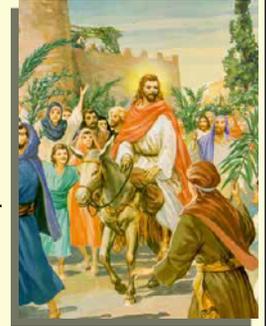


MEN'S BREAKFAST - The Entry of a King?

1. What do you like *best* about parades: Bands? Food Venders? Clowns?
2. What do you like *least*: Traffic? Pickpockets? Tall people?
3. How do people usually react when they meet a celebrity? Why?
4. Who are today's religious celebrities?

John 12:12-19 (NIV)

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!" ¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written, ¹⁵ "Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." ¹⁶ At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him. ¹⁷ Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. ¹⁸ Many people, because they had heard that he had given this miraculous sign, went out to meet him. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"



DISCUSSION: Palm branches were used to celebrate military victories. Psalms 113-118 are called the Hallel and were regularly sung at Passover season. See Psalm 118:25-26 on the back and compare to verse 13. The crucifixion is one week away.

1. What had the crowd heard about Jesus? (12:12)
2. How did the crowd greet Jesus when He arrived in Jerusalem? (12:13)
3. What title did the crowd ascribe to Jesus? (12:13)
4. How could you tie in their hope that Jesus will do at *this* Passover with what God did at the *first* Passover?
5. What are some of the things the people were likely anticipating or hope to happen?
6. What prophetic event took place? (12:14-15)
7. What had been written about this event? (12:15)

8. When did Jesus' disciples realize the significance of these events? (12:16)

9. What did the crowd that was with Jesus do when He raised Lazarus? (12:17)

10. Why did many of the people go out to meet Jesus? (12:18)

11. How did the Pharisees react to this event? (12:19)

12. Why a lowly donkey for Jesus (see Zed 9:9)? A great warrior or king would have road in on a war horse, a stallion.

13. Read the Revelations passage. Who is the rider on the whites horse? Compare and contrast this entry to the one in Revelations. What is different? Why is it different?

14. What do you think the crowds, the disciples and the Jewish leaders must be feeling now? One week later? Had you been there, what would you be feeling: Fanaticism, fickleness, faith or fear? Why?

Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV) 11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Matthew 21:1-11 (GW) 1 When they came near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples ahead of him. 2 He said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you. You will find a donkey tied there and a colt with it. Untie them, and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them. That person will send them at once.” 4 This happened so that what the prophet had said came true: 5 “Tell the people of Zion, ‘Your king is coming to you. He’s gentle, riding on a donkey, on a colt, a young pack animal.’” 6 The disciples did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put their coats on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 Most of the people spread their coats on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowd that went ahead of him and that followed him was shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” 10 When Jesus came into Jerusalem, the whole city was in an uproar. People were asking, “Who is this?” 11 The crowd answered, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Mark 11:1-11 (GW) 1 When they came near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ahead of him. 2 He said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you. As

you enter it, you will find a young donkey tied there. No one has ever sat on it. Untie it, and bring it. 3 If anyone asks you what you are doing, say that the Lord needs it. That person will send it here at once.” 4 The disciples found the young donkey in the street. It was tied to the door of a house. As they were untying it, 5 some men standing there asked them, “Why are you untying that donkey?” 6 The disciples answered them as Jesus had told them. So the men let them go. 7 They brought the donkey to Jesus, put their coats on it, and he sat on it. 8 Many spread their coats on the road. Others cut leafy branches in the fields and spread them on the road. 9 Those who went ahead and those who followed him were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is our ancestor David’s kingdom that is coming! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” 11 Jesus came into Jerusalem and went into the temple courtyard, where he looked around at everything. Since it was already late, he went out with the twelve apostles to Bethany.

Luke 19:28-38 (GW) 28 After Jesus had given this illustration, he continued on his way to Jerusalem. 29 When he came near Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives (as it was called), Jesus sent two of his disciples ahead of him. 30 He said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you. As you enter, you will find a young donkey

tied there. No one has ever sat on it. Untie it, and bring it. 31 If anyone asks you why you are untying it, say that the Lord needs it.” 32 The men Jesus sent found it as he had told them. 33 While they were untying the young donkey, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the donkey?” 34 The disciples answered, “The Lord needs it.” 35 They brought the donkey to Jesus, put their coats on it, and helped Jesus onto it. 36 As he was riding along, people spread their coats on the road. 37 By this time he was coming near the place where the road went down the Mount of Olives. Then the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God for all the miracles they had seen. 38 They shouted joyfully, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven.”

Zechariah 9:9 (GW) 9 Rejoice with all your heart, people of Zion! Shout in triumph, people of Jerusalem! Look! Your King is coming to you: He is righteous and victorious. He is humble and rides on a donkey, on a colt, a young pack animal.

Psalms 118:25-26 (NIV) 25 O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you.

PRAYERS

REFLECTION:

1. What did you hear about Jesus that led you to seek Him?
2. How should Jesus be the ruler in our lives?
3. When are you reluctant to allow Jesus to take His rightful place as King in your life?
4. What area of your life is difficult for you to surrender to Christ’s authority?
5. How should we honor and worship Jesus as King?
6. How should we spread the Word about Jesus?
7. What specific area of your life do you need to submit more consistently to the authority of Jesus? How?
8. With whom do you need to share the good news about Jesus Christ? How can you?

9. How will you honor and worship Jesus with your life today?
10. What convinced you that Jesus is your King? What is the best thing you’ve seen about the type of King he is?
11. Is your worship life like a hero’s victory or a funeral dirge? Why?