

Series: Mark (Palm Sunday)

Title: The Triumphal Entry
Text: Mark 11:1-11

Take your Bibles, please, and turn to the Gospel of Mark. The Gospel of Mark chapter 11. Today, we want to look at the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The crowd shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Mark chapter 11 beginning with vs. 1. Would you please stand for the reading of God's Word.

(Read Mark 11:1-11)

(Prayer)

I would like you to notice the responds of various groups of people to the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. I believe in these responses we see something concerning what it means to submit to the will of God. Jesus said in Hebrews chapter 10: "Low, I come to do thy will, O God!" He said in the garden, "Not my will, but thine be done." So, the way that Jesus entered into Jerusalem becomes an example of submission to the will of God.

(1B) First of all, let's look at some background material. The situation surrounding his entrance into Jerusalem. It all began with a meal. A meal that happened the night before Jesus came into Jerusalem.

Now, the meal, according to Mark 14, where Mark tells us ^{about} ~~about~~ it at a later time. Mark tells us that this meal took place in the home of Simon the leper. This probable refers to a man healed by Christ. And this man gives a supper in honor of Larzaus, according to John 12. Larzarus had been raised from the dead by Jesus. And he lived in the town of Betheny.

Martha was serving there. Mary was there and Jesus was there. And ~~there~~ there were other friends there. It was quite a party. It was held on Saturday night after sun down.

The reason Jesus did not go into Jerselem on Saturday was because Betheny was two miles away from Jerselem's Eastern gate. That is longer than a Sabbath day's journey. Jesus could not do that. He would ^{not} violate O.T. law. And he never did. He fulfilled the law in every sense. ~~He never violated one part of it.~~ The Lord Jesus, therefore, could not walk into Jerselem. He would have violated the laws of the Sabbath.

So, after the Sabbath on Saturday night a supper was held in honor of Jesus. Lazarus was there, Mary and Martha and many friends.

The very next day, Sunday, he leaves Betheny for Jerselem. I believe he arrived in Jersuelm sometime in the afternoon. We do know this from Mark 11:11 that He looked around in the Temple area for a little while and then he returned to Betheny because it was late. ~~So, He~~ would have to walk ~~at~~ those two miles back. So, he allowed himself ~~at~~ at least an hour in order to return before sundown.

So, he probable entered Jersuelm in the afternoon. Now, Jerselem is filled with people. ^{The feast of Passover was taking place} ~~The time, the place, all of these things are very~~ important. The feast of passover is one of three feast which every Jewish male 20 years old and above must attend.

Jesuselem normally runs about 250 thousand to 300 hundred thousand people at the time of our Lord. At feast time, estimates go as high as 2 million people. ~~There were~~ The place is literally wall to wall people. Great growds. And Jesus comes into these great crowds.

Another thing I would like you to notice. ~~Not only about the place and time but~~ about that place it was really at Bethpage where he found a cold

Matthew tells us about this account. This little village [redacted] where Jesus sent the disciples to get the colt was Bethpage. Bethpage is on the road from Bethany to Jerselem. It is on a little hill over looking the Kidron valley facing the Eastern wall of Jerselem. So, it was into this little village that Jesus sent his disciple to find a colt that would carry him into Jerselem.

2B) ^{Remember} Now, ~~the~~ ^{response} ~~respons~~ of the people, to me, is very fasinating. And I want you to see this ~~in~~ in different groups of peole,

(1C) First of all, take your Bibles and turn to John chapter 12. The crowds that were immidiately around Jesus, in front of him, and behind him, as he rode on that colt into Jersuelm are not the same crowds that are in Jesuselem. And I want to clearfy that. A lot of people are confussed on that. These people, I believe, were basically believers. It was beleivers who were praising God. It was believers who were in that Triumphal march to Jerselem. Not unbelievers. And I think the Bible is very clear.

John chapter 12, please, notice verse 17 and 18..."And so the multitude who were with Him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb, and raised him from the dead, were bearing Him witness."

They were there. They saw it. ^{K13} "For this cause also the multitude went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign."

Now, the crowds that were around Jesus were there primarily because of the Miracle of [redacted] raising Lazarus from the dead. ~~Every body had heard about it.~~

Now, look back, please, at Verses 9 to 11. ^{John 12}(Read Vs 9-11) The evidence of the resurrection of Lazarus seemed to be the event that turned many of the people towards Christ. He is the Messiah. And the Messiah would raise the dead. This is living proof.

So, the crowds around Jesus are believers. And primarily because of the resurrection of Lazarus.

(2C) Now, there is a second group of people, The chief priest. Notice, John 12 verse 10. It says "But the chief priests took counsel that they might put Lazarus to death also:"

The little word "also" reminds us that they had already taken council to put Jesus to death.

