

Joyful in Hope – Eighteen – April 7, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
Romans 12:9

Prayers, please.

Let's begin here today. I would especially ask you to pray today for:

Phuong will have surgery on Friday to kill and remove the cancer that has infected two-thirds of her liver. This is a very delicate procedure, and Phuong will need to undergo Chemotherapy after this. She and Ron are trusting God to guide the surgeon, and to see her through this. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Tina Houser, Jamie Jankowski's mom, (Tina and Bruce are former Heritage members), is in the hospital in Lapeer with CoVid 19. She is presently on a respirator. Jamie is providing more details on her Facebook page. Please keep her in your prayers.

Emily (Brooks) Paehlig, is in self-quarantine, away from Cody and Joelle. She is hoping to get the results of her testing very soon, following exposure at work. Pray for a negative reading.

Day 3: On Tuesday, Jesus Goes to the Mount of Olives

On Tuesday morning, Jesus and his disciples returned to Jerusalem. They passed the withered fig tree on their way, and Jesus spoke to his companions about the importance of faith.

Back at the Temple, religious leaders were upset at Jesus for establishing himself as a spiritual authority. They organized an ambush with the intent to place him under arrest. But Jesus evaded their traps and pronounced harsh judgment on them, saying: *"Blind guides! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity. Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness...Snakes! Sons of vipers! How will you escape the judgment of hell?"*(Matthew 23:24-33)

Later that afternoon, Jesus left the city and went with his disciples to the Mount of Olives, which sits due east of the Temple and overlooks Jerusalem. Here Jesus gave the Olivet Discourse, an elaborate prophecy about the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the age. He speaks, as usual, in parables, using symbolic language about the end times events, including His Second Coming and the final judgment.

Scripture indicates that this Tuesday was also the day Judas Iscariot negotiated with the Sanhedrin, the rabbinical court of ancient Israel, to betray Jesus (Matthew 26:14-16).



What Was the Sanhedrin and How Did It Play a Part in Jesus' Death?

The Sanhedrin was a ruling body in Israel at the time of Jesus. What was the Sanhedrin, what powers did it have ...

After a tiring day of confrontation and warnings about the future, once again, Jesus and the disciples returned to Bethany to stay the night.

The tumultuous events of Tuesday and the Olivet Discourse are recorded in Matthew 21:23–24:51, Mark 11:20–13:37, Luke 20:1–21:36, and John 12:20–38.

- Grace and Love and Fellowship To You All -