

The Easter Story



1) Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

Great crowds were gathering in Jerusalem for the Passover festival. Excitement grew as they heard Jesus was coming to join them. Many welcomed Jesus as King, spreading their cloaks and laying palm leaves before Him as He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. They shouted 'Hosanna' (God save us!), 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord'.



5) The Cross

Jesus was stripped, flogged and mocked as a crown of twisted thorns was set on His head. He was forced to carry his own cross to a hill called Golgotha, which means 'the place of the skull'. There they nailed Him to the cross with a plaque above His head that read 'This is Jesus, The King of the Jews'. After some time, Jesus cried out 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When Jesus cried out again, He died. At that moment the curtain for the temple tore, the earth shook, rocks split and tombs broke open. When the man guarding Jesus saw this he said: 'Surely this was the Son of God'.



2) The Last Supper

The time came for the Jewish feast of Passover. After washing the disciples' feet as an example of selfless love for them, to follow Jesus ate the special meal with His friends. As they ate, Jesus told his friends that one of them would betray Him. He was right. Judas had agreed to help the leaders capture Jesus. When Judas had left, Jesus took some bread and thanked God for it. Then He broke it and said, 'Eat this, I am like the bread and I am giving myself for all of you'. Then He poured the wine, thanked God for it and said, 'Drink this wine, the wine is like my life and I offer my life for all'.



6) The Empty Tomb

A man named Joseph was given permission to take Jesus' body away. He wrapped Jesus' body in clean linen cloth and placed it in a tomb that was cut out of the rock. A big stone was rolled in front of the entrance to the tomb and it was secured by a seal and a guard. On the third day Mary Magdalene and another Mary went to the tomb to pay their respects but they saw that it was empty! Then an angel appeared to them and said 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, He has risen, just as He said He would'.



3) Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane

After supper, Jesus took His friends to a garden outside the city. He told His friends to sit down while he walked ahead alone, to speak to His Father God. He was filled with sadness because He knew He was going to die. He fell down on the floor with His face to the ground and asked God if there was any other way. But then He said, 'not my will be done, but yours be done'.



7) The Resurrected Jesus

Mary Magdalene stood outside the tomb, crying. A man asked her 'Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?'. Mary answered: 'Sir, if you have carried Jesus away, tell me where you have put Him, and I will get Him'. The man called her by name and she immediately recognised him as Jesus! Jesus then visited his closest friends and appeared to over 500 people. He stayed with them for 40 days before returning to His Father in Heaven. But before he left them, he blessed them and said, "go and tell the whole world what you have seen!"



4) Jesus' Arrest

Suddenly Judas arrived with a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Judas greeted Jesus with a kiss and they arrested Him. Jesus' friends deserted Him and fled. The crowd took Jesus to the ruler of Jerusalem, who was called Pontius Pilate. The Priests told lies about Jesus and told Pilate he must be killed. Pilate, unconvinced, turned to the crowd but they shouted, 'crucify him'.

This display, depicting the key events of the Easter Story, has been produced by different individuals and groups at Histon Baptist Church. You are invited to read the words on this board, to take time to view the seven images and to contemplate their significance to us all.