Now, what a contrast. Here are some people praising God and really believing in him. But the religious leaders have rejected Christ as the Messiah. Not only that, but they are now attempting to put Lazarus to death because he is the thing that is turning the crowd towards Jesus.

There unbelief is tremendous in what it led them to do.

(30) Now, there is a third group of people; The Pharisees . The Phariess were very strick religious leaders. They knew the law well. But they had not accepted the fact that Jesus was the Messiah. [There were many self-proclaimed Messiah's of that day. And so the Pharieass were always questionir him. They knew that he had authority. ~~But~~ They did recognize him as a Rabbi. They felt he was an outstanding teacher. But to recognize Him as Messiah...

NO WAY.... ~~Look at Vs 19 of John 12...~~ "The Pharisees, therefore, said to one another, 'You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him.' You see, these Pharisees as they saw this crowd of people around ~~Christ~~ ^{Jesus} and shouting praises to him, concluded: "Hay, we are not doing any good at all. The people believe him to be the Messiah."

Now, turn over to Luke chapter 19. Luke chapter 19 verse 39...

^{Now} Some of the Pharisees, according to the Bible, were in that mulitude who were shouting ~~praises~~ praises to Jesus as he entered Jerselem.

^{In Luke 19} Vs 39 says "And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to Him, 'Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.'"

They didn't mind a man going around having a group of people following him. That was very common. Rabbi's often did that. They would travel around the land. People would follow them. And they would teach the people. It was very common. They recognized that Jesus was a Rabbi. "Teacher, or Rabbi, rebuke your disciples." Because what they are saying now is that you are the Messiah. We have had enough trouble with this.

Jesus said in Vs 40.. "I Tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out!" *That was the Pharisees*

(4c) A fourth group deals with the ^{people in the} city of Jerselem. ~~And I would like you to notice two passages.~~ ^{a TURN TO} ~~First~~ in Matthew chapter 21. I believe the city of Jerselem was a different kind of crowd then the one that was coming with Jesus into Jerselem. In fact, most Bible teachers believe that that ~~growd~~ crowd around Jesus ^{as He} ~~that~~ ^{with} entered the City really came from Galilee. They were there for the Feast. They went to Bethany where they heard he was. And now they are coming into Jerselem with Jesus.

Most of Jesus' friends were from Galilee. Not Judea and Jerselem. One passage in the Gospels tells us that Jesus couldnot walk ^{freely} in Judea because there was such an effort to kill him.

^{over} In Matthew 21:10 (notice what it says about the city of Jerusalem. "When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was ~~stirred~~, saying, WHO IS THIS?

I mean, What is going on? The city of Jerusalem sees this crowd coming. Thousands of people who had come for the Feast of Passover. And ~~they~~ ^{They} see this great crowd coming towards them singing praises. [We know that on the Day of Pentecost there were 3000 people who believed on the Lord. And this was in the Temple area. Thousands of people heard the gospel in that Temple area. The Temple area was like a large market place. And all these people were there. And they hear the noise of praise and singing. "What is going on"....Who is this man coming into the City riding on a donkey?"

~~So we have the crowd in Jerusalem who didn't know Jesus~~
~~in your Bible. In Luke chapter 19, again. And I want you to~~
~~see how Jesus reacted to this crowd, Luke 19 verse 41. I think this is one~~
~~of the most beautiful passages in the Bible. The Lord Jesus on that donkey.~~
~~The crowds praising him. He coming up the hill to the eastern gate of the~~
~~city. And notice what he does. Vs 41 "And when he approached, He saw the~~
~~city and wept over it."....(Read Vs 42-44).....~~

~~The Lord was visiting those people. And they did not recognize him.~~

I see in all of this a tremendous parallel ^{to} ~~for~~ today...

~~That crowd around Jesus reminds me of Christians. Praising the Lord...~~
~~Not as many as those in the city of Jerusalem. But they are the ~~one~~ Praising~~
~~God.~~

(50) There is also the matter of the disciples, themselves. Turn back to John chapter 12 and notice some interesting facts about them. ~~Now~~ / These guys had been with Christ for about 3½ years, now. And they have heard what He said and taught. And he warned them that he was going to Jerusalem to die. On one occasion ~~that~~ ^{over} they tried to stop Him ~~from~~ ^{from} going. ~~And Jesus knew that.~~
But He knew that He was coming to Jerusalem under divine plan to die. But these disciples are confused.

In John 12:16 it says this: "These things ~~these~~ ^{His} disciples did not ~~understand~~ understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified (meaning resurrected), then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to him."

