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| **Christ Suffering for the World**  *Promise: the suffering on our behalf shows how much He loves us* Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg Deut 32:36-39; Psalm 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; John 12:20-43 (Sunday of the Passion), 4/13/25)  *“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.”* – v. 27  **Lead In –** No sooner had the crowd welcomed Jesus waving palm branches and with shouts of hosanna then we immediately read of Jesus being troubled in His soul. He knew what lies ahead this week. Early in the week the masses were willing to elevate Jesus on a throne and crown Him as King, but by week’s end they will be shouting for Him to be lifted up on the cross and crucified. Little did anyone know, including His disciples, that lifted up on the cross Jesus would bring the judgment of this world on Himself, that He would cast out the ruler of this world, and that He would draw all people to Himself. And all this would come at the cost of great suffering.   1. **The Focus in the Gospels on the Final Week**    1. A Passion narrative with an extended introduction …    2. The suffering plays out from beginning of the week… 2. **In Addition to the Physical Pain on the Cross** Everywhere He turned …    1. Christ’s prayer of anguish not granted…    2. Among His closest friends… betrayed, abandoned, denied    3. The Church, so to speak, condemns Him…    4. The State acts with expediency and rids itself of… *throws under the bus*    5. The people, the common man, recipient of…    6. The courts make a mockery of justice…    7. And on the Cross Jesus cries out “My God, my God…”   **Final Word –** Why is Jesus willing to endure all this suffering? Because He loves the world, those from every nation, tribe, people and language. Each and every person. In fact, each of you! He does not want to see us punished for our wickedness. He does not want us to perish in our sins and face eternal condemnation. He is willing to pay the price for our sins so that we might be redeemed, reclaimed, and made inheritors of His kingdom. Christ suffered and died that you might be saved.  **Lk 19:41-42** And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, 42saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.  **Mk 14:36** “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”  **Lk 22:44** And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.  **Lk 22:48** Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?”  **Mt 26:56** Then all the disciples left him and fled.  **Mt 26:74** Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed.  **Mt 26:59-61** Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, 60but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward 61and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’”  **Mt 26:65** Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy.” | **John 12:20-43 ESV**  *The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up*  20Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. 21So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” 22Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.  27“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. 28Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” 29The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” 30Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. 31Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. 32And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” 33He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. 34So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” 35So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. 36While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”  When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. 37Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, 38so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” 39Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, 40“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.” 41Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. 42Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; 43for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.  **Mk 15:11-15** But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. 12And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” 13And they cried out again, “Crucify him.” 14And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.” 15So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.  **Mk 15:34** And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”  **Is 53:11** Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.  **Is 53:5** But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. |