

NINE DAYS TO VICTORY

1. The month of Nisan (Canaanite) or Abib (Babylonian) was the first month in the Jewish calendar. What time of the year was it according to our modern calendars? Exodus 12:2; 13:4; 23:15; 34:18; Deuteronomy 16: 1; Nehemiah 2:1; and Esther 3:7. Note what was to happen on the 10th day and the 14th day.
2. **The pre-Holy Week** events are important to understand. Read John 11: 17-44. What impact would the raising of Lazarus have on the religious and political enemies of Jesus? On the common people. John 11:45-48? How did the Sanhedrin react to the raising of Lazarus? What was the “straw” that broke the “camel’s” back? (v.53.) Where did Jesus go after this miracle and for how long? Who knew when Jesus would come to Jerusalem? John 11:54-57.
3. **8th of Nisan – Day One- Saturday** (Friday sundown to Saturday sundown) – John 12:1-11. Bethany is a few miles east of Jerusalem. Why did Judas object to Mary’s use of her perfume? What was his “position” as an apostle? How good was he in his job? What would the crowds do regarding Jesus movements when they returned to Jerusalem?
4. **9th of Nisan – Day Two – Sunday** (Saturday sundown to Sunday sundown.) Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19. What day is this called? According to Matthew 21:10, how was Jesus’ arrival received? Note where Jesus spends the night. (Mark 11:11)

5. **10th of Nisan – Day Three – Monday** (Sunday sundown to Monday sundown). Mark 11:12-18. Also note Luke 19:45-48 and Matthew 21:10-17. Why would this be a crowded day at the Temple? See Exodus 12:3: what would the people be buying and why?
6. **11th of Nisan – Day Four – Tuesday** (Monday sundown to Tuesday sundown.) Matthew 21:18-25:46; Mark 11:27-13:37; Luke 20:1-38. List the controversies in which Jesus is engaged. Who are the main characters in each controversy? What is the trap that is set for Jesus and how does He reverse the tables? What significant event takes place in Matthew 24:1? Where does Jesus spend his nights? Luke 21:37-38.
7. **12th of Nisan – Day Five – Wednesday** (Tuesday sundown to Wednesday sundown) Nothing is mentioned of this day in Scripture except for Mark 14:1; and Luke 22:1-6.
8. **13th of Nisan – Day Six – Thursday** (Wednesday sundown to Thursday sundown) Matthew 26:17-35; Mark 14:12-31; Luke 22:7-38 John 13:1-17:26 What Jewish festival did they begin to celebrate? What Christian feast began on this day? What very important teachings of Jesus does John mention? John 13:1-17:26?
9. **14th of Nisan – Day Seven – Friday** (Thursday sundown to Friday sundown.) The next 21 hours are very tiring and most significant in terms of testing and trust on Jesus' part. Matthew 26:36-27:6; Mark 14:32-15:47; Luke 22:39-23:56; John 18:1-19:42. Note the different events and people involved in Jesus'

arrest, trials, crucifixion, and burial. Compare the event in the Gospels to the prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah 53).

10. **15th of Nisan – Day Eight – Saturday** (Friday sundown to Saturday sundown.) This was the Jewish Sabbath. Scripture teaches us that the Jewish followers of Jesus rested. See how the Jewish leaders violated the Sabbath in Matthew 27:62-66.

11. **16th of Nisan – Day Nine – The Day of Resurrection – Sunday - VICTORY!** – Sunday (Saturday sundown to Sunday sundown.) Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1-23. Why do all four evangelists write about the resurrection? Who sees Jesus first on Sunday morning? Which of the surviving 11 apostles is apart from the others on the Day of Resurrection?

12. According to our LORD Jesus, what is the only sign people need to know who Jesus is and that God loves them? Read Matthew 16:1-4.

13. How important does St. Paul view the resurrection to the Christian faith? See 1 Corinthians 15.

14. What are the four blessings of Jesus' resurrection?
 - a. Romans 1:4
 - b. John 8:28
 - c. Romans 4:25
 - d. John 11:25-26

15. What are the three possibilities to explain what happened to the body of Jesus?
 - a. Did Jesus' friends have His body?
 - b. Did Jesus' enemies have His body?
 - c. What must have happened to His body?

16. The evidence for the resurrection of Jesus.
 - a. The medical evidence

 - b. The evidence of the missing body

 - c. The evidence of the appearances

 - d. The circumstances evidence

17. How reliable are the four Gospels?
 - a. The eyewitness evidence

 - b. The documental evidence

 - c. The corroborating evidence

 - d. The scientific evidence

18. The resurrection changed the lives of the apostles, many first century Jews and Gentiles, St. Paul, and Jesus' own family. Will the resurrection change you?

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!