

# The King of Glory!

#3122 0324 24P Palm Sunday

wds1729

[**Zechariah 9:9** Rejoice, the King is coming; **Psalms 24:8** Who is the King of glory? **Matthew 21:1-3** go to the village—; **John 12:9** Lazarus raised to life; **John 12:16** disciples did not understand at first; **Revelation 7:9** a multitude holding palm branches;

**Luke 17:21** the Kingdom is within; **Luke 19:14** they didn't want Him; **Matthew 19:22** man went away sad; **Matthew 15:8** lip service, only; **John 12:32** lifted up to draw us to Him; **Philippians 2:9-11** every knee will bow; **Isaiah 6:10** calloused hearts; **John 12:26** serve means to follow Jesus; **Revelation 5:12** Worthy is the Lamb!]

The Christian world celebrates the time when Jesus enters Jerusalem as predicted by the prophet NKJV **Zechariah 9:9** “*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.*”

The event is also mentioned NKJV **Psalms 24:8** “*Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.*”

After giving sight to the two men in Jericho and having dinner with Zaccheus, the Lord Jesus makes His way to Jerusalem. As He nears the city, He is also approaching the end of His ministry on earth. He is about to complete the work His Father sent Him to accomplish.

Multitudes follow Jesus to celebrate the Passover but did not know He was the true Passover Lamb. Before Jesus enters the crowded city of Jerusalem, He stops at the little hamlet of Bethphage. Little is known about Bethphage.

NKJV **Matthew 21:1** “*Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me.*

3 “*And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.*” With these instructions, Jesus set in motion a series of events that would lead to the cross. It was all part of the Father’s plan to save a lost world.

Many came to the town of Bethany to see Jesus and also “*see Lazarus whom He had brought back to life*” **John 12:9**. Lazarus was a living testimony of Jesus’ divine power, so He was a threat to the religious leaders—who “*made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and putting their faith in him*” **10-11**.

It was the next day that Jesus came to Bethphage and prepared to enter Jerusalem through the east gate of the city. Zechariah predicted that they would one day say NIV **Matthew 21:5** “*See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey,*” **Zechariah 9:9**.

The King of all kings should ride into town on a white stallion—but Jesus did *not* come to us in wealth and splendor but in *lowliness* and *humility*—setting the right example for us. He did not come to *slay* enemies, but to *save* people from sin.

Jesus was a King like no other king, so His coronation was like no other coronation. Kings of this world enter a city with much pomp and pageantry, but Jesus entered Jerusalem sitting on a colt. It was the message He wanted to give to everyone watching.

We often think we need the *best*, the *most*, and the *latest*—and Jesus could have had the *best*,

but He chose the *least* to set that example for all. The humility of heart and obedience to the Father is the example Jesus gives for everyone today.

AV **John 12:16** “*These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him.*”

It was the custom of the first century for citizens to put garments in the road for the king to ride on—symbolizing respect and submission to his authority. While some were putting garments on the path “*others cut [palm] branches from the trees and spread them on the road.*” Palm branches symbolize *victory* and *triumph* over the enemy.

The apostle mentions this future event NKJV **Revelation 7:9** “*I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”*”

Jesus entered Jerusalem that day amid much excitement and shouting of praise to Him as their Messiah and King. He was surrounded by a multitude of humanity who shouted NKJV **Matthew 21:9** “*Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ Hosanna in the highest!*”

The crowd thought that the Messiah would bring them immediate deliverance from Rome, and when that did not happen, they turned against Him. At first they shouted “*Hosanna!*” **Matthew 21:9**—meaning *save now*. The crowd that day was not interested in Jesus saving their *souls*, but for a king to save their *nation*.

They were about to celebrate the Passover to commemorate Israel’s deliverance from Egypt,

and the people thought it was a good time for the Messiah to give them their political freedom from Roman rule.

Jesus had not come to conquer *Rome*—but to conquer *sin*. He did not come to make *war* with Rome, but for us to make *peace* with God. Although the shouting of the multitude fulfilled prophecy, the people did not know what Jesus would soon accomplish on the *cross* of Calvary.

He did not enter Jerusalem with soldiers who would fight for Him, but with a crowd of people who shouted, “*Hosanna to the Son of David!*” one minute, and then *Crucify Him* the next! Jesus *was* the Messiah, but the people did not understand His kingdom.

Luke 17:21 tells us that “*The Kingdom of God is within you.*” When the Holy Spirit is within us, we *treat* people like Jesus did; we *grow* in our faith; we *increase* our knowledge of God; and we *learn* to trust Him for everything—certainly for eternal life.

When the people realized that Jesus did *not* come to deliver them from Rome, they turned against Him and said to Pilate, “*We don't want this man to be our king*” Luke 19:14. The people rejected Him as *King* and did not want Him to be *Ruler* of their life.

All too many *proclaim* Jesus as their king—as long as that does not mean giving up the world and their unscriptural lifestyle. When God’s Word confronts their *sins*, their *selfish* ways, and *worldly* attitudes; they turn away and reject His Lordship.

As the young man Matthew 19:22, “*they go away sad, because they will not give up, their laid-up treasure.*”

The coronation of Jesus as the Messiah and King was an empty *pretense* like so many professions of faith today. Their *words* were right, but their *hearts* were not. Matthew 15:8 “*These people*

*honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.*”

Jesus had not come to be *crowned* but to be *crucified*. He came to *save* sinners—saying John 12:32, “*If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me.*” That is why He came—so everyone would know of *His love* for them and would gladly give *their love* to Him.

He came to save those He loves. Philippians 2:9-11 “*Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*”

After the shouting of the crowd at the triumphal entry had subsided, many asked: “*Who is this?*” Matthew 21:10. They could only reply: “*Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.*” They praised Him as their Messiah one minute and called Him a prophet the next.

Isaiah predicted Isaiah 6:10, “*This people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.*”

They acknowledged Jesus as a *Prophet* but they *rejected* Him as their *King!* When we proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior, let us truly *mean* that in our heart. Jesus said NIV John 12:26 “*Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.*”

If He is the *Ruler* of our life, He is also the *Savior* of our soul. The hymn reminds us that *All glory, laud and honor, to Thee, Redeemer, King.* The triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem that day on a colt, fulfilled prophecy Zechariah 9:9 and

confirmed the fact that Jesus was the Messiah who could save the world from destruction.

This triumphal entry is one of the few times in Scripture that Jesus’ *glory* is recognized on earth. Jesus declared Himself King and the crowd gladly joined Him—but they soon bowed to political pressure and turned away.

That choice faces *all* of us today—to *accept* Jesus as Redeemer and King or *reject* Him as our Lord and Savior. Our praise must be sincere, and it must be connected to our faith and trust. “*Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'*” Matthew 21:9.

The last Book of the Bible reminds us—four living creatures and the twenty-four elders sang in a *loud* voice NIV Revelation 5:12 “*Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!*”

Someday soon the cry of “*How long!*” will be answered!



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