

Title: The King is coming

Text: John 12:12-16

Take your Bibles, please, and open them to the Gospel of John chapter 12. The gospel of John chapter 12 where we learn that the King is Coming. *Today is Palm Sunday and since the choir will be presenting the Easter Cantata on Palm Sunday, I though it would be nice to study the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, today.*

Now, the excitement, of course, was caused by the resurrection of Lazarus. Jesus had just raised Lazarus from the dead. And Vs 45 of chapter 11 says that “many of the Jews, who had come to Mary and beheld what Jesus had done, believed in Him. But, some of them went away and told the Pharisees all that Jesus had done.”

Following the resurrection of Lazarus, Jesus spent the rest of the day in the home of Mary and Martha. And the Bible says that on the next day, Jesus entered Jerusalem.

John chapter 12 beginning at Vs 12. There are notes in your bulletin, and I would encourage you to ^{use} ~~see~~ them as we study ~~god's~~ Word together. *Shall We stand for The reading of God's Word.*

(John chapter 12:12-16)

(Prayer)

(1D) Now, let's begin by looking at some of the events as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

(1E) First of all, why is this day so important? What is the significance of this particular Sunday?

Well, According to vs 12, “on the next day the great multitude who had come to the feast (that is referring to the Passover Feast) when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem took the branches of the palm trees.”

Now, dear friends, why is this Sunday so particularly important? Most people believe that the triumphal entry of Christ occurred sometime on Sunday morning. Which is very important because this is the day that the lambs were selected out off the flocks for preparation for the sacrifice for the FEAST OF PASSOVER.

Think of that... On this Sunday the Jewish Priests all over the city of Jersuelem were selecting out of the flocks those lambs that would be sacrifice for Passover.

And I thought, what a beautiful type. The very day that the lambs were selected out-off the flocks, a lamb without blemish, a lamb without spot....is the day that ~~Christ~~^{Jesus} entered into Jersualem.

And as it were in a great symbolic act the lamb was chosen for sacrific. And my friends, Jesus was the lamb without blemish and without spot. I Peter 1:18-19 remains us that we were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Jesus Christ."

And so ~~Christ~~^{Jesus} enters into Jeruaslem on Sunday, the day of selection. And the events of many of the Gospels, including the crusing of the fig tree, the cleansing of the Temple, the sermon on the mount, all of that is going to happen on Monday and Tuesday. And then on ~~Thursday~~^{Wednesday}, we have the events of the Last Supper, the washing of the disciples feet, the jouney to the garden of Gethsemane, the betrayal of Judas, the trial before Pilot. And then on ~~Friday~~ Jesus is put on the cross. And around 3:00 in the afternoon Jesus dies...Jesus dies on the day of preparation as hundreds of lambs throughout Jersam are being sacrificed. It is all so wonderful and amazing in typology as *Jesus fulfilled to the smallest detail of the sacrificial*

So, in terms of importance. Sunday is the morning the lambs were selected out-off the flocks in preparation for passover. And as they were selecting those lamb, Jesus, the lamb of God, entered Jerusalem... *Did you get it*
God-

(2E) The second event that I want you to notice is the character of their priase. The character of their praise. We would have to say that they are recognizing something that they soon will not appreciate. Because the same crowd that throws the palm branches is the crowd that puts Jesus on the ^{cross} ~~carross~~. How easily changable is the mob. A mob of people who were excited about what had happened to Lazarus in being resurrected from the dead, but in just a few days that same mob would cry out ...CRUCIFY HIM.... CRUCIFY HIM.....How fickled people are.....

I would like you to notice some things here concerning the character of their praise. In Vs 13 we read that ^{the} ~~the~~ people ^{met} ~~met~~ Jesus and cried: "Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord." A couple of things, here.

(1F) First, they recognized his position as the King of Israel. And that is quite a statement. They were agreeing that Jesus was the Messiah, the chosen one of the O.T.

By the way, the little act of taking branches of Palm trees, I find really significant. Because according to Lev. 23:40, Palm branches were used at the great FEAST OF TABRACLES. Which looks forward to the fact of when the kingdom will be set up on earth for Israel. When they will have a permanent dwelling place on earth. The great King will come and will set up the Kingdom.

How significant, then, that they would throw the palm branches in His way. Palm branches which were always used at the FEAST OF TABRACLES. And even though this is the FEAST OF PASSOVER, they were recognizing, ~~again~~, His position. They were saying that Jesus was the King of Israel. The one who is to come. The Messiah, himself.

The question that might be in your minds; Why then did they reject Jesus just a few days later?

The answer: In the N.T., the Jews in the day of Jesus, just as surely as the Jews, today, did not understand that the O.T. predicted that the Messiah must suffer and die. They wanted a King who would deliver them from the bondage of Roman domination. And they did not understand that the Saviour must suffer and die for the penalty of sin.

And neither did the disciples. In spite of the fact that Jesus had told them that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer and die. They still ran away and forsook him in His hour of great need.

But, here, on Palm Sunday..the day of selection..they recognized his position as King of Israel.

(2F) Secondly, they recognized that Jesus is the one who is coming in the name of the Lord.

That last phrases of Vs 13 is referring, really, to His second coming. But, you can understand the mood of the times. And why there was so much excitement, now, about Jesus. The O.T. predicted that the Messiah would heal the lame, heal the blind, and raise the dead. And here Jesus has raised the dead. So, they were ready to proclaim Him as King. And to set up the Kingdom of Israel... *on earth*

But, that was not the purpose of Jesus in His first coming. Luke chapter 19 verse 10 says the the son of man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.

