

Jnion Baptist Church of Cincinnati 105 West Seventh Street Cincinnati, OH 45203 513) 381-3858 www.union-baptist.net Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

What Happened on HOLY MONDAY?¹

"Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and Your faithfulness to the clouds."

Psalms 36:5 KJV

Holy Monday - A People's Fruitless Faith

The nation of Israel had failed to exercise their faith in Jesus. They were professing to be fruitful/faithful (waving palm leaves as He entered their city on Palm Sunday), yet the Jewish people were fruitless in practicing their faith. Within a few days of Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, they would deny their King and crucify Him.

Jesus spent Sunday night in Bethany, the village at the foot of the Mount of Olives (Matthew 21:7). As Jesus was returning on Monday to Jerusalem, He noticed a fig tree that had produced leaves ahead of the season. Jesus knew that fig trees bear fruit twice a year -- in June and September. This was April, so even the un-ripened fruit should been there for Him to eat. Since the fig tree bore leaves, He expected to find figs, yet it was fruitless. Jesus cursed the tree and it withered the next day. The tree was fruitless as was most of the people's faith.

Holy Monday - A Temple Cleansed

Another event of Holy Monday is the Temple cleaning. John 2:13–17 bears record of Jesus' first cleansing of the Temple, presenting Himself as the Messiah. This first cleansing was for teaching and admonishing. The second cleansing occurred during Jesus' final week before His crucifixion. As part of prophesy, Jesus pronounced a symbolic judgment upon the irreverence for the Lord's house of prayer (Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11).

Having heard the commotion, the courtyard was in chaos. Yet those who had needs did not hesitate, nor did the children. First, the blind and lame came when they heard Jesus was in the Temple. As the children saw Jesus standing there and teaching, they began to shout again, "Hosanna, Hosanna, to the Son of David." There was nothing the Pharisees could do to stop Jesus as the Messiah. "Jesus replied 'Have you never read, from the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise?" (Matthew 21:14–16).

Holy Monday is the last Monday prior to <u>Easter Sunday</u>; it is the second day of Holy Week after <u>Palm Sunday</u>. **It is Monday, April 15, 2019. AMEN.**

 $^{^{1}\} https://www.allaboutjesuschrist.org/holy-monday.htm$

[&]quot;And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20