

“A Palm Sunday To Remember”

(They Hailed Him, but Loved Him Not.)

April 5, 2020

Scripture Text: Luke 19:35-42 NKJV **35** *Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. **36** And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road.*

37 *Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, **38** saying: “ ‘Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!’ Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”*

39 *And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.” **40** But He answered and said to them, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”*

41 *Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, **42** saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.*

Most of the Christian World today are celebrating in single dwellings due to being isolated because of a pandemic, when traditionally our churches would be filled. Even people who may not be regular attendees would find their way to church on Palm Sunday and Easter to keep a family tradition. Some churches would celebrate this time of year with a cast and production depicting Christ’s death, burial and resurrection.

Now we must relegate our worship in private quarters through multimedia (television, computers, laptops and cell phones). Those are objects that may be helpful in some degree but seldom take the place of our physical gathering as worshipers. There is a danger in being programed with the use of objects and aids rather than worshiping the Lord with our whole self in spirit and in truth.

To worship God in spirit and truth requires loving Him with your heart, soul, mind and strength. True worship must be “in spirit and celebrated in belief of God’s Word (**JESUS**),” which engages your whole heart. Without a real passion for God, there is no worship in spirit. We all feel passion for something or someone. In general this is

not something we decide to do or work hard to develop. It happens out of an overflow of deep desire for someone or something. Passion is a hard thing to hide or disguise.

VERSE 35-36 35. *Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him.* **36** *And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road.*

Why a donkey and not a horse? Riding a donkey displays humility in His character where as riding a horse displays His power and majesty. He rode into Jerusalem being hailed as a King of Peace. Imagine with me, people coming from everywhere because of hearing the noise of celebration, not necessarily because they knew Jesus. People in our community will come together when they hear the noise of a fire truck but it's not the sound nor time of celebration. It is a time of concern for the welfare of a neighbor.

People can sometimes get caught up in another person's emotional experience without knowing the details of why they are celebrating. We all have heard the expression, "I'm happy because you are happy." I am sure there were individuals in the crowd who were not followers of Christ but were swept up in the fray of celebration. Has that ever happened to you?

The people are celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem by spreading palm branches in His path. Many who greeted Him were convinced for the moment, that He was the Messiah (or "anointed one"), sent by God to establish His Kingdom on earth. Their confidence changed when He did not meet their expectations. They were caught up with exuberance in lauding Him with praise (which He was and is due) by what they had seen and heard about His mighty acts. Some, may have felt that it was a little crazy with people pulling branches off trees, throwing their clothes on the ground and placing them along His path. I would rather have crazy praise to God than lazy and indifferent praise to Him!

VERSE 37-38 *Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen,* **38.** *saying: "*

'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!' Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'

Those believers were quoting The Messianic Psalm of Praise 118:26.

Let us be mindful, we worship God based on the truth of *who He Is!* We worship God based on the truth of *who We Are in Him!* We worship God in the truth of **What God has Done!** We worship God in the truth of **What is going on in Our World!** We worship God in the truth because of **The Promise of His Return!**

Psalms 34:1-4 NKJV 1. *I will bless the LORD At All Times; His Praise shall continually be in my mouth.* 2. *My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.* 3. *Oh, magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together.* 4. *I sought the LORD, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.*

I have never read or heard that the dead can praise God...only the living can! If you are alive and well find something that He has done for you worthy of praise. It is in our best interest to praise Him now while we have the use of the faculties of our being! Tomorrow is not promised.

VERSE 39-40 *And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40. But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."*

The Pharisees understood what the people were saying and wanted Jesus to stop His followers from calling Him Messiah and King. They knew the scriptures but their hearts were darken with unbelief.

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."*

Understand that your enemy delights in silencing you. If you ever come to realize in your soul the power and strength that comes from praise by rejoicing in the Lord, the enemy is defeated. **The joy of the Lord is a constant gladness that you have been redeemed by His Blood; it's your greatest reason to rejoice. The Joy of the Lord is**

your strength as you walk and live by faith. The joy of the Lord stems from an inner strengthening from our confidence in Him during times of testing.

GLORY, GLORY...HALLALUJAH I'm redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb of God !

Jesus responded to the Pharisees request that the stones would cry out because it had to be acknowledged because history had pointed to this single glorious event. When Messiah came, He would be publicly presented to the nation as God ordained it. I believe that all nature took notice even though there is no mention in bible. It would be a sad day in the Kingdom if stones had to praise God, while those who were created in His image remained silent!

VERSE 41-42 *41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.*

Jesus showed compassion on Jerusalem; He knew that the time would come when it would lay waste. He wept over the city and it's people because they did not understand how important that day was to bring peace to the nation. This was the day to acknowledge that Messiah has come as the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world and they rejected Him.

Apostle John said in chapter 1 verses **11-13 NKJV** **11.** *He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13. who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

TO NOT RECOGNIZE WHAT GOD IS DOING IN THE MIST OF OUR DAY, AS HIS PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY HIS NAME, IS A CATASTROPHE.

Application: Love cost the sacrifice of God's Son for you...what are you willing to sacrifice for Him?