

Welcome to 10.30am service at St Mark's

Third Sunday in Lent



STAY
FOCUSED ON
GOD

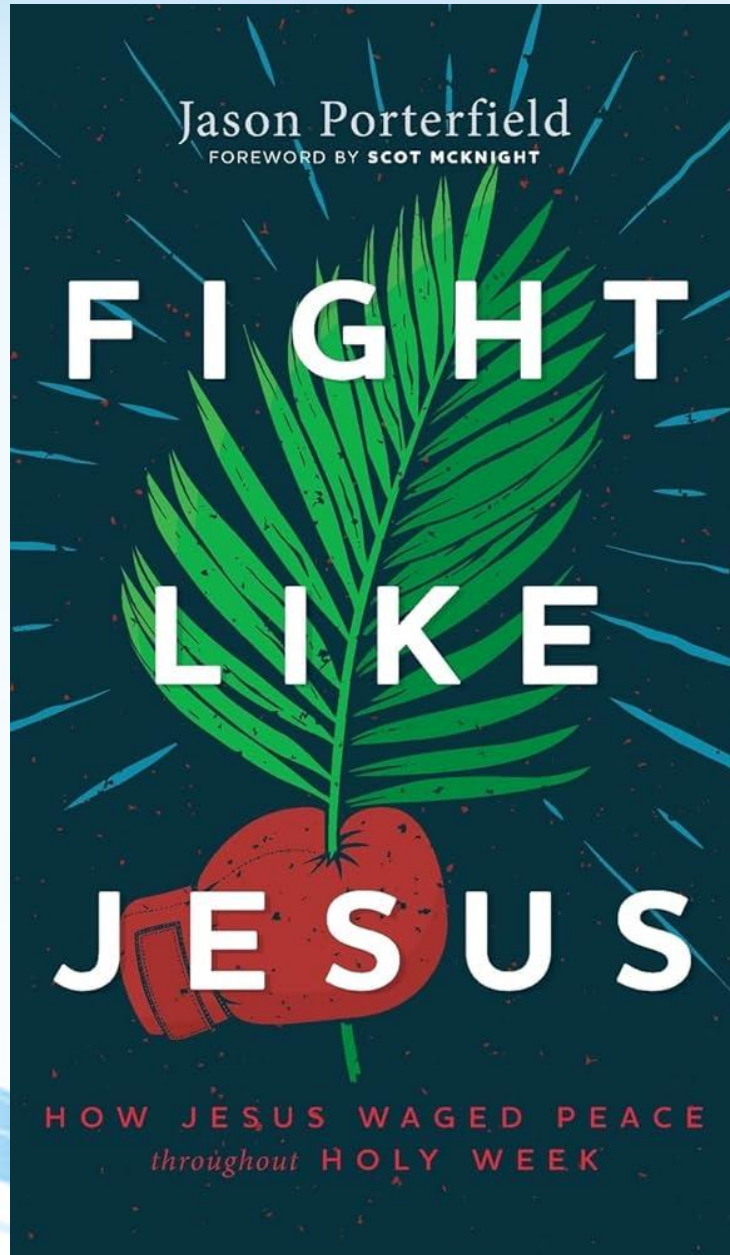
Sermon

Matthew 23:13-32

‘Sailing’



Holy Tuesday



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Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

13 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You **shut the door** of the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, **nor will you let** those enter who are trying to. [14]



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

15 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You **travel** over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much **a child of hell** as you are.



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

16 “Woe to you, blind guides!

You say, ‘If anyone **swears by the temple**,

it means nothing; but anyone who

swears by the gold of the temple is bound

by that oath.’ ...



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

17 You blind fools! **Which is greater**: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? 18 You also say, 'If anyone **swears by the altar**, it means nothing; but anyone who **swears by the gift on the altar** is bound by that oath.' 19 You blind men! **Which is greater**: the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred? ...



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

20 Therefore, anyone who swears by the altar swears **by it and by everything on it.**

21 And anyone who swears by the temple swears **by it and by the one who dwells in it.**

22 And anyone who swears by heaven swears **by God's throne and by the one who sits on it.**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

23 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You give a tenth of your **spices**—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—**justice, mercy** and **faithfulness**. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. 24 You blind guides! **You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

25 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You **clean the outside** of the cup and dish, **but inside** they are full of greed and self-indulgence. 26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. ...



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

27 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You are like **whitewashed tombs**, which look **beautiful on the outside** but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and **everything unclean**. 28 In the same way, on **the outside** you appear to people as righteous but on **the inside** you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

29 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!

You **build tombs** for the prophets and **decorate** the graves of the righteous. 30

And you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ ...



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

31 So you testify against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. 32 Go ahead, then, and **complete what your ancestors started!**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

BUT

What was Jesus' *intention*?

What was he trying to *accomplish*?



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

What if ...?

Sadness not rage?

Warning not judgment?

Sorrow not anger?

Restoration not punishment?



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

What if ...?

