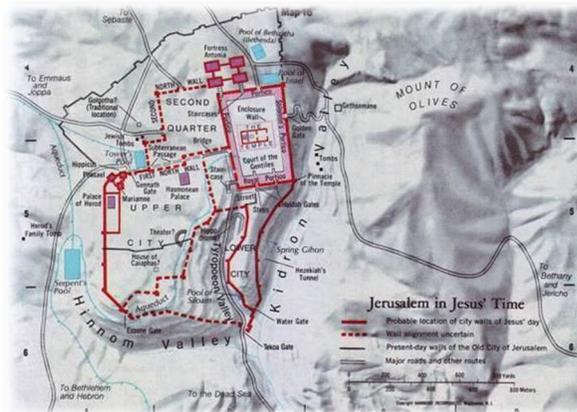


2019 EXPERIENCE ISRAEL TOUR

Study Guide for 11a-d: Jesus' Final Week (Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha & Garden Tomb)



Historical background and Bible Application: Beyond the eastern wall of Jerusalem lies the **Mount of Olives**, a mountain range running north and south. The Kidron Valley lies between the Old City walls and the Mount of Olives. Here's a map to provide some perspective.

Jesus descended the Mount of Olives, humble and riding on a donkey ([Zechariah 9:9](#)). On the day of Jesus' Triumphal Entry, the Kidron Valley was filled with thousands of people who had heard about or experienced His miracles. They were waving palm branches and crying out "Hosanna to the Son of David" ("Messiah save us"). ([Matthew 21:1-11](#)). The prophet Daniel told us the exact day this would take place. A study of [Daniel 9:24-26](#) indicates the Messiah would come exactly 173,880 days after the decree given to Artaxerxes in 445 BC to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Learn more about that calculation here: [Prophetic Accuracy Proven in Daniel 9](#).

The Jews were expecting a conquering king and had hopes that Jesus would save them from oppressive Roman rule. Instead, Jesus came as a humble servant. While looking over the city from the Mount of Olives, Jesus wept over Jerusalem. He wept because his own people did not recognize Him as their Messiah, and He knew the wrath that would one day pour out on the city by the Romans in 70 AD ([Luke 19:41-44](#)). Looking up from the base of the Mount of Olives you can see *Dominus Flevit*, a teardrop-shaped chapel commemorating the time of Jesus' grief over Jerusalem.



At the base of the Mount of Olives is The Church of all Nations, also called Church of the Agony. This church is located at the traditional site of the **Garden of Gethsemane** where Jesus went with his disciples to pray, but his disciples fell asleep. Jesus prayed and sweat drops of blood as he wrestled with fate that was approaching Him on the cross. Jesus was betrayed by Judas in that very garden, resulting in Jesus' arrest. He was taken to Caiaphas' house and illegally put on trial. Peter followed at a distance but close enough to see Jesus. People began to recognize Peter as one who was with Jesus, and there in the

courtyard Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, drawing notice from Jesus Himself. Read this account in [Luke 22:54-65](#). That night Jesus was imprisoned in a dungeon, likely in Caiaphas' house. The dungeon would have been pitch black, with a hole in the roof through which Jesus was likely dropped. This is believed to be a picture of that hole...

This was just the beginning. After Jesus was betrayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, He was put on trial a total of six times (3 religious, 3 civil) over the next few hours...all illegal trials. Dig deeper and read more about these trials: [Jesus on Trial](#) and [Jesus Before Pilate and Herod](#).



As if the rejection, arrest and trials were not enough, the road to the cross was a brutal one. Roman soldiers severely mocked and tortured Jesus in a charade called The King's Game. [Matthew 27:27-31](#) and [Mark 15:16-20](#) describe the scene in the Praetorium, where those soldiers dressed Jesus in purple and thrust a crown of thorns on His head, while insulting Him with "Hail, King of the Jews!" Those passages go on to describe the beating and spitting they did, as well as mockingly bowing before Him. Dig deeper and read more from Kym's blog: [A Week that Changed History: Jesus' Journey to the Cross](#). She gives some historical background to what this scene would have been like for Jesus. We know that Jesus was handed over to a Roman legion to



be crucified. He was taken outside the city gates to a place called **Golgotha**, the Place of the Skull. The crucifixion took place on a major trade route, where Jesus was hung naked on a cross, at the foot of that hill, easily accessible for the jeers and degradation by passersby. Take some time to read one of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' crucifixion ([Matthew 27:33-66](#), [Mark 15:22-47](#), [Luke 23:33-56](#), [John 19:16-42](#)). Dig deeper and read more about Golgotha from Kym's blog: [To Golgotha – Part 1](#) and [To Golgotha - Part 2](#).

Garden Tomb – Jesus died for us and was buried in a borrowed tomb of a wealthy man named Joseph of Arimathea. That tomb was in a garden. Though the garden was likely a bit different then, here it is today. There are two conflicting sites recognized by different groups of Christians as the site of Jesus' death and burial. The "traditional" site, believed by Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholics and others, lies beneath the Church of the Holy Sepulcher inside today's walls of the Old City. Evangelical Christians tend to view a location further north as the spot of Golgotha and the Garden Tomb. Dig deeper as Kym introduces a 9-point test in determining where the Cross of Calvary was planted. She covers the first four points in her blog, [To Golgotha – Part 1](#), and she covers the last four points in [To Golgotha - Part 2](#). Point five is covered in the [Garden Tomb](#).



This is believed to be the actual Garden Tomb.

Thanksgiving and Praise: Rejoice! He is not here...He has risen! Read [Mark 16:1-6](#) and then check out Kym's Blog: [He is Risen!](#)

Keep looking for blessings!