

GROWTH + GROUPS

NAVIGATE LIFE TOGETHER

Maranatha Chapel Sermon Based Study Guide **CORONATION OF THE KING**

Luke 19:29-44 (SB 04.10.2022)



Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study

What insights, principles, or observations stood out to you from this week's message? Discuss with your group.

Palm Sunday is one of only a handful of stories that makes its way into all four gospels. It marks the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. What makes Palm Sunday special? It's the only time that Jesus ever orchestrated a public spectacle. Jesus was always pulling away from the crowds. Oftentimes, after He would heal someone, He would tell the person He had just healed not to tell anyone. However, on this occasion, Jesus not only allowed the people to praise Him, He demanded it. In fact, He said if the people didn't praise Him, the very stones would cry out! There was obviously something special about this day. It was also lamb selection day. This was the day when every Jewish family would select the lamb that would be sacrificed on Passover later that week. The lamb was to be taken into the home to be inspected and to make sure that it was without spot or blemish. How fitting that Jesus, 'the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,' {John 1:29} would present Himself to the nation of Israel on this day. Over the course of the next several days, He would be investigated. Then, at His trial, Pilate would declare, 'I find no fault in Him' {John 19:4}. Let's get into our study...

1. What spoke to you from Pastor Daniel's sermon this week?
2. Who do you think is the most well-known person to ever come out of our community? What would it be like if that person showed up in the community one day?
3. How does Jesus compare in power, fame, and prestige to any celebrity or hero we could think of today? By worldly standards and expectations, how should His grand entrance into Jerusalem have compared as a result?

Digging Deeper in God's Word: Life Lessons

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 19:28-35

By the very nature of Jesus' triumphal entry, choosing to arrive on a humble donkey, rather than a powerful warhorse, Jesus fulfilled prophecies, but even more importantly, He revealed the nature of His mission. He came to save—not by usurping power or bringing with Him a military coup, but by surrendering power and embracing His own death. Jesus' unmatched power triumphed through weakness, and ours will do the same when we take up our cross and follow Him. As we humble ourselves, repent, and admit our need for a Savior, we embrace the humility needed to identify with Christ, share in His sufferings and follow Him with our very lives.

1. What stands out to you from this familiar event in the Gospels? Did you pick up on anything you hadn't noticed before?
2. The most familiar detail of this story is that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey. What statement did Jesus make by doing this?
3. What did it reveal about His love? About His nature and purpose on earth?

BREAKTHROUGH! in 2022

Approaching Jerusalem, Jesus passed through two small villages east of the Holy City on the Mount of Olives. He sent two of His disciples on a mission: “Find a donkey that has never been ridden before and bring it to me. If you face questions, just say, ‘The Lord needs it.’” Jesus acted in a regal manner, but He commandeered a lowly animal.

4. Take a minute to read Zechariah 9:9. In what way did Jesus fulfill this Old Testament prophecy in today’s passage?
5. How were the people’s expectations of the Messiah different from Jesus’ true intentions?

Events occurred just as Jesus described. So the disciples brought the donkey to Jesus, threw their robes on it as a saddle, and sat Jesus on it. Zechariah 9:9 describes the Messianic King riding on a donkey to bring salvation to His people. His coming would break all instruments of war and bring peace to the city of peace.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 19:36-40

1. How did this entry compare with those of conquering military heroes? How did these military heroes achieve their victories? How would Jesus achieve His?
2. What did the people indicate about their own view of and response to Jesus by laying down their coats and waving palms or branches along His path? What does the crowd affirm about Jesus in verse 38?
3. What can we do in our own lives to “prepare the way for the Lord” (Is. 40:3)?

The disciples spread their robes on the street, signifying a royal procession. The crowd of disciples, indicating a group beyond the Twelve, joined the procession, praising God for all the miraculous signs Jesus had given—signs that Luke had been describing throughout his entire Gospel. They praised Jesus as King, citing Psalm 118:26. Finally, Jesus’ glory was openly recognized. He was more than the baby born in Nazareth or a Galilean rabbi. He was more than a miracle worker. He was a royal figure entering the royal city down the royal road. He came as God’s representative, God’s chosen king, and He showed that the hopes of Israel were being fulfilled.

4. How did the Pharisees’ response contrast with the response of the crowd (v. 39)? What was so ironic about this? What is significant about Jesus’ response to the Pharisees?

This was too much for the Pharisees. They came to crucify Jesus, not to praise Him. They asked Jesus to silence the blasphemous disciples. Jesus, however, pointed out that this was the moment God ordained for Him to receive praise. If human voices had remained silent, nature itself would have shouted His praise. The Pharisees did not understand the nature of the very God they spent so much time talking about. In this parable, they were evil servants. But the King had come. They saw only a false teacher on a donkey. But for those who truly see the King, praise is the instinctive response.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 19:41-44

Luke had begun the Jerusalem story (19:28), but he had not yet let Jesus reach Jerusalem. The recognition and praise of the Messiah came from disciples outside the city, not from the religious crowds or religious power brokers within it. Jesus knew that the city of Jerusalem and its power structure—both Jewish and Roman—would reject Him. They would take Him to the cross. So He wept, not for His immediate fate, but for the stubborn, sinful blindness of the city. The city God loves had no love for Him.

1. What do these verses remind us about Jesus’ mission? What about God’s character?
2. Why should Jesus’ words here motivate us to share the gospel?

BREAKTHROUGH! in 2022

Jesus came with peace from heaven. God had visited His people as He had promised. The Messiah had come to seek and to save the lost, but many people Jesus encountered along the way refused to recognize they were lost. They refused to see God's glory in Jesus, or to give God glory for sending Jesus. Their beloved temple and all the glorious architecture of Jerusalem would fall—not one stone attached to another, no hope for rebuilding and renewal. These verses serve as a reminder to us that a time will come when it will be too late to turn to God in repentance, and God's judgment will be final. We don't know when that day will come, which means that sharing the gospel should be at the forefront of our minds every single day.

Applying God's Word

What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss with your group.

AMAZING PROPHECY FULFILLED! Sir Robert Anderson was the head of Scotland Yard in the 1800's. He wrote a book called *The Coming Prince* that examined the various prophecies in the book of Daniel and made an incredible discovery. In Daniel 9, the Lord tells Daniel that from the time the command is given to restore and rebuild Jerusalem to the time when the Messiah would come would be 69 weeks of years, or 483 years. That's 173,880 days. Well, we know from history that King Artaxerxes gave the command to restore Jerusalem on March 14, 445BC. What Sir Robert Anderson did was he counted 173,880 days from that date and what he came to was April 6th, 32 AD. We know that day better as Palm Sunday! This was their day! God had told them exactly when the Messiah would be coming, but they missed Him because they were looking for a different kind of king. Don't miss the time of your visitation! 'Remember what it says: 'Today when you hear His voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled.' {Hebrews 3:15}

1. Jesus' love was the motivation for His entry into Jerusalem and everything that awaited Him there. What should that love motivate us to do when it comes to publicly acknowledging Jesus?
2. Unlike the people of Jerusalem who missed their chance to believe in Jesus, we still have the opportunity to do so. Have you fully surrendered your life to Him?
3. If so, do you live in a way that makes this evident to those around you? What are some of the things that hinder you from trusting Jesus on a day-to-day basis?

PRAYER - Close in prayer, thanking God for making Jesus known to us. Give your group members the opportunity to voice their own prayers of praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

"If you, even you had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes." (Lk.19:42)