

Matthew 21:1-19

Sunday/Monday: Triumphal Entry

Introduction

Jesus is going to be quoting the OT a lot in His final week leading up to the cross. Which is not surprising because Jesus quoted many OT passages throughout His three years. Why? I believe Psalm 119 points us to the value of God's Word (Psalm 119:1, 9, 25, 33, 57 & 81).

Jesus quoted the bible continuously. He quoted the Bible when tempted by Satan, He quoted the Bible when He was confronted by the Pharisees, He quoted the Bible when correcting the disciples, He quoted the Bible when we walked to the cross, He quoted the Bible when He was on the cross and He quoted the Bible when He rose from the dead. Jesus perfectly followed and fulfilled the law.

You can't "manage" life without the Word of God. May we all desire and seek to repeat Psalm 119:11: *I have treasured your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you.* (CSB)

Jesus is Coming Again – First & Second Coming Parallels

- Down unto the Mount of Olives
- Through the Eastern Gate into the Temple
- Cleanse the Temple
- Claim the throne of David

Section 1: 21:1-11 –Jesus Affirms He is King by Riding in on a Donkey (Zechariah 9:9)

Zechariah 9:9 - *Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout in triumph, Daughter Jerusalem! Look, your King is coming to you; he is righteous and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey* (CSB). The LORD declared through Zechariah: *Your King is coming!* Jesus riding in on the donkey is clearly proclaiming that He is the rightful King of Israel. And not just any king...but THE KING. The promised one.

The Lord is Good

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" is a quotation from Psalm 118. The last verse of Psalm 118 says: *"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His faithful love endures forever."* (CSB)

Is Jesus a Prophet?

Jesus is the Son of God. They are content to keep Jesus as a prophet. This is why they are going to miss the moment. When you devalue God, it is impossible to see and realize all that He is.

Discussion Questions

- ❖ How does Jesus being your King impact your daily life?
- ❖ How does "His faithful love endures forever" grow our hope as believers?
- ❖ Why is it problematic to label Jesus anything other than the "Son of God"?

Section 2: 21:12-13 – Jesus affirms He is King by Cleansing the Temple (Jeremiah 7:11 & Isaiah 56:7)

In this passage Jesus quotes a verse in Jeremiah. By reading Jeremiah 7:1-11 we will have a much better understanding as to what was happening in the temple.

Why is the house of God turned into a den of thieves? They lived contrary to the Word of God and then had the audacity to walk into the temple unrepentant and worship. Then, on top of that, they brought their sinfulness into the temple by desecrating the temple with a business that was robbing the poor.

The temple is the place where Jesus will come and rule for 1,000 years. It was supposed to be a holy place. Isaiah 56:7 - *I will bring them to my holy mountain and let them rejoice in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.* (CSB)

This verse in Isaiah is specifically speaking of Jesus' second coming. When Jesus returns, He will establish the temple and the nations will come to Him. Jesus is the coming King that will remove the anti-Christ from the world and establish a new kingdom for 1,000 years.

Discussion Questions

- ❖ There is a temptation to come to church with no intentions to change. Why is that dangerous for our faith?
- ❖ How do you prepare yourself for cooperate worship? If you don't have a plan...why not?
- ❖ The purpose of the church gathering is to worship God together. Why is it so easy to lose sight of this purpose?

Section 3: 21:14-17 – Jesus Affirms He is King through the Children (Psalm 8:2)

Jesus again is pointing the people to a specific passage of Scripture to help us understand in more detail what is actually happening. Psalm 8:1-9 helps us understand our place and God's grace.

Reflections from Psalm 8:

- Jesus is our Lord.
- How could God care about us, when we are so small?
- We have been placed and crowned with glory and honor.
- Man oversees all of creation (See Gen. 2).
- The Lord is magnificent.

We have the unique and amazing opportunity to serve the King within His kingdom.

Psalm 8:2 - *From the mouths of infants and nursing babies, you have established a stronghold on account of your adversaries in order to silence the enemy and the avenger.* (CSB)

The person of focus in Psalm 8 is God Himself. Jesus is claiming to be God. The King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Discussion Questions

- ❖ When was the last time you just sat and reflected on the glory of God?
- ❖ When was the last time you just sat and reflected upon the grace shown to you by God?

Section 4: 21:18-19 - The Barren Fig Tree

Fully explained later.