Now, I get a kick out of that verse. I don't know ~~about~~ you. But little things like this are sort of funny.

And I can just picture this whole ~~sence~~ ^{sence} in my mind. These disciples ~~are~~ ^{are} fulfilling prophecy and they don't know it. But after the resurrection of Jesus from the dead it starts to dawn on them....

"OH! ~~guess what we did?!.....~~

You know, they didn't know it at the time....Jesus tells them to go get a donkey...."Hay, why are we doing this?" "Does Jesus have a big load to take ~~to~~ ^{to} Jerusalem?"...."I don't see anything, did you?"....

And then to bring that donkey back and the Lord gets on it. Can you imagine what they would be saying?.....

"Hay, Peter, what in the world is Jesus doing?"....John, would you tell him that we can get him a horse.....James, do something".....

Then after the resurrection...the big insight....."OH! Hay, Guys, guess what? We were fulfilling prophecy....Fantastic_...

The prophecy is found in Zechariah chapter 9...(Read Zech 9:9)

Can you ~~imagine~~ ^{imagine} this? These disciples did not understand what they were doing. And ^{yet} everything they were doing, friends, all along the way is fulfilling the Word of God. I think that is great. ~~fulfilling the Word of God~~

Do you know what this teaches me? It teaches me that God is in control.

He is in control even though you don't know what is going on. But Jesus knows what He is doing... *and it teaches me what I need to trust Jesus - He knows what happens in my life*

(3 B) Now, turn in your Bibles to Luke chapter 19, once again. And I want you to see how Jesus reacted to this crowd....Luke 19 verse 41...

I think this is one of the most beautiful passages in the Bible. The Lord Jesus on that donkey. The crowds praising Him. He is coming up the hill to the Eastern gate of the city. And notice what He does. ~~He weeps over Jerusalem~~

Vs 41....(Read Vs 41-44)

^{God} The Lord was visiting those people. And they did not recognize Him. *and Jesus wept*

I see in all of this a tremendous parallel for us today....That crowd around Jesus reminds me of Christians.....Praising the Lord....Not as many as those in the city of Jerusalem. But they are there..Praising God...And crying out...^{HOSANNA!} Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David; Hosanna in the highest!/'

And I see the religious leaders. *Pharisees, chief priests* We have them today. Those who turn people away from Jesus. Those false leaders who water down the gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet, the Bible says that the common people heard him gladly...

And I see the crowd, the great unbelieving crowd in Jerusalem. And that crowd is with us today asking the same question, they ask in the days of Jesus. "WHO IN THE WORLD IS HE? AND WHY DO YOU FOLLOW HIM?"

And Jesus, I believe, still wepts over those who have the opportunity for repentence and salvation. Yet, they do not recognize that the time of their salvation is now. And like *that crowd in Jerusalem* ~~in the triumphal entry~~, they turn from Him.

Many of you have heard of Christ. Oh, friends, do not be like the crowds in Jerusalem. The Lord Jesus would look at ~~every~~ every heart that rejects Him. And I believe He still wepts like he wept over Jerusalem.

One passage in the Gospel ^{says}, "Oh, Jerusalem, Oh, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered you like a hen gathers her young."

Then there is that great passage in Romans where the Lord Jesus stands with open arms and he says "All day long I have wanted you to come to me."

Oh, friends, the Lord Jesus loves you. And He stands with open arms waiting for you to come to him.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come into him, and will dine with him, and he with me."

This triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is a beautiful example of God's love for you. Jesus came into a city that in just a few days would put Him on the cross. But he comes because he loves you. He comes to die on a caross because ~~he~~ he desires that non should perish. But that all would have ~~life~~ life through his name. *Triumphal Entry*

I wonder how you will react to the Triumphal entry of Jesus on this Palm Sunday. *What will be your response*

Some Will you be like the disciples: no understanding of the events that are unfolding during this week called Holy...

Some Will you be like the crowds in Jerusalem. "Hay! what is going on. Who is this man coming into the city riding on a donkey?" *And Then Turn Away!*

Some Will you respond like the Pharisees. *Chief Priests* *Pharisees* ~~There~~ only concern was to get rid of Jesus. Get him out of my life. I don't want anything to do with Him. Will that be your attitude?

Some Or, will you respond with those who cried out..."HOSANNA! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD: BLESSED IS THE COMING KINGDOM OF OUR *FATHER* ~~FATHER~~ DAVID: HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST?"

The Bible says that no man can call Jesus Lord? Unless he first repent of his sins and ask Jesus into his heart....

I pray that will be your responds to Jesus, this morrowing...

Shall we pray

Every head bowed - all eyes closed