



The Triumphal Entry

The Passion week (Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday) is the most significant days on the Christian calendar. Jesus entered Jerusalem, was crucified there, and rose again three days later. Share how Easter has impacted you in the past and this year. Share ways in which you could share that impact with others this Easter.

OPENING COMMENT

The Passion week begins with Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey to wild fanfare. Why a donkey? And how did the crowd's cries of "Hosanna!" on Sunday turn to chants of "Crucify him!" by Friday?

What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

READ THE TEXT: Matthew 21:1-11

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵"Say to the daughter of Zion,

'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the



crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

I: EVERYTHING BELONGS TO JESUS

1. In verse 2 Jesus tells a couple of His disciples to get a donkey and her young colt from the neighbouring village. In verse 3 He tells them to say that 'The Lord needs them' if they say anything about it. Lord means *master, owner, ruler*. Do you view Jesus as the master, owner, and ruler of all things? Your things?
2. Share a time that you have sensed/been convicted that something of yours should be given away/used for Christ's purposes and Kingdom?
3. Is there an area in your life, a *talent* (Matt 25/Lk 19), that you are wrestling with surrendering to God?

II: THE KING HAS COME AND IS COMING AGAIN

1. What is so significant about Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey? What does it reveal about the kind of Kingship Jesus brought?
2. Read Zechariah 9:9-10. What is so significant about fulfilled prophecy (Matt 21:4)?
3. Read Revelation 19:11-16. Compare and contrast the two "entries".
4. Why should both be encouragements to us?

III: FROM "HOSANNA!" TO "CRUCIFY HIM!"

1. The city was *stirred* (more literally, *wild with excitement/thrown into commotion*) and they were cheering "Hosanna!" (save us we pray). What signs do you see in the text that their confession may have been shallow and Jesus' Kingship misinterpreted?
2. That the crowd turned is a sign that they never understood Him rightly. If things in your life don't go according to your plan, how do you know Jesus is still faithful, and good, and loving? In other words, how are you coming to discover that Jesus alone is enough?



CONCLUSION

That Passion week, the confused and misguided crowds shouted two things: "Hosanna!" and "Crucify him!" and Jesus, out of sheer grace, answered both. Jesus was crucified on a cross ("Crucify him!") so that we could be saved ("Hosanna!"). Thank you Jesus!

SHARE & PRAY

- Pray for those in your lives who don't know Jesus. Pray for their salvation.
- Pray for our Good Friday and Easter services as a church. The season is an amazing opportunity for us to see Jesus change lives. Please intercede to that end.
- Praise God for sending His Son Jesus to pay the penalty for sin and to conquer death! Praise Him for the hope we have in Jesus!
- Praise God for the evidences of His grace in your lives. Pray for the needs represented among you.

