

YEAR 5: SPRING 2 – DID GOD INTEND JESUS TO BE CRUCIFIED AND IF SO, WAS JESUS AWARE OF THIS?

RE: QUESTION WHETHER JESUS' CRUCIFIXION WAS THE CONSEQUENCE OF EVENTS DURING HOLY WEEK

TO RECALL, UNDERSTAND, DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN

Recall/Vocabulary:	<i>Destiny</i>	<i>Incarnation of God</i>	<i>Sacrifice</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Crucifixion</i>	<i>Holy Week</i>	<i>Jerusalem</i>
	<i>Judas</i>	<i>Life after death</i>	<i>Passover</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>Garden of Gethsemane</i>		

Understand/Describe/ Explain:

Re-visit and revise learning from Year 4 Spring 2:

Key concepts: Jesus as the Son of God, born to be King of the Jews, died to save Christians of their sins, forgiveness of others

Key vocabulary: Jesus, Judas, Peter, God, King of Jews, Betrayal.

THINKING POINT:

What do you have most over in your life? Do you have a plan for your life?

Christians believe that Jesus was the **Incarnation of God** sent to the Earth to show people how to lead good lives, to die as a **sacrifice** for their sin (so they could be forgiven) and came back to life again to prove to Christians that they could also have **life after death**.

The Easter Story

Easter is a Christian celebration which occurs every year. It is normally in the months of either March/April. Christians mark this special time as they believe it is when Jesus, the Son of God, died to save the world of their sins. It is commonly thought this happened around 30 years after Jesus was born (he was believed to be around the age of 33).

Palm Sunday

'**Jerusalem** bustled. The inns and guest houses for miles around were full to bursting, and tents crowded the slopes below the city.

In the shadow of the Golden Gate, we sampled fish and fruit. Merchants sold bleating sheep and cooing doves; pilgrims exchanged their money for Tyrian coin and haggled over the price of prayer shawls and shofars. The market was so busy that it was impossible to walk without being jabbed by elbows or trampled by sandals. That's when we heard the gossip: "The King of the Jews is here! Move aside!" Gabbling and pushing, the crowd drew back. Some laid palm fronds on the dusty road. Whoever was coming, he had to be really important. Then, we saw him: a man riding on a donkey. He didn't look rich, powerful or special in any way, but all around, the crowd began to shout, "Blessed is the king! Peace in heaven!"

"Who is he?" said a voice, and answers flew from every side.

"He's a teacher!"

"Wherever he goes, he cures the sick, the deaf and the blind."

"Wherever he goes, he angers people."

"He's the Messiah – the Son of God."

"Look, he's going into the temple. Let's hear what he has to say."

Some doubted him, some were devoted to him, but everyone swept eagerly into the temple. Little did anyone know that at that very moment, a few streets away, a plot was brewing – a plot against Jesus.



While the crowd heard Jesus preach, the High Priest Caiaphas met with all the elders of the Jewish temple. They had gathered at his palace to discuss how they could arrest Jesus – arrest him and kill him.

"That young upstart! Who does he think he is?"

"He says that he's the Son of God!"

"He must be dealt with before he turns the people against us."

Caiaphas called for order. "The people are listening to this man, and soon, they will stop listening to us. I have been High Priest too long to let this commoner steal my power. If we condemn Jesus publicly, the crowd will turn on him. But first, we must find him when he is alone."

That's when a man arrived at their gathering. His name was **Judas Iscariot**, and he was one of Jesus' disciples.

"What will you give me if I agree to betray Jesus?" asked Judas. Caiaphas counted out thirty silver pieces into Judas' palm.

THINKING POINT:

Why did Jesus travel to and stay in Jerusalem if he was aware he was about to die?

Jesus teaching in the temple



Jesus and his disciples travelled from place to place teaching people about God. At the time of the special Jewish feast of **Passover** they travelled to Jerusalem to worship God and take part in special ceremonies at the temple. Mary, and some of his brothers went along too. They all looked forward to a special time in Jerusalem. They thought about the beautiful temple. They thought about how people would be worshipping God at the temple. Ever since he was a young boy Jesus had been taught by his parents that the temple of God in Jerusalem was a very important place. This was a place where people came to worship God and offer sacrifices. At the temple everyone was supposed to be thinking and talking about God.

But when they arrived at the temple it did not seem as if people were there to worship God at all. The people were not treating the temple like a special place of God. Instead, the temple looked like a big market! Animals were making loud noises. Jesus heard cattle, sheep and doves. Some people were exchanging money and trying to cheat people. The people were not thinking about God at all.

Jesus was very sad and angry at the way people were treating God and God's special place. Jesus is the son of God so the temple was his Father's house. He loved his father and he loved his father's house! Jesus knew he needed to do something very drastic so that everyone would understand how serious this was. So Jesus did something that shocked everyone. He tied cords of rope together to make a whip to swing around. Then he began swinging the rope and turning over the tables that people had put in the wrong places in the temple. He shooed the birds and animals away

and caused the money that people were cheating with to fall all over the ground. Jesus said, "Get those things out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market?"

Before this everyone was thinking about money and the market. Now, at last, people had time to stop and think about what Jesus had been teaching. It was time to love and respect God at his temple just like Jesus did. By the time Jesus left many people were talking about him. Some had learned to love God more because of what Jesus said. Some got angry and began to say bad things about Jesus.



