25 Collateral Lessons of Holy Week

This season we observe one complete, enormous truth: Jesus sacrificed His life for us. As the Bride of Christ observes the practice of Lent and Holy Week, we find other collateral truths hidden in the text that carry us throughout our lives. Here are 25 truths we can celebrate and remember through the coming days.

1. Our enemies are often tools for God's ultimate providence. Just as the Romans and Pharisees ultimately brought forth glory, the enemies we face God can be used to shape our story.
2. Jesus is faithful to act on our behalf even when we run away in fear.
3. The Old Testament prophecies are as mysterious as they are miraculous.
4. Jesus showed us how to rely on scripture in times of deepest adversity.
5. Often women remain at the foot of the cross as men hide.
6. The Jewish Passover was (and is today) a lesson about the mission of the Messiah.
7. Jesus entered into the suffering of our world and showed us how to overcome it.
8. We don't have to understand Jesus to be a follower. *"They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying." John 16:18*
9. On the day of atonement, the High Priest laid his hand on a scapegoat, sprinkled with blood, after washing his hands, the scapegoat is taken outside of the walls of Jerusalem to die. The priests and Roman government laid their hands upon Jesus, sprinkled in blood and after washing their hands, Jesus is taken outside the walls of

Jerusalem to die.

10. Everything good thing that dies on a Friday eventually leads to a Sunday. *(Leviticus 16)*
11. Evil plots are often fuel for the providence of God. *"So from that day on they plotted to take his life." John 11:53*
12. Love is being brave enough to watch their beloved die.
13. We we feel forsaken, we can shout to God. *(Psalm 22:1)*
14. Jesus stands before the Governor of Judea and says, "I was born for this." *(John 18:37)* Blessed be the one who rises above the pain to apprehend His purpose.
15. Hand your tombs to God and they will soon be empty.
16. Jesus was interceding for us over 2000 years before we were born.
17. When you hear a whisper deep in your soul saying, "The Lord has need of it," *(Luke 19:31)* Act immediately or you may be left out of the glorious story.
18. The severed ear of Malchus reminds us that Jesus doesn't need anything- no time, no technique, no tools, to restore the severed parts of your life. He just does it. It's simply what He does. And often He does it before you even ask. *(Luke 22:51)*
19. As Jesus knitted the life of his mother to John, He is also concerned that you have the relationships you need in your darkest hours. *(John 19:26)*
20. You don't have to respond to the words of your critics or those that question you. *(Matthew 26:63)*
21. God turned the most profane and ugly symbol of death (the cross) into the most universal icon the world has ever known.
22. When it comes to your sin, the score has already been settled. *It is finished.*
23. If you choose to waste your treasures, waste them at the feet of Jesus.
24. *But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" John 19:15*—Be careful when you call for anyone's head, it might be the head of your Savior.

25. We are still so fixated with garments that we don’t even realize the glory. *(John 19:24)*

I’d love to hear what Jesus is teaching you.

May God continue to pour out his mercy and grace upon us all.