

## **"WHY CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM"**

### **MATTHEW 16:13-27**

**INTRO:** As we approach the **SEASON OF THE CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**, I believe it is appropriate for us to focus on the **WORK OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS** to get the THOUGHT PROCESS OF OUR MIND in gear for this tremendous season of the year. All too often we rush into and out of this season without pausing to mediate upon what the events surrounding the cross have to do with the **FORGIVENESS OF OUR SIN AND ETERNAL LIFE** due to the **REDEMPITIVE WORK OF CHRIST ON OUR BEHALF**. So today, we shall study from **MATTHEW 16:13-27 WHY CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM**. That may seem to be an insignificant statement, but without HIM GOING TO JERUSALEM, WE WOULD HAVE NO SALVATION. So, it is a **VERY SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT TO CONSIDER**.

### **FIVE GREAT DECLARATIONS IN THE PASSAGE**

1) The Declaration of WHO CHRIST IS – Vs. 16

**"THOU ARE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD"**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE:** To reveal that Jesus Christ is the **TRUE MESSIAH**.

2) The Declaration of THE FOUNDING OF THE CHURCH – VS. 18

**"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE:** To reveal the **GREAT WORK OF CHRIST** that was to come.

3) The Declaration on THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN – Vs.19

**"I WILL GIVE INTO THEE THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN"**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE:** To reveal the **AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER** under Christ.

4) The Declaration of THE PURPOSE OF JESUS CHRIST – VS. 21-23

**"HE MUST...SUFFER...BE KILLED...BE RAISED AGAIN."**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE:** To reveal **WHY CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD**

5) The Declaration of WHO IS A TRUE DISCIPLE of Christ – Vss. 24-27

**"LET HIM DENY HIMSELF"**

**THE SIGNIFICANCE:** To reveal **CHRIST'S EXPECTATION** for His Disciples

### **THE FOCUS OF THIS STUDY WILL BE ON THE FOURTH DECLARATION FOUND IN VERSES 21,22 ON WHY CHRIST NEEDED TO GO TO JERUSALEM**

#### **NOTE:**

1) This text is the **FIRST** of **FOUR TIMES** that Jesus spoke of **WHY HE WAS GOING TO GO TO JERUSALEM** in the Gospel of Matthew. 16:21; 17:22,23; 20:18,19; 20:28

2) This message was given within **SIX MONTHS** of the **CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST**.

**QUESTION:** **WHY DID CHRIST WAIT 2 ½ YEARS TO MAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT TO HIS DISCIPLES?**

**ANSWER:** Because the **DISCIPLES** were **NOT** ready until then, and **EVEN THEN**, they were not as ready as they should have been after hearing Jesus teach for 2 ½ years. (Note Peter's Response – Vs. 22)

### **WHY CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM**

#### **I. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PRESENT HIMSELF AS KING**

A. See Zechariah 9:9

B. See Matthew 21:1-11 (Specifically Vss. 4,5)

#### **II. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PERFORM THE GOSPEL**

A. Note Verse 21: **"Suffer...Be Killed...Be Raised the Third Day"**

B. Note 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

#### **III. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PERFECT THE PURPOSE OF GOD**

A. Note John 3:16

B. Note Galatians 4:4,5

C. Note Revelation 13:8

#### **IV. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PRESENT HIMSELF AS A CURSE**

- A. Note Deuteronomy 21:22,23
- B. Note Galatians 3:13

#### **V. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PORTRAY FULFILLED PROPHECY**

- A. Note Isaiah 53:3-6
- B. Note 1 Peter 2:24

#### **VI. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PROCURE OUR SALVATION**

- Romans 5:8

#### **VII. CHRIST HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM TO PREVENT SATAN'S EFFORTS**

- Hebrews 2:14

#### **LESSON/APPLICATION**

BECAUSE CHRIST WENT TO JERUSALEM, WE HAVE A PERFECT SACRIFICE FOR ALL OF OUR SIN. (Hebrews 10:10-14)

- 1) Trust Christ as Savior if you have not done so already
- 2) Rejoice in Christ your Savior so as to Honor Him
- 3) Share Christ as the Redeemer of the world to for all who need Him