In Matthew chapter 16, shortly before He went to the cross, in Vs 21, Jesus reminds His disciples that He had to go to Jersuaalem to suffer and to die.

Remember It is really quite a teaching. Even on this same occasion with all of this excitement, yet, Jesus will take a moment out of His schedule and talk with some Greeks concerning his death.

And the point is that Jesus came into the world to die on the cross for your sins and for mine. And that is a very difficult principle for someone to understand, especially, if they are looking for the King and the earthly kingdom.

(3E) Third, the immidiate ~~cause~~ or reason for their praise and attention that they gave Jesus is expressed in Vs 17 and 18. "The people that were with Him when He raised Lazarus from the dead were bearing witness and for this cause the people met him. For they heard that He had performed a miracle."

That was the immidiate ~~cause~~ *OK. There are the events that I would you to see* reason for all this excitement and the Palm branches and the shouting of Hosanna.

(2D) Now, secondly, I would like you to notice a prophecy that is being fulfilled. *First,* we ~~looked at some of the events as Jesus entered Jersuaalem.~~ Now, ~~secondly,~~ in Vs 14-16 the Bible teaches that there ~~was~~ *was* a tremendous prophecy ~~being fulfilled~~ *was* by Jesus in the way He entered into Jersuaalem.

(1E) The prophecy includes two O.T. references. (1E) First, would you turn to Genesis chapter 49. ^{Please} You ~~might~~ remember that Gen. 49 is the prophecy of the 12 tribes of Israel. Jacob is pronouncing the prophecies of the whole history of the nation upon his 12 sons. And to Judah, which he mentions in Vs 8, Judah, the fourth son of Leah, to Judah was given the line of the Messiah. The Messiah was to come through the line of Judah.

In Vs 10 we read, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet."

Now, ^{Friends} that is ^{very} important expression. It is referring to the children that are coming. The ruler's staff shall never depart from between his feet "until Shiloh comes."

Now, what does that phrase ~~"until Shiloh Comes"~~, ^{little word 'shiloh' mean?} what does that mean? Well, in Hebrew ^{The Word Shiloh} ~~that~~ is not a poplar name as is indicated in most of our translations. It is not the name of a place. Like ^{UKiah} is the name of a ^{Place} ~~town~~. It is not a proper name.

In Hebrew the word "Shiloh" means "he whose it is, will come." And the point is that the ~~scepture~~, the one who has the sceptre is the one who is going to come. ^{Vs 10} "And to him shall be the obedience of the peoples." So, this is referring to the Messiah.

Now, look at Vs 11...."He ties his foal to the vine, and his donkey's colt to the choice vine; he washes his garments in wine, And his robes in the blood of grapes."

This is very vivid and poetic language. And ^{clearly} ~~really~~ it is referring to the prophecy as it is being fulfilled in John chapter 12.

For example: "The vine", we know from the Word of God is the basic symbol for the ^{Messiahic Line} nation of Israel. He will tie his foal to the vine. But his donkey's colt to the choice vine. The "choice vine" of Israel would refer to the Messiah. And that is what is being fulfilled as the Son of Judah, the prophecy Jacob made about Judah is being fulfilled in John chapter 12.

The vine is the messianic line. The "choice vine" is the particular one....the messiah....Jesus, himself.

And the text says, “his donkey’s colt to the choice vine.”

Now, come back to John chapter 12, and look at that again. According to Vs 14, it says: “And Jesus, finding a young donkey sat on it, as it is written, ‘fear not, daughter of Zion, behold, your king comes sitting on a donkey’s colt.’” And that is just what the prophecy said would happen in Gen . Chapter 49. Fantastic.

Dear friends, here would be a definite connection in the minds of the people of one who was in the line of Judah.

(2E) Secondly, we have another interesting prophecy in Zechariah 9:9. Would you turn there, please. Zechariah chapter 9 verse 9. This passage is also being fulfilled in John chapter 12.

Zechariah 9:9 says: (Read Vs 9)

You know, dear friends, I think it is wonderful to realize that the name “Jesus” means “Salvation.” “Behold, your king is come to you; He is just and endowed with Salvation.” Jesus came into the world to bring us salvation. He came to seek and to save that which is lost.

O.K. let’s come back to John chapter 12, *please*

(2) Secondly, concerning this prophecy, notice that the Bible teaches in John 12:16 that the disciples didn’t really understand what was going on. At the time, they didn’t understand. But, following the resurrection of Jesus, they did remember all these things.

I find that very interesting. It is also a good principle to remember. For Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit will bring to our remembrance all things. And we read in John 12:16, “these things His disciples did not understand at the first.” In other words, they didn’t put the prophecies together. “But when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.”

And the principle that excited me about this verse is that when they did remember these things they understood that He was fulfilling prophecy. At the time, they didn't understand. But, after Jesus was glorified they remember it and they remembered that they had done these things unto him. And what joy must have come into their hearts when they recalled that they had been part of the fulfillment of prophecy. How wonderful are the ways of God. For God is in absolute control. And it is a thrill to realize that tremendous truth.

My dear friends, you may not understand all things about Jesus. There may be much that you do not understand. But, if you will give your heart and life to Christ, you will, like these disciples, have your eyes opened. And you will understand. I hope you will make that decision, today.

The triumphal entry speaks to the coming of Jesus –then and now.

The song writer says:

Hosanna in the highest! That ancient song we sing.
For Christ is our redeemer, The Lord of heaven, our king.
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice.
And in the blissful presence eternally rejoice

Shall We Close In Prayer