Exclamation of grief?

Sorrowful warnings aimed at correcting the damaging effects of misguided and immoral leadership?

Parent pleading with children to turn from their destructive ways?



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

ouai: **woe!**

alas!

signifies emotional heartache



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

“Alexander Souter adds an important clarification in his lexicon on the Greek New Testament. The word, he writes, “expresses **rather a statement than a wish** or imprecation.” That is to say, Jesus wasn’t willing their destruction. Nor was he reveling in an opportunity to curse them. Rather, Jesus was **warning** the scribes and Pharisees of the state they were in.” (p 80)



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:37 (NIV)

37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a **hen gathers her chicks** under her wings, and you were not willing.”



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12):

- Kingdom of God belongs to the poor in spirit.

Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-32):

- Denying the poor entry in God's kingdom.



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12):

- **The pure in heart will see God.**

Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-32):

- **Religious leaders blinded by hypocrisy.**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12):

- **Peacemakers are children of God.**

Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-32):

- **Pharisees producing converts that act like children of hell.**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12):

- **Blessing for those persecuted for righteousness.**

Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-32):

- **Religious leaders about to persecute and kill the Righteous One.**



Holy Tuesday

Matthew 23:13-32 (NIV)

Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12):

Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-32)

- Both spoken in love.
- Both seeking to move people in the same direction.



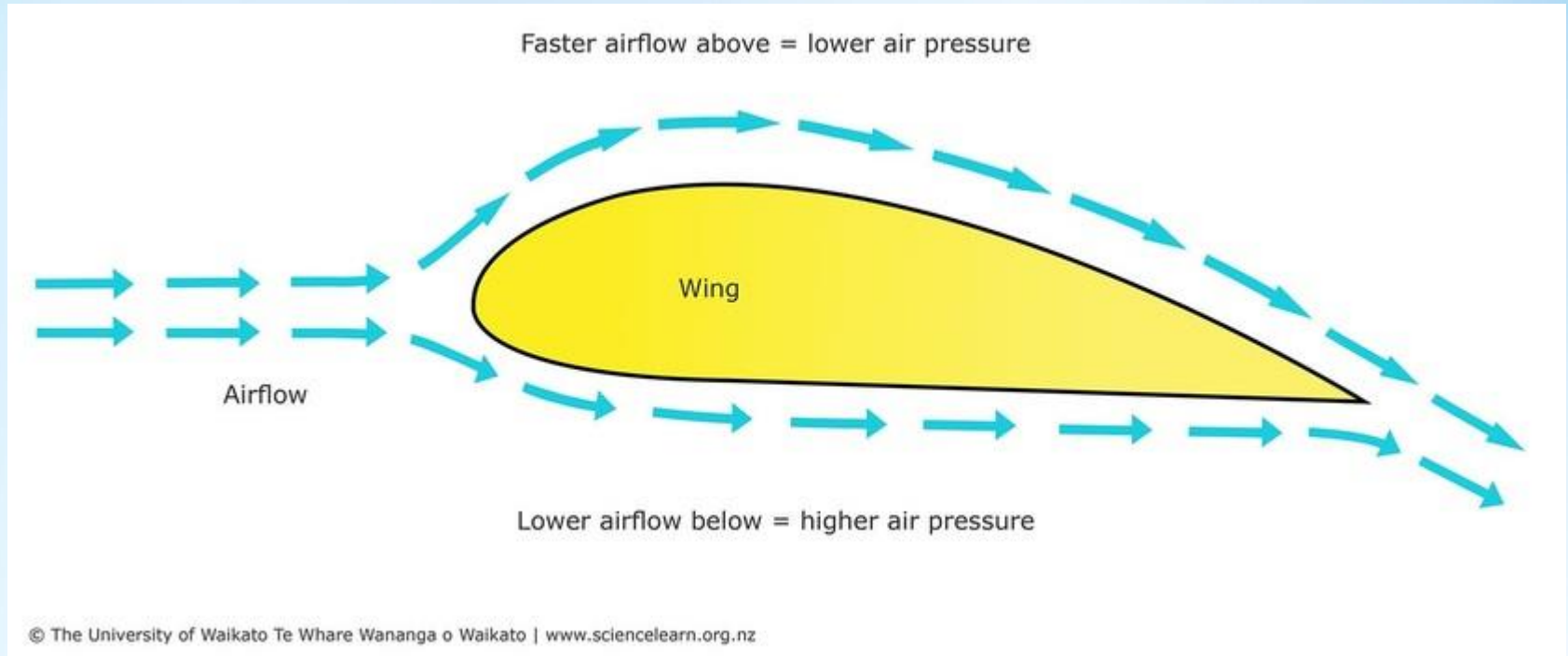
Holy Tuesday



Holy Tuesday



Holy Tuesday



Holy Tuesday

Mark 15:43 (NIV)

43 Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.



Holy Tuesday

John 19:38-39 (NIV)

39 (Joseph of Arimathea) was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds.



Sermon



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GOD