

SERMON NOTES:



29th March, 2026

Lent Part 6
Humble, Lowly, Afflicted

Pastor Mick Spann

1. The Journey Leads to Palm Sunday

- Lent has been a season of:
 - Slowing down
 - Letting go
 - Making space for God
- Now we arrive at Palm Sunday — the beginning of Passion Week
- Matthew 21:1–5 — Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey

2. Two Kingdoms on Display

- Pilate enters with:
 - Power
 - Soldiers
 - Control
- Jesus enters with:
 - Humility
 - Peace
 - Surrender

Zechariah 9:9 — The King comes lowly (humble)

Jesus shows us a completely different kind of power

3. The Way of Jesus

- Philippians 2:6–8 Jesus humbled Himself
- Became obedient to death
- Even death on a cross

4. The Crowd's Expectation vs Reality

- They shouted “Hosanna!” “save” “help!” (Psalm 118:25)
- Waved palm branches (like they did during the Maccabean revolt) (1 Maccabees 13:51)
 - Expecting political rescue and military victory

But Jesus came to bring: Eternal redemption and transformation of hearts

5. The Warning for Us

We are not Jesus in the story... We are the crowd

- We welcome Jesus
- But often we want Him on our terms

The real question: Will we follow Jesus as He truly is?

The Invitation for this Holy Week

1. Walk with Jesus toward the cross

- Reflect through Scripture (Gospels)
- Engage deeply with Jesus journey to the cross through scripture (or other creative reflections, music, prayers based upon scripture)

2. Rethink Power by Praying for Leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

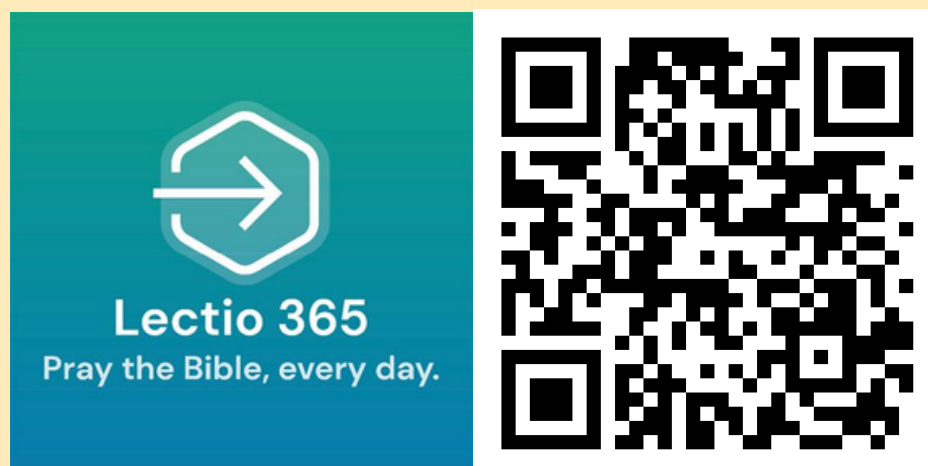
- Pray for leaders to have:
 - Humility
 - Servant hearts
 - Wisdom that is: Peaceable, Just and Compassionate
- Remembering that true power comes from surrendering ones self to God

3. Remember who's in charge

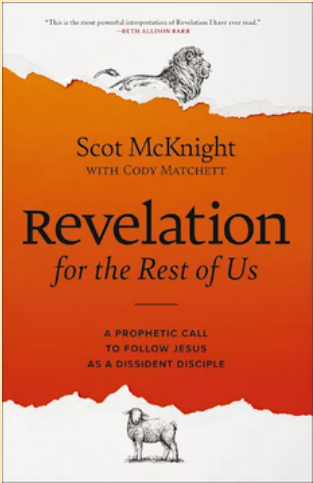
- Consider what areas Jesus is calling you to let go of control, choose humility, serve and love sacrificially

This series has been based upon resources lovingly provided by Lectio 365 and the 24-7 Prayer Movement. The companion study guide on the next page is designed for small groups to consider each weekly theme more personally.

