

Slide content for Matt 21:1-17 “Marvelous” – 4/10/22

Outline:

1) OTD

“OTD” is an acronym for On This Day –

Yesterday was April 9. On Apr 9, 77 years ago, in 1945, in the Flossenburg (Nazi) concentration camp, Dietrich Bonhoeffer died by hanging at the age of 39. The Flossenburg concentration camp was liberated just two weeks later, on Apr 23, 1945, by Allied forces.

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian, author, seminary professor, and political dissident against the Nazi regime. His books were put on the banned list. The national German church endorsed Hitler and the Nazi Party. Bonhoeffer and The Confessing Church spoke out against the Nazi Party because their allegiance was to Jesus Christ.

The German medical doctor who witnessed Bonhoeffer’s execution described it like this:

“On the morning of that day between five and six o’clock the prisoners were taken from their cells and the verdicts of the court martial read out to them. Through the half-open door in one room of the huts I saw Pastor Bonhoeffer, before taking off his prison garb, kneeling on the floor, praying fervently to his God. I was most deeply moved by the way this unusually lovable man prayed, so devout and so certain that God heard his prayer. At the place of execution, he again said a short prayer and then climbed the steps to the gallows, brave and composed. His death ensued after a few seconds. In the almost fifty years that I worked as a doctor, I have hardly ever seen a man die so entirely submissive to the will of God.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “So heaven is torn open above us humans, and the joyful message of God’s salvation in Jesus Christ rings out from heaven to earth as a cry of joy. I believe, and in believing I receive Christ; I have everything. I live before God.”

False messianic expectations, and how Jesus dealt with them:

Luke 9:20 Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered, “The Christ of God.”²¹ And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one,²² saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

John 6:14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!”¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Deut. 18:15 “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—

2) Behold, your king...

Zech. 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

3) Blessed is he who comes...

2Sam. 14:4 When the woman of Tekoa came to the king, she fell on her face to the ground and paid homage and said, “Save me (ho-sha-NAH), O king.”

Psa. 118:24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Save us, we pray, O LORD!
O LORD, we pray, give us success!
26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

4) What he came to do

Instead of a house of prayer, the temple had become a den of thieves.

Jeremiah 7:3 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. ⁴ Do not trust in these deceptive words: ‘This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.’ (treating the temple like a talisman)

And yet they were idolatrous and perpetrating injustice

Jer. 7:8 “Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. ⁹ Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, ¹⁰ and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, ‘We are delivered!’—only to go on doing all these abominations? ¹¹ Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, declares the LORD.

The church is a hospital for sinners, but not a hideout for sin.
Safe for sinners. Not safe for sin.