

The Entry of the King Means the End of Death

The Road to the Cross

Matthew 21:1-11

I'm going to take this opportunity to fast-forward a little to get us into the mind-frame of the last few days of Christ before the cross. Next Sunday is Easter, the most significant day for us as followers of Jesus. Why? Because of the hope of the resurrection through faith in Him as a result of His work on the cross. We'll come back to the passages that we've skipped after Easter. I want us to begin this morning, and for the rest of our lives to examine that the entry of King Jesus into our lives equals the end of death! We will see this in this text this morning, "The Triumphal Entry" and we'll explore the road to the cross in which He suffered for our sake. If there is one thing we need today, it's the assurance of Christ as King! The reality that He is on the throne Universally and Individually!

His Entry Establishes Authority (Matt. 21:1-11) Jesus, being God, is able to establish authority and command His disciples. In fact His authority is what the religious leaders so hate about Him. They believe He is telling people He is God and making a mockery out of Yahweh, when in fact He is God. The question we must ask ourselves, does Jesus have authority in our lives? Is He our anchor in the storm, is He our light in the darkness, is He our strength and calmness in the storm? If you can't answer that He has authority in your life, seek the Christ of the Bible, He is waiting for you. We believe the entry of Jesus happened on Sunday or there's even a really good case that it happened on Monday before the cross.

a. He was prophesied (Matt. 21:4-5) This is from the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 and Isaiah 62

b. He was praised (Matt. 21:8-9) Psalm 8:2 *"Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger."*

The word Hosanna we see in verse 9 means "save us," it was an expression of adoration. One would have to have known the prophecies that Isaiah proclaimed about the coming of the Messiah to make these expressions. Unless they were simply looking to Christ, like many did, to be a military conqueror. See the Jewish people could recall the history of their ancestors in captivity by the Egyptians, the Babylonians, and the Assyrians. At this point, now the Romans seem to rule over them in a sense. Jesus came to free us, but not from what we think we need, from what we really need, freedom from sin and death.

c. He caused many to be perplexed (Matt. 21:10) He'll do that today as well. Many will be perplexed by the simplicity of the gospel, but it requires faith like a child.

His Authority Causes Some to Become Angry (Matt. 21:23-27) (Happened on Wednesday)

Their Anger Arranges a Divine Appointment (Matt. 26:1-5) (Thursday) I want you to see that this was God's love for us the whole time. He loves us so much that His plan was to send a

Savior. You see threads of this throughout history. You see the salvation of Noah's family. You see the salvation of people of Israel through Moses. You see Joshua leading the people into the Promised Land. You see the covenant of David. You see the root of David, Christ Jesus our King. The one who was appointed to be sacrificed for us. We must see this and feel the gravity of this! Isaiah 53:10 proclaims this: *"Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his souls makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand."* God's purpose is our pleasure to give us power over death through this appointment.

a. He was Betrayed (Matt. 26:14-16; 26:47-48)

b. He was Belittled (Matt. 27:27-31)

c. He was Beaten (Matt. 27:30-31) The gospel of Matthew doesn't go into a lot of detail regarding His beatings. Luke states in Luke 22:63 *"Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him."* The Bible never says how Jesus was beaten, although the "cat of nine tails" was never mentioned, it's assumed because of the culture.

d. He was Buried (Matt. 27:59-60) (Friday 9-noon, execution and the first three words from the cross. 12noon-3pm sky turns dark, last four words from the cross, Jesus died! Signs that went with this were the temple veil being ripped, earthquake, resurrection of many of the saints, and the Centurion's remark.)

This Appointment Causes Many to Anxiously Await (Matt. 27:62-66)

He mentioned that He would rise from the dead reported in Matthew 16:21, conquering death, sin, Satan, and giving all who place faith in Him the promise of the resurrection. The entry of Jesus into your heart means the end of death! Next week we will celebrate His resurrection and our salvation!