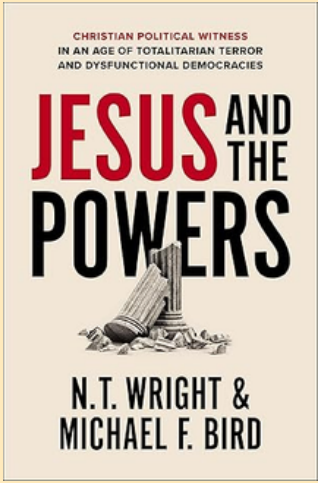
The Lectio 365 App provides daily guided prayers, in the style of meditative lectio divina. Over the next 40 days, the App will focus specifically upon these themes of Lent.



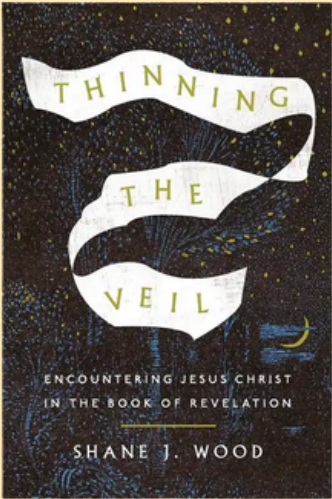
Books and studies mentioned during the sermon that have been helpful in Mick’s preperation towards this message:



Revelation for the Rest of Us



Jesus and the Powers



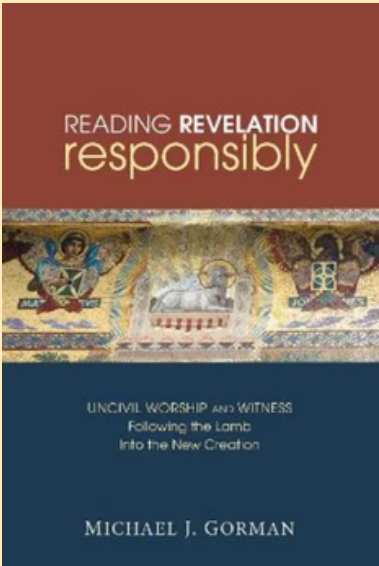
Thinning the Veil



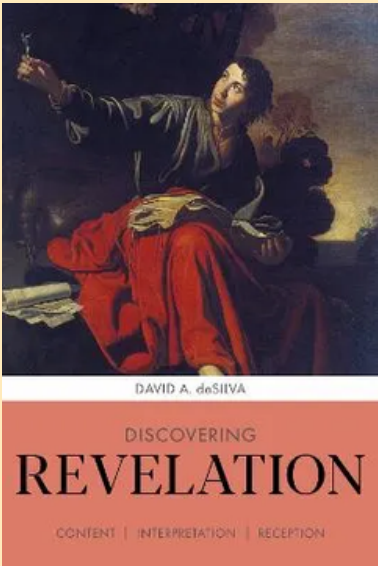
Dragons in the Bible (STUDY GUIDE)



Books mentioned during the sermon that are on Mick’s “TO READ” list:



Reading Revelation Responsibly



Discovering Revelation





Week 6

(The fifth week after Ash Wednesday)

Choosing the Way of Humility

The Desert as a Place Without Pretence

Icebreaker Question

Who in your life would you consider to be the most successful person you know? Why?

Watch



lectio365.com/desertresources

Week 6 – Moses the Strong

Read



Matthew 20:28

Philippians 2:5–11

Romans 12:10

Discuss

1. In the video, Pete recounted Moses the Strong's transformation when he encountered the peaceful and prayerful lives of the monks who offered him hospitality in a time of great need. Share about a time when your life was deeply impacted by someone of faith.
2. How do you recognise true humility? Can you give some practical examples you have seen or experienced?
3. An article produced by Psychology Today claims that narcissism is demonstrably on the rise in our contemporary climate.³ Just as the Desert Fathers and Mothers journeyed to the wilderness in protest at the moral failings of their day, what might it look like to swim against the tide of our culture's obsession with self, and embrace genuine, Christ-centred humility? Practically, how

³ <https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/the-human-beast/202402/why-narcissism-is-rising>