THINKING POINT:

Did Jesus spend time in the temple teaching because it was part of God's plan or because the people asked him to? Did Jesus get angry in the temple because he was afraid of what was about to happen or because he was angry with the traders for conning people?

Maundy Thursday

Soon afterwards, Jesus sat with his followers in a house in the city as they ate their Passover meal. He shared bread and wine with the disciples, saying, "This bread is my body and this wine is my blood." Then, he looked around at the twelve men who travelled with him wherever he went and said, "Soon, you will all leave me."

Shocked, the **disciples** insisted that it wasn't so. None was surer than **Peter**.

"My Lord, I never would!"

"Peter," said Jesus kindly, "you will deny me three times before the rooster crows for morning." As Peter sat speechless, Jesus continued. "What's more, one person here will be my betrayer. This is the last supper that I will share with you, for tomorrow I will die."

The disciples fell silent. Then, Jesus said, "But after that, I shall rise and go north, to Galilee. Meet me there." Just imagine the looks on the disciples' faces then!



'After supper, Jesus went to the **Garden of Gethsemane** to pray. That night, the air of Jerusalem hung still and heavy with the scent of almond blossom. The olive trees stood guard like gnarled sentinels. Though he had seemed calm at supper, Jesus was troubled. "Please, watch over me," he told his companions as he knelt to pray. Some say he prayed so earnestly that an angel appeared to him and blessed him with strength for the trials ahead. He prayed so feverishly that sweat poured down his face. He prayed for so long that when he returned to his disciples, they were sleeping. "Wake up!" he commanded. But at that moment, the darkness of evening was dispersed by golden light, which flooded into the garden and bounded from tree to tree.'

Priests and soldiers crowded into the garden, waving torches and clubs. As Jesus turned to face the light, Judas stepped forwards from among them and greeted him with a kiss on the cheek. This was the signal that the soldiers had been waiting for. With a roar, they surged forward, seized Jesus and marched him from the garden. As Jesus was led away, the disciples fled into the darkness.'

THINKING POINT:

Did Judas betray Jesus as part of God's plan or because he was jealous and wanted the bribe?

Good Friday

The Roman governor at the time's name was Pontius Pilate and that morning, he brought Jesus and another prisoner before the crowd. The priests had accused him of blasphemy; the governor did not like the people calling him 'King'. Neither the priests nor Pilate had found enough evidence of Jesus' wrongdoings to sentence him to death, so Pilate had decided to let the people decide his fate. "Since it is Passover, you may choose one prisoner to go free," Pilate announced. "The first is Barabbas: a rebel and a murderer. The other is Jesus, whom you call 'King of the Jews'."

At that, the crowd near the steps began to chant: "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Jesus' face didn't change. He wasn't shocked or angry; it was as if he had expected this. Pilate asked the crowd, "What crime is he guilty of?" Undeterred, the crowd chanted louder and louder. At last, Pilate shrugged. "Fine. Barabbas will be freed and Jesus will be crucified. I wash my hands of this."

On Pilate's orders, Jesus was marched away and dragged into the palace. We heard Jesus' cries as they beat him. Soon, the soldiers began to laugh. "Hail, King of the Jews!" they mocked. "Hail! Hail!"

When they pushed Jesus outside, we saw what the soldiers had done. He was dressed in a richly-coloured robe, like a king. On his head rested a crown of thorns. The soldiers spat at him, struck him and stripped him of his kingly robe, but the crown remained, its cruel thorns digging into Jesus' flesh.

So, Jesus was led to Golgotha – 'the Place of the Skull'. Some say that he carried his own cross, and others say that the soldiers made a man called Simon of Cyrene carry it most of the way.

Jesus was one of three to be crucified that day. Everyone watched as the soldiers offered him bitter wine and as he refused it. Everyone held their breath as the soldiers divided up Jesus' clothes.

Then, the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross by his hands and feet, and hoisted him aloft.

Above him hung a sign: This is Jesus, King of the Jews.

At noon, the sky turned black. At three, Jesus cried out with a sound that seemed to shatter the sky. The earth shook. Quaking, the centurion who guarded Jesus cried out, "Surely, he was the Son of God!"

A rich man named Joseph of Arimathea asked the governor for Jesus' body. With Pilate's permission, he wrapped Jesus in linen cloth and carried him away. Joseph had a tomb close by, hewn from rock. He placed Jesus inside. Nearby stood the women who followed Jesus; among them was Mary Magdalene, who had travelled with Jesus through Galilee ever since Jesus had healed her. The women watched sombrely as Joseph's servant rolled a huge stone across the entrance of the tomb. Jesus had been betrayed and denied, and now he lay in a tomb.

THINKING POINT:

Why did Jesus let these things happen to him if he was God's son?

EXIT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS:**EXS:**

- What do you have most control over in your life?
- Do you have a plan for your life?
- What do we already know about Jesus?
- Was Jesus aware of God's plan?

GDS:

- When would you expect to have complete control over your own life?
- What do we think was the plan for Jesus' life?
- What evidence is there to show he was/wasn't aware during Holy Week?
- Can you think of any other evidence from what we know about Jesus that would show his life was planned by God?