



Sermon Notes

March 16, 2008

Tim Strickland

The Triumphal Entry *Matthew 21:1-11*

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,
and 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."

Introduction

Today: Palm Sunday: The Triumphal Entry

Sermon Notes

March 16, 2008

Page 2

The Triumphal Entry *Matthew 21:1-11*

1. The Preparation for the King (1-6)

a. The Place (1)

- Mount of Olives – Zech. 14:4
- Jerusalem at the time of the Passover

b. The Plan (2-3, 6)

- A colt of a donkey
- *The Lord needs them*
- *The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them*

c. The Prophecy of the Prince of Peace (4-5)

- Prophecy from Zechariah 9:9 & Isaiah 62:11
- *Say to the daughter of Zion* (people of Jerusalem)
- *Behold your king is coming to you*
- *humble*
 - Gr. Praus = mildness of disposition, gentleness of spirit, meekness (Thayer)
 - Matthew 5:5 *Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth*
- *and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden*
 - Not on a war horse or a chariot
 - see Rev. 19:11-21 for Jesus arrival at His second coming
 - The Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) rode into Jerusalem in peace
 - See Zech. 9:10
 - **Luke 2:14** *peace on earth*
 - **Romans 5:1** *peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*

2. The Procession of the King (7-9)

a. The Procession: Jesus rode a colt down from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem in a glorious procession, surrounded by many people. (7-11)

- Disciples laid their cloaks on the colt as a saddle for Jesus
- The crowd followed their example
 - *Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road*
 - *others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road*
 - See John 12:12-13 *branches of palm trees*

The Triumphal Entry
Matthew 21:1-11

b. The Praise (9b)

- *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!
 - A quote from Psalm 118:25-26
 - Ps. 113-118 are the 'Hallel' Psalms sung at feasts and especially at the Passover
 - Ps. 118 is a Messianic Psalm
 - Hosanna = "Save, we pray"
 - Jesus = "The Lord Saves"
 - 'Hosanna', in Jesus' time, "was used as an exclamation of praise to God" (NET Bible)
 - *The Son of David* – Messianic title

3. The Presence of the King (10-11)

a. The Puzzle (10)

- *the whole city was stirred up saying, "Who is this?"*
 - **Psalm 24:8-10** *Who is this king of glory?*
 - **Isaiah 63:1** *Who is this...he who is splendid in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength? "It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save."*
 - **Luke 7:49** *"Who is this, who even forgives sins?"*
 - **Luke 9:9** *Herod said, "John I beheaded, but who is this about whom I hear such things?"*
 - **John 12:34** *So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"*

b. The Prophet (11)

- *And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."*
 - *the prophet* – prophesied by Moses - Deut 18:15-22
 - *of Galilee* – Isaiah 9:1-7 (Matthew 4:12-16)
 - **Isaiah 9:2a** *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light*

The Triumphal Entry
Matthew 21:1-11

Our Response

1. Repent of your sins and place your trust in the King, Jesus Christ!

Acts 16:31 *And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."*

2. Focus your heart on the King as we celebrate Easter this coming week.

Acts 3:18-21 *But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. [19] Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, [20] that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, [21] whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.*

Questions for Application

1. Imagine yourself in the crowd as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Describe the scene.
2. What does it mean to be meek? How was Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem meek?
3. Note vv9-11. What did the crowd get right about Jesus? What did they miss?
4. The people in Jerusalem asked the question, "Who is this?" about Jesus. Answer this question in both an objective way and a personal way.
5. As Easter approaches this week, pray for spiritual renewal in your life as you focus on the central event of the Bible, the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Ask the Lord for new strength to serve Him in your life. Ask forgiveness from sin and trust in His faithful promise to forgive. Pray for one another in your group.

Questions, Comments? - inthebeginning@look.ca

If you have questions or comments about today's message, please drop me an email to the address above. Thanks,

Tim



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