

Preparing the Way

Script - Heb. 11:1-2

A. Preparing the way

1. Whenever any dignitary comes to town there is always some planning that takes place. There are many things to consider, plans to go over schedules to coordinate and details to determine. The team from the visiting country has to coordinate with the country that is receiving that official. How many will be in the party, where will they stay, how can we make sure they are safe while they are in our care, who will be in charge of what. When you travel you have to book your flight well in advance, the hotel arrangements are made and meals are planned. If things are not planned well there could be an international incident and neither country wants that to happen. Jesus is in charge of the preparation that is going on and everything will be in order. There will be no interstellar incidents to cause distress between parties. We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ. No one will be left behind. There will be a reunion.
2. Jesus has been preparing the way for our salvation (Rev. 13:8; Job 38:4-6; Ps. 33:6, 9; Jn. 1:1-3, 10, 14; Mt. 25:34; Heb. 6:19-20; 1 Jn. 2:1-2; Heb. 4:14-16; Isa. 53:5-7).

B. Jesus Final week

1. The triumphal entry - notice his advance planning (Mt. 21:1-3).
 - a. Jesus asked his disciples to bring Him a colt because He knew what He was going to do (Zech. 9:9).
 - b. He knew he would need a colt to ride upon.
 - c. He knew where the colt would be.
 - d. He knew when to send for it.
 - e. He told the disciples what words to say so the owner would release it for him.
2. The last supper (Mk. 14:13-15; Mt. 26:29; Jn. 14:1-3).

C. What do these events have in common?

1. Jesus makes careful plans for all the events so we might have hope in our future
2. Jesus does not reveal all the details about the future to his disciples.
 - a. The triumphal entry - He doesn't tell them that it will lead to his true coronation, the crucifixion.
 - b. The 2nd coming - He doesn't tell them where he is going (Jn. 14:4-5).
 - c. How they will get there (Jn. 14:4-6).
 - d. When his return will be (Mt. 24:3).
 - e. Notice his last words to them as he ascends into heaven (Acts 1:7) where he says to them some things are not for them to know. Why? Because if they knew how long some things would be they might get discouraged. And he wanted them to trust in him and his words.

D. What can we learn?

1. God has been paving the way for us to come home for a long time (Rev. 13:8; Heb. 9:24).
2. God has a definite plan for our future (Jn. 3:16-17; Jer. 29:11-13; Jer. 1:5; Jn. 10:10).
3. There are some details that he has not chosen to reveal to us because he wants us to trust Him and his word (Acts 1:7).
4. He is willing to give us all the help we need to get safely home because he is preparing the way (Acts 1:8; Mt. 28:18-20; Heb. 12:1-2).