

Sermon Outline - Palm Sunday - 2020.04.05

Title: Who Is This?

Text: Matthew 21:1-11

Theme: Jesus is our Lord, our Messiah, and our King, only begotten-Son of the Father, promised in the Old Testament to rescue His people and join them to His Father.

I. Welcome

A. Word to regulars

B. Word to visitors

C. Prayer

II. Palm Sunday on the Christian Calendar - Described in all four Gospels

III. Matthew 21:1-11

1As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’” (Zech 9:9)

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (21:9 Psalm 118:25,26)

“Hosanna (21:9 A Hebrew expression meaning “Save!” which became an exclamation of praise; also in verse 15 in the highest heaven!”)

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

- A. Trying to find something new in repetitive teachings: Christmas, Easter, Palm Sunday.
- B. We're going to look into "What's going on here.?"
- C. Most important, we'll discuss the question people then asked: Who is this?
 - 1. Opinions throughout the New Testament
 - 2. Jesus asks his disciples in Mark 8:27, Matthew 16:15, Luke 9:20. "Who do people say I am?" "What about you?"
- C. Jesus asks the disciples to hide His identity, then accepts praise of people on the first Palm Sunday.
- D. The four groups present in the crowd according to John 12.
 - 1. The disciples who didn't understand. V16
 - 2. The eye witnesses to Jesus' raising Lazarus. V17
 - 3. Those heard 2nd hand about Lazarus' raising. V18
 - 4. The pharisees. V19
- E. The other prominent guest: the donkey.

IV. The prophecy of Zechariah, written 500 years before Christ.

- A. 2 commands to rejoice. Zechariah 2:10-11 and Zechariah 9:9

- 1. Zechariah 2:10-11

"Shout and be glad, Daughter Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you," declares the Lord. 11 "Many nations will be joined with the Lord in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you."

- a. The Speaker is the Lord who declares He is coming.
 - b. The Two Lords in Zechariah and often mentioned in the Old Testament.

- 2. V. Zechariah 9:9

"Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will take away the chariots from

Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.”

- B. Proclaiming peace
- C. The difference between a war horse and a donkey
- D. The humble and “lowly” king. — Matthew 20: 25-28

25 Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave — 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

- E. Study by Stefan Steiger, *Frontiers in Psychology*, on the impact of social media on personal satisfaction.
- F. When we compare ourselves to others, we are either dissatisfied with our own lives or we self-justify because we’re “not that bad.”
- G. Jesus’ turns all that thinking upside-down, “The first will be last and the last will be first.”

VI. The Triumphal Entry

- A. Jesus makes his travel plans. Matthew 21: 1-9

1 ‘As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’” 5 ‘6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Psalm 118) “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ‘

- B. The Sunday before the Passover feast, traditionally the day families selected the lamb they would sacrifice.
- C. Jesus' triumphal entry is different that those of conquering kings.
- D. Jesus enters Jerusalem and accepts the praise of the people knowing He will be put to death.
- E. Hosanna, save us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (Psalm 118:26-27)

ESV 26'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord . 27The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!'

- F. The blessed one comes and will be received by His people, then bound, and made into a human sacrifice on the "horns of the altar."
- G. The God we worship is the one who rides on his way to an execution.

VII. Application

- A. What is important to you? Getting to the top, self-justifying by comparing yourself to others? Do you see how envy and self-justification only lead to further dissatisfaction and anger? Give up self-justification and pushing to the front of the line. Look to King Jesus, His kingdom runs on mercy, not pride.
- B. Who are you in the story of Jesus' triumphal entry? Are you one who praises? Are you one who sneers, "who does he think he is?" Or are you one who asks, honest, "Who is this?" Only two ways to respond to Jesus, shouts of praise or demands of crucifixion.
- C. Do you see who Jesus claims to be? If His claim is true, what does that mean for you?