

# MARCH TO EASTER

## *"March Madness"*

Luke 9:51-62 (Pew Bible Page 734)

March madness is:

- a) A reaction to Charleston's weather
- b) NCAA synchronized frenzy affecting millions of basketball fans
- c) A description of Jesus' decision

*"And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be taken up, he steadfastly set his face to Jerusalem."* Luke 9:51

### IT SEEMED LIKE MADNESS BECAUSE...

1. Before time began, Jesus knew **HIS DESTINY**  
*"...all whose names were not written down in the Book of Life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world."* Revelation 13:8

*"...the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect, he was chosen before the creation of the world."* 1 Peter 1:19-20

2. He knew what was **AT STAKE**  
*"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."* Luke 19:10

*"For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* Mark 10:45

*"He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things...and he must be killed and after three days rise again."* Mark 8:31

Yet, He still....steadfastly set his face toward Jerusalem.

### WHAT MOTIVATES SUCH SEEMING MADNESS?

*"Who for the Joy set before him endured the cross"*  
Hebrews 12:2

1. The **POWER** of the vision  
*"This is my son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."* Matthew 3:17

*"...and became obedient to death, death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted him..."*  
Philippians 2:8f

*"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done..."* Matthew 6:10

2. The **PRICE** of the vision

*"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him."* Acts 2:22-24

*"You were bought with a price"*

1 Corinthians 6:20

3. The **IMPACT** of the vision

*"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

Philippians 2:10-11

*"He said to me, 'You are my son, today I have become your father. Ask of me and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.'" Psalm 2:8*

## **MARCH MADNESS CONTINUES TODAY: FOLLOW ME**

*"He steadfastly set his face toward Jerusalem"*

Luke 9:51

Jesus went to Jerusalem-The Cross

1. In our **PLACE**
2. As our **PATTERN**  
"Follow Me"