

3. The Triumphal Entry

Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19

Matthew 21:1-17

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”

⁴ This 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,^[a] the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And 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!” ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹ And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

¹² And Jesus entered the temple^[b] and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

¹⁴ And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

“‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise?’”

¹⁷ And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

Mark 11:1-11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus^[a] sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴ And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in

the street, and they untied it. ⁵ And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷ And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

¹¹ And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Luke 19:28-44

²⁸ And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” ³² So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. ³³ And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” ³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹ And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

⁴¹ And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

John 12:12-19

¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ “Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!”

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

1.) Describe the differences between the 4 Gospel accounts.

Matthew: Writes to the Jews to portray Jesus as king. Specifically references Zechariah 9:9 & Psalms 8:2 ; References the son of David.

Mark: Specifically mentions the motives of the crowd (vs. 10)

Luke: Mentions the Pharisees as opposition – “The stones would cry out”

John: Mentions the King of Israel. Tells us that the crowd wants to see him for the works that he did.

2.) Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, not the symbol of a king, but of a humble servant. Zechariah 9:9 foretells this prophecy. In what ways does Jesus fulfillment of this prophecy show that He is the Jewish Messiah.

Jesus was fulfilling prophecy as he rode into Jerusalem, and he knew it. He was intentionally presenting himself to Jerusalem (and all of Israel as it was a week before Passover) and the crowds received him heartily. They were excited to see him, and expectantly awaited His setting up his kingdom. The crowds didn't understand the plan though. They thought Jesus was coming as the Messiah that would overthrow Roman rule from Israel and restore the kingdom of David. They thought that (finally) Jesus was going to announce himself, and somehow take back Jerusalem and the land of Israel. Their wildest dreams could not imagine the events of the next week.

Jesus is the Messiah, and fulfilled the prophecy – all of the prophecies – about his coming. Jesus fulfilled the prophecy and did not leave one out. The interpretation of the prophecy was that when the Messiah arrived he would immediately free Israel, but that is not necessarily the case. Salvation was the mission of the Messiah, not the liberation of Israel and the Messiah accomplished that for all people.

Zechariah 9:9 - Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

3.) Read the following passages and describe the motive for the crowd following after Jesus.

The crowd followed after Jesus for the works that he had done. They were eagerly awaiting the setting up of the kingdom of David and the liberation of Israel. They thought that this was the moment.

Matthew 21:10-11 - ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹ And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Mark 11:9-10 - ⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

Luke 19:37-38 - ³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Even the disciples did not understand it. They were confused about Jesus plan and mission. They probably thought that Jesus would set up an earthly kingdom at some point. Twice in Luke (ch. 9 & ch 22) the disciples argue over who will be the greatest in the kingdom. They probably thought that there was going to be an earthly kingdom at some point.

John 12:16-18 - ¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

John 12:37-40 - ³⁷ Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸ so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” ³⁹ Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, ⁴⁰ “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.”

John 12:42-43 - ⁴² Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

- 4.) **Jesus came to Jerusalem on a donkey, humble and offering Salvation to the world, and Jerusalem rejected Him. Read Revelation 19:11-16 and describe the differences between this arrival of Jesus and the arrival of Jesus in our passages.**

This is the triumphal entry. The first entry brought salvation – and a time for us to repent. The second entry will bring judgment, and every knee will bow before king Jesus. **The problem with the Jewish view of Messiah was that they reduced him to a man that would accomplish their goals instead of realizing that Messiah is God who will accomplish His goals – again this is not about us, it is about God and His glory throughout all the nations.**

Revelation 19:11-16 (KJV) - ¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. ¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. ¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

- 5.) **Mark 11:9-10 show us that he crowds that was honoring Jesus was expecting to see the restoration of the Kingdom of David. In what ways was Jesus fulfilling the kingdom of David in this return to Jerusalem? Why were they disappointed?**

Jesus was coming to offer salvation, not a physical kingdom (yet). He was redeeming his people (from all nations, and tribes) to himself. His death was accomplishing what a rule and a judgment could not. He was fixing the sin problem that for so long plagued mankind. The death and resurrection of Jesus was the first step in setting up the kingdom of David again. First God had to redeem his people by dealing with their sin. The final step will be a return and a judgment, but we now live in an age of invitation. A time when the doors are open and through Jesus' sacrifice all people can enter the kingdom. Matthew 22 contains the parable of the wedding banquet. The banquet is open and the mission of the servants is to go out and invite all people to attend. Heaven is open as well, and whoever comes to Jesus will be invited in.

John 6:37 - All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

- 6.) **Jesus requires that we come to Him and worship Him on his terms – not on ours. Many people today are expecting Jesus to be what they hope or imagine, and are left in disappointment when Jesus does not conform to their desires, hopes or prayers. In what ways do we sometimes make the mistake of expecting things from Jesus that He doesn't promise?**

Coming to Jesus will not make your life the American Dream. All things will not be easier once you have Jesus. In many ways life will become harder with Jesus because you are no longer of the world. Jesus warns his disciples of this

Matthew 10:16-31 – 16 “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. 17 Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. 18 On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

21 “Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. 22 You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. 23 When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

26 “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. 28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Coming to Jesus is not a, “He’ll make it all better” story. He doesn’t make the lives of his followers perfect, or simple, or even comfortable. He makes them worthwhile, and in the end He gives them forgiveness and joy. Accepting Jesus is not a ticket to all of the missing things in your life, it is not the hope for a better tomorrow – it is the hope for a better eternity.

What kinds of things today do people come to Jesus for?

- a. Health
- b. Prosperity
- c. Easy life
- d. Anesthetic for guilt or pain

Hebrews 11:32-40 - ³² And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

³³ Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

³⁴ Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

³⁶ And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

³⁸ (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

⁴⁰ God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.