

Palm Sunday - Faces in the Crowd

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

***5 "Say to Daughter Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"***

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" 11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." Matthew 21:1-11

God wants us to be uneasy with reality of sin and the true cost of forgiveness.

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Luke 19:38

"Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" Luke 19:39

40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:40

Our king came into life in a borrowed stable and now he heads toward his death on a borrowed donkey.

See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Matthew 21:5, Zechariah 9:9

"He did not come in wealth but in poverty; He did not come in grandeur but in meekness; and He did not come to slay Israel's enemies but to save all mankind. The incarnation was the time of His humiliation, not the time of His glorification."

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4 kinds of people in the crowd.

1. Desperate people.

2. Interested people.

3. Disillusioned people.

4. Unbelieving people.

“Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Matthew 12:30

You are either desperate enough to say Hosanna, or you are willing to say “I will save myself.”