingdom and to faithful following of Christ through what Bunyan called the wilderness of this world. That is what the Christian Bible is all about, and we are not to go off at tangents away from this when we read it.

J. I. Packer, *Truth and Power: The Place of Scripture in the Christian Life*

It is funny how mortals always picture us (demons) as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out of their minds, such as Scripture, prayer and contentment.

C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*

We are living in an age which has lost the art of being silent with an open Bible and waiting for God to speak.

Alan Redpath, *The Making of a Man of God*

Sermon Outline:

Introduction: Palm Sunday Blessing and Cursing (Mark 11:1 – 26)

1. Formation: Born through the Word of God (1:23 – 25)

2. Transformation: Maturing by the Word of God (2:1 – 3)

Application: How will we hear the Word of God this week?

Notes from *The Lent Experience Journal*
(Challenge #6: Bible Reading)

There are four Gospels. Each Gospel is about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Each Gospel writer puts together their account in a way that emphasizes certain things about Jesus. So while each Gospel is noticeably different in how it reads, all four Gospels share an emphasis on the final week of Jesus' life, the crucifixion, and resurrection.

This week's challenge:

HOLY WEEK READING SCHEDULE

- Monday Luke 19:28-48
- Tuesday Luke 20
- Wednesday Luke 21
- Thursday Luke 22
- Friday Luke 23
- Saturday Luke 24

Note: The Passion of Jesus (His final week) can also be read starting in these places:
Matthew 21, Mark 11, and John 12