

HIS TRIUMPHANT ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21: 1-9

Matthew 21: 14-16

(1) And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples. (2) Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. (3) And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord Had need of them; and straightway he will send them. (4) All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, (5) Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. (6) And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them. (7) And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. (8) And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. (9) And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

(14) And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple; and He healed them. (15) And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased, (16) And said unto Him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Introduction

The city of Jerusalem was teeming with people, probably two million. They were there to commemorate Passover, an event that had taken place fifteen hundred years earlier. Jesus came to present Himself as the King, The Messiah, and more importantly the final Passover Lamb to be slain. He would surrender Himself to cruel men and would become the perfect sacrifice for sin, once and for all.

His triumphant entry was the beginning of a week that would change the course of human and divine history. In fact, the vast majority of the writing of all four of the gospels is about this week.

For most of us, this narrative is not new. We have heard it preached and taught all of our lives. To paraphrase Charles Spurgeon one more time: It's the same good soup warmed over and over and we dare not change the recipe.

Let's look at a few of the details of His triumphant entry and extract some practical and spiritual truths.

Exposition

1. The Command.

(Go Into The Village And Find A Colt.)
(Verses 2-3.)

2. The Compliance.

(The Disciples Obeyed His Royal Command.)
(Verse 6.)

3. The Colt.

(The Colt Had Never Been Ridden.)
(It Was Accompanied By Its Mother.)
(The Prophecy Of Zechariah 9.9 Was Fulfilled.)
(Verse 7.)

4. The Crowd.

(The Crowd Welcomed Him.)
(They Spread Their Garments Before Jesus.)
(They Placed Palm Branches Along The Way.)

5. The Children.

(The Lord Delighted In The Praise Of Children.)
(Children Are The Church Of Today And The Church Of Tomorrow.)
(Verses 12-16.)

6. The Change.

(You Know The Story.)
(Cheers Became Jeers.)
(Blessings Became Boos.)
(“Crown Him” Became “Crucify Him.”)
(Mark 15: 13-14.)

Closing Thoughts

Our fore-parents looked beyond the crucifixion, the resurrection, and the ascension and saw Jesus coming back in His glory. They knew the next time He would physically come to earth there would be no need of a resurrection because there would be no crucifixion. He would not be riding a donkey, but a royal white stallion. Therefore, they sang, "Ride on King Jesus, No man can not hinder me." They were hoping He would come in their earthly lifetime because the manacles and chains of slavery would be no match for His divine power. The presence of the Lord would be liberating.

This spiritual was also a "code song" used in the Under Ground Rail Road. It was a cue to alert the "conductors" that the "coast was clear" and the slave could escape to freedom. It meant, "Come and get me; this is a favorable time because no one is watching."

We should be able to sing this spiritual with a new perspective. This is especially true on Palm Sunday! "Ride on King Jesus, No man can not hinder me." Discouragement should not hinder us. Past failures should not hinder us. This is true because nothing can separate a true believer from the love of God. If you let Jesus ride into your life, He will never leave you nor forsake you!

Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

Related Scriptures

Psalm 8.2

Mark 11:1-11

Luke 19:29-44

John 12:12-19

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