

**Week beginning Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

*Prepared by Ken Sykes*

**Mark Chapter 11** - The triumphal procession of Messiah King. The crowds cheered a political Messiah on a donkey!?! but He went to the temple... What a pity they didn't know the OT! The fig tree: pretending to be fruitful like Israel. Do we disappoint Jesus? Did Jesus really mean v24? Faith produces fruit.

Jesus enters through the East Gate – The Golden Gate. This gate is covered and locked as the Jews wait for the coming of their Messiah (Ez 44:1-3)

**Chapter 12** –

The religious leaders hear a good sermon – and walk away from it v12. Now there's a lesson! We have God's image stamped on us, to whom do we belong? Gen 1:26; Rom 8:29; 1 Cor 15:49 God's Word, God's Power – do we know both or neither? Would He ever say to us, "You are quite wrong"? Relationships marked by love – Upward and outward, the heart of living.

13 trumpet shaped metal receptacles – what a clang at offering time! 2 copper coins wouldn't make much impression – but God noticed her giving all she had. Be encouraged.

**Chapter 13** -

Don't be deceived... '**they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory**' to restore order to the chaos of the world. It might be our privilege! v27 be ready and pray for others What does, 'Keep watch' 'stay awake' mean to you personally? And what is our assigned task v34?

**Chapter 14** -

Compare and contrast two people whose stories are told. Givers and grabbers. Jesus took, blessed, broke and gave 'My body'. 'Given for you'. Can we do less? 'The road to hell is paved with good intentions' Thank God right now that He restores us like Peter. 'Nevertheless not my will but yours be done.' Disciples follow in the steps of their Master. v 49 cf Is 53:7-12 yet everyone deserted and fled... how sad. What would we have done? Why do Christians deny Jesus, reject their faith, drift away? (NB Heb 6:4ff)

**Chapter 15** -

Jesus died in Barabbas's place and he went free. Jesus died in our place – what are we freed from and to? Jesus didn't respond to all the mockery with his power. Take time to thank him for His love for you. Heb 10:19,20. As we come to the end of Mark's gospel let us determine to make the most of the access to the throne of God opened to us when the curtain was torn in two.

Dear Reader, Would you mind letting me know if you are finding these notes helpful. Thanks. Ken