

JESUS

#JesusSpotting

WATCH
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A SERIES IN THE BOOK OF MARK

TALK 7: The Arrival of the KING

Mark 11:1-25

METAPHOR: Cleansing

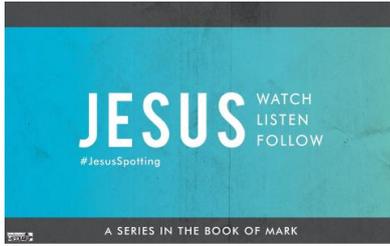
KEY VERSE: And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." – Mark 11:25

OPENING QUESTION: How do you feel about being clean? Not just clean on the outside - have you ever wondered, "HOW refreshing would it be to really have my heart and soul clean – refreshingly clean?"

BIG IDEA: The day of judgment anticipated by the old testament arrived at the cross of Jesus, where judgment falls on him and forgiveness flows over us.

KEY APPLICATION: Assurance of salvation, freedom to forgive others, our judgment day is in the past if we are trusting in Christ. These are the contents of our prayers.

INTRODUCTION: the need to be clean



Good morning, as we continue our Jesus: Watch, Listen Follow (JWLF) series in Mark's Gospel...



A pastor tells the story of waking up on a Monday morning...going to wash his hands at the tap...and what happened?



Nothing...there was no water coming out of the tap! What had gone wrong?



The builders putting up new houses at the end of his street had dug up the water mains! There was no town water! The pastor had to go to an important meeting...he hadn't had a shower ...what could he do?



[HUMOUR->] He remembered his house had tank water! So he poked a hose & carwash nozzle from the tank in through the window into the bathroom...and had a cold shower! What a way to get clean! Refreshing in more ways than one!



You know, every time the town water stops, it renews my appreciation for good plumbing and the refreshing, cleansing water it delivers! How good it is to be able to turn on a tap and wash clean....



Wash the DISHES...



...wash our HANDS...



...wash our WHOLE BODY...



How good it is to be able to step out into our world feeling “clean”...appreciating the huge effort it takes to get that clean and refreshing water to our homes. It’s refreshing to have your body washed clean...



But what about deeper matters – matters of the heart and soul? In a sense we all look on our lives and see attitudes, actions or events that are like a stain on our heart and soul. Have you ever wondered, “HOW refreshing would it be to really have my heart and soul clean – refreshingly clean?”



Charles (“Chuck”) Colson (1931-2012), was the American Republican Party wheeler and dealer who boasted that he would ‘walk over his own grandmother’ to ensure the re-election of President Richard M. Nixon. A self-described “hatchet man” for Nixon, Mr. Colson compiled his notorious “enemies list” of politicians, journalists and activists he viewed as threats to the Nixon White House. His activities eventually led to his conviction for obstruction of justice. In the midst of this crisis, Mr. Colson said he underwent a profound change in August 1973, as he came to faith in Jesus Christ. Acting against the advice of his lawyers, Mr. Colson pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice, a step that he spoke of in these terms: “...a price I had to pay to complete the shedding of my old life and to be free to live the new.” Released on parole in January 1975, after seven months in prison, Mr. Colson became a leading voice in America for the message of Jesus as found in the New Testament, and an advocate for prison reform.



Have you ever wondered if you could live that way? Facing the issues from your life that feel like a stain, but able to live facing the reality of that...having a refreshing honesty and integrity? Not pretending, yet being clean?



Charles Colson's story points us to the person we meet in Mark's Gospel – Jesus. PAUSE What is it about this Jesus that can enable you and me to face the issues from our lives that feel like a stain, yet able to live facing the reality of that...not pretending, yet being clean?

God will do a great washing of hearts and souls



Back in Mark chapter 1, we're introduced to a man who's washing people clean...on mass...in the Jordan River - John the Baptist...



...people were coming to John, admitting their hearts and souls were unclean...so they come to John to be baptised...a symbolic way of saying to God, "We need our hearts and souls washed clean by you!"

I baptize you with water, but **he will baptize** you with the Holy Spirit."

MARK 1:8

Yet, John recognises that his mass washing of people – baptism in the river – was symbolic...and that God would soon send his promised King and Rescuer to do a real washing from God: "...**he will baptize** you with the Holy Spirit," says John.



Through this one who comes after John, God will perform a real washing of hearts and souls...through Jesus...

How will Jesus do this?

As they approached **Jerusalem...**

MARK 11:1

We see the answer dramatically unfold in Mark chapter 11 (which was read to us by _____). **Mark chapter 11 is all about THREE DAYS IN THE BIG CITY...in Jerusalem...**

Here Jesus will answer the cry of our hearts and souls, "HOW refreshing would it be to really have my heart and soul clean – refreshingly clean!"