

Theme: The people of God should rejoice for the King who is so (Un)Expected in His manner of coming, His life, and His ministry has come - and has offered salvation to us.

## I. Intro - The (Un)Expected King

- A. We have looked at an unexpected text for Advent!
- B. It was recognized as a Messianic text - it was quoted during Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem.
- C. It has helped us see why even though the Messiah had been expected for centuries, His actual coming was so unexpected that it was missed by most - then and now.
- D. Tonight we will finish and look at how we should respond as the people of God.

## II. The (Un)Expected King

- A. Jesus was (Un)Expected in His humility  
Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, **gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.** Zechariah 9:9
  - 1. Gentleness and humility were to mark the Messiah
  - 2. We celebrate that He came in total humility - born in obscurity to a poor couple in an inconsequential village
  - 3. He was born in a manger rather than a palace
  - 4. This humility marked His whole life and ministry
- B. Jesus was (Un)Expected His salvation  
Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and **having salvation**, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9

- a. Most expected and desired a King who saved them from external enemies by crushing the wicked
  - b. Jesus came to save us from ourselves and the internal enemy of sin by dying in our place  
She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because **he will save his people from their sins.**" Matthew 1:21
  - c. Yet we missed this because it was not what we expected
- C. Jesus was (Un)Expected His righteousness  
Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, **righteous** and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9
- 1. Jesus certainly lived and ministered in righteousness
  - 2. But He offered that righteousness to those who would recognize and confess their own unrighteousness
  - 3. You say Good, He helps those who help themselves, but I found God helps the helpless and leaves all the rest to help themselves!
  - 4. So unexpected!

## III. Responding To the (Un)Expected King

- A. Respond by embracing the King as He is
  - 1. Many rejected Jesus because He was not the King they expected.
  - 2. Many today do the same thing - He is not what we want or expect so we judge and reject Him.
  - 3. He may not be the King we expect - but He is the King we need!

4. Receive the Gentle, Humble, Saving, Righteous King - and find life, salvation, and joy!

B. Respond with joy and worship

**Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!** See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9

1. The prophet tells us how to respond to the coming of the King!
2. We are to rejoice, to shout - for our King has come!
3. We are to be filled with joy that overflows into worship - for our King has come and we are saved!
4. As the people of God, we should be filled with joy and worship because:
  - a. God fulfilled all of His promises to send Jesus - He is always faithful!
  - b. Our King is near to us - He humbled Himself to take our flesh to show there are no lengths to which He will not go to be with us and to save us! Our King is Emmanuel - God with us!
  - c. Jesus has come and worked salvation for us - Our Creator Judge is our Redeeming King!
  - d. Even when we do not understand what is happening around us and it all seems unexpected, we can have faith, hope, and joy - for this is how God worked in sending Jesus!
  - e. Our King still works in unexpected ways in our lives and in the world, and He will return and complete His work in a time and manner we do not expect.

5. As we remember Jesus' first Advent, and as we wait for His final Advent - rejoice! Our God reigns, He is faithful, He will fulfill all of His promises to us, and we will dwell with Him forever in unending joy!

## IV. Christmas Eve Candle Lighting

A. Traditional candle lighting and Silent night

1. Traditions like this can be nostalgic - and that is fine
2. But we need to do it in joyful worship for our King
3. Receive the light and pass it on!
4. Sing and worship with joy!

B. Candles/Silent night/O Come All Ye Faithful Chorus

### Rejoice - The (Un)Expected King Has Come!

Zechariah 9:9

December 24, 2022

Candle Lighting/Silent Night/O Come All Ye Faithful

Romans 15:13

Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas; joy; worship

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. The King has come and we are saved! Go forth full of joy for you are blessed - and be a blessing! Romans 15:13

**Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9**