

The Adopted Life

Palm Sunday ~ 04.17.2011

Why The Passion of The Christ Matters

As we go into this Holy Week of memory and celebration we want to be sure that we understand what is going on when we tell the story of The Passion of The Christ. We are not simply rehearsing some tragic events that took place in ancient times. We are telling the story of how the Father who loves us sent his Son to destroy death and sin and set us free. We tell this story because it includes us and everyone we know and love. If the story of Jesus' suffering and death does not include humanity and the whole creation then there is no point in telling it. If it is only the story of Jesus and not also my story why should I care? If it is only the story of me and Jesus, but not the story of my wife, children, friends, and neighbors, then what good is it to me to be saved while everyone I love is lost?

Tim calls us to this truth in his article and St. Methodius called his listeners to this truth in his sermon: that when Christ suffered and died, everyone suffered and died with him and in him (2 Cor. 5:14.) And having died in Christ, we now live in his life and resurrection. That's why his Passion matters and why we celebrate this Holy Week.

~ Jonathan Stepp