***Luke 18:31-34  Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished.****32****For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon.****33****They will scourge*Him*and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.”*** *34****But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.***

We’re back in Jericho this morning preparing to go up the Jericho-Jerusalem Way with Jesus. Last week, we saw that Jesus, a few months earlier, predicted His death – as we studied, we found that He was 100% correct. Elders, Chief Priests, and Scribes rejected Him. He was indeed betrayed into the hands of men, both by Judas, one of the twelve, and the Jews, His sheep. He named the Cross as His means of death. We placed a check by every word He spoke.

This morning, Jesus speaks again of His death. This time, He’s only a few days from Crucifixion, heading to Jerusalem to finish the work of His Father. Verse 31 says - *Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished.* Jesus takes aside the twelve, including Judas, His betrayer, darkened in heart, Satan whispering in his ear. Jesus has an appointment in Jerusalem that none of them understand. Throughout the entire Old Testament from Genesis to Malachi, the prophets wrote of Jesus - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, the giants of the Faith. The prophecies are being accomplished. Our evening services focus on these writings. If you don’t understand Jesus in the Old Testament, it isn’t because your church isn’t trying.

Verse 32 *For He will be delivered to the Gentiles -*Jesus now gives specifics. He will be delivered to the Gentiles. In Luke 23:1 *Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Him to Pilate.* The whole multitude – These were the elders, chief priests, and scribes, the Sanhedrin Jesus predicted and has now engaged. They delivered Him to Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor, the highest representative of Gentiles in the Jewish nation. He didn’t just represent gentiles. He was The Representative of The Gentiles. He was called Prefect, which confirms that he governed before 41 AD, because Rome changed the name of the governors from Prefect to Procurator in 41 AD. The Pilate Stone, found in 1961, confirms he governed 27AD to 37 AD.

V 32 continued *- and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon.* Let’s use our fast forward again. Luke 22:63, while under arrest with the Chief Priests - *Now the men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him.* Matthew 26:67 - *Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands.* Luke 22:65 *And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.* Mocked, insulted, spit upon. Check, check, check.

Verse 33*They will scourge Him and kill Him.* Recall with me that Jesus is in Jericho, 17 miles away, as He speaks these things. He knows what’s coming, yet He chose to go. Mark 15:15 says - *So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified.* Scourged – check. But, while hanging on that Cross, as He drew Himself up for each breath, literally drowning in the fluid that was gathering in His lungs, the pain of the nails, mixed with the sweat, His heart pounding as the fluid builds in the sack around His heart, Jesus utters yet another lesson – *Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”* Recall Matthew 18:18, Jesus says this - *Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.* In that moment on the Cross, Jesus loosed us on Earth that we may one day be loosed in Heaven. Then, in Luke 23:46, Jesus willingly lays down His life - *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ Having said this, He breathed His last.* Crucified to death, killed – check.

V 33 continued - *And the third day He will rise again.* But, we know the rest of the story, don’t we! Sure we do. Mary is standing at the tomb weeping, thinking someone has stolen Jesus body, she stoops down and there, inside the tomb, she sees two angels. They speak – Luke 24:6-7 *He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, 7 saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’* Risen the third day – check. Hallelujah, thank you Jesus.

Verse 34 *But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.* But, the disciples, standing there, I imagine, under a sign saying, “Jerusalem-Jericho Way”, didn’t understand. The Greek has the idea that they did not understand one single word of what Jesus said. I must admit, I have the Bible and I often struggle to understand. It’s only through the Holy Spirit that we are able to see. John 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.* We cannot receive the Holy Spirit unless we have first confessed, believed, and received Jesus.

True one, true all. One by one, Jesus said it would happen and it happened. Likewise, what He says will happen will happen. True one, true all. Those of us that have believed are on our way up. Those who haven’t, there’s still time. Answer His call today.