

**“Behold Your King”
Matthew 21:1-11
Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025**

This passage is recorded in all four gospels.

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-19

“The Triumphal Entry” or “Palm Sunday”

The first day of what is called **“The Passion Week”**, the final week of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Jesus accomplishes two things:

- 1. Announcing Himself As King/Messiah – Appealing To Israel To Join His Spiritual, Not Political, Kingdom – (Fulfilling Bible Prophecy)**
- 2. Force The People To Decide Either For Or Against, Him.
Force The Religious To Deliver Himself To The Cross -**

The Thought Of Our Passage: “Triumphal Entry Challenged People By Proclaiming Jesus As Lord/Messiah, Thus Forcing Them To Make A Decision About Jesus”

- 1. Verses 1-3 Jesus Made Preparation:**
- 2. Verses 4-6 Jesus Fulfilled Scripture:**
- 3. Verses 7-11 Jesus Made Public:**

1. Verses 1-3 Jesus Made Preparation:

Matthew 21:1 When they had approached Jerusalem

Context - Jesus had just left Jericho, where He encountered two blind men. Though these men were physically blind, they had spiritual eyesight that the theologians failed to have.

Matthew 20:30-31

When they had approached Jerusalem,

This marked a new transition in Matthew’s Gospel.

Matthew 14-20 The Retirement of The King:

Matthew 21-27 The Rejection of The King:

30% of the Gospels cover this last week of Jesus’ ministry. (Passion Week)

Jerusalem means “*city of peace*” or “*foundation of peace*” and the people were hoping that Jesus would bring them the peace that they needed.

Luke 19:41 He saw the city and wept over it,

Jericho – which was about 15 miles Northeast of **Jerusalem**

Jerusalem is situated on a ridge 2,550 feet above sea level.

Jericho is 1,200 feet below sea level.

This made it a 3,700-foot elevation gain.

and had come to Bethphage. It was about 2 miles from Jerusalem on the eastern side of the Mount of Olives. Its name meant "*House of Figs.*"

at the Mount of Olives,

The altitude is 2600 feet, and you can see Jerusalem from this point.

then Jesus sent two disciples,

Who were these disciples? We are not told.

Matthew 21:2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you,
(Possibly Bethany)

**and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her;
untie them, and bring them to Me.**

Luke 19:30 on which no one yet has ever sat;

1. *People say it was a miracle - Jesus was revealing His Omniscience*

2. *Others say it was not a miracle, just Jesus' preparations*

Matthew 9:2-4

donkey – which is full grown, it was female.

colt - is a year old.

Donkeys were considered the symbol of peace **Zachariah 9:9**

The horse is a symbol of conquering/war **Revelation 19:11-19**

A one-year-old donkey a colt is one vile animal.

Jesus was Lord/King over creation

Matthew 21:3 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." What could God possibly have need of? God of creation!

God wants to use you and me! God does not have to but wants to.

Acts 8:26-27 Philip to minister to an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official.

2. Verses 4-6 Jesus Fulfilled Scripture:

Matthew 21:4 fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

Matthew's Gospel records at least 129 quotations or passages alluding to the Old Testament.

Matthew 21:5 Zechariah was written about 500 BC:

Zechariah 9:9 Jesus fulfilled what was prophesied in **Daniel 9:24-27** the 69 weeks of Daniel.

Jesus the King was going to defeat a much greater enemy than Rome

Matthew 21:6

After God sends us, we must obey: When the disciples acted on the Word, they found all that Jesus Christ said was true. **Luke 19:32**

What we have here is a careful thought-through organized plan:

3. Verses 7-11 Jesus Made Public:

Matthew 21:7 What kind of a ride would this be?

This is a further miracle because this wild animal would be a terror under the weight of the Messiah.

This would amaze the disciples. **(Jesus breaks people who make colts/donkeys seem tame and breaks them for God's glory!)**

Matthew 21:8 Most of the multitude

There were three different groups in the crowd that day:

1. The Passover visitors from outside Judea **(John 12:12, 18)**
2. The local people who had witnessed the raising of Lazarus **(John 12:17)**
3. The religious leaders, who were greatly concerned about what Jesus might do at the feast **(John 12:19)**

Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, (Red carpet treatment)

John 12:13 said they were using branches from the palm tree.

Palm branches speak of a "*Nationalistic desire for deliverance from Rome*"

Matthew 21:9 shouting, "Hosanna – Means "*Save Now!*" "*Save we Pray!*" "*Grant Salvation*" "*God Save The King!*"

to the Son of David – 10 times, in Matthew's gospel.

BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD;

Literally "*The one who comes representing Yahweh*"

Hosanna in the highest!" "*Praise to Yahweh*"

Psalm 118 is called "A Psalm of Ascent" **Psalm 118:25-26**

This same Psalm will be quoted by Jesus in **Matthew 21:42 Psalm 118:22**

Luke 19:39-41

Religious were offended at people's display of honor for Jesus!

Matthew 21:10 When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, Mixture of the pilgrims that were there for the Passover, the locals and the religious.

What about Rome? Will Jesus be in trouble as a rival King to Rome?

saying, "Who is this?" **This is the question of questions!**

John 12:13 The gospels say, "*Jesus the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee, is the Messianic Son of David, the King of Israel*"

Matthew 21:11 And the multitudes were saying,

This is the general consensus of the people.

"This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee."

That after 3 ½ years of ministry, Jesus was looked at and judged as a prophet!

Insight: John 12:16

Application: CS Lewis once said, "Jesus Is Either A Lunatic, A Liar Or Lord!"

1. Is Jesus Both King (Lord) And Messiah (Savior) In My Life?
2. Have I Found That It Is Easier To Shout Than It Is To Obey?
God Wants Our Lips, Hearts, And Our Actions.