

## “Change My Life”

April 13, 2025

**Scripture Text: Matthew 21:6-11 ESV** **6** The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. **7** They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. **8** Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” **10** And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” **11** And the crowds said, “This is the prophet, Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.”

We enter the world as infants with expectations. We have hopes and desires in our lives, including relationships. We expect everything, including our jobs, to bring us joy, fulfillment, and comfortable living. We choose our mates, expecting love, acceptance, affection, and forgiveness when we sin.

When people who have been oppressed by any form of government or spirit encounter someone who ***can change their lives... they are all in. Change My Life!***

It was evident that Jesus' popularity had reached the pinnacle. Many had heard about His power to control the weather, defy nature (turning water into wine), feed thousands with five loaves and two fish, heal the sick from all their diseases, cast out evil spirits, and raise the dead.

Their expectations had become elevated, and their hope was over the moon. Many thought, “He was the ***One to change their lives!***” Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory! Glory! Alleluia! Shouts of joy filled the air as they believed a significant change was coming that would forever bring blessings and security. They even expected Him to save them as they cried out.... Hosanna! The Hebrew plea for divine help, salvation, and deliverance!

Jesus had visited Jerusalem many times during His earthly ministry, but this time was different! He sent His disciples to retrieve a particular donkey and a colt! This time, He would enter to fulfill the Father's expectations as prophesied in **Zechariah 9:9**.

***“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.”***

When Jesus intentionally rode into Jerusalem on a colt for them, those who knew the Old Testament's prophecy were convinced [that life would be better once He took control and established His kingdom!](#) Oh, Hallelujah! There would be dancing in the street and

feasting for weeks! They had every reason to believe with great anticipation that His actions proved that He was their promised King and Deliverer—their Messiah!

In **Deuteronomy 18:18**, Father God promised Moses that Jesus, the prophet, would come to save them. ***“I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.”***

It was time for Jesus to reveal Himself as the fulfillment of the prophecies, bringing about God’s most extraordinary deliverance in their lives—a deliverance many in faith had awaited with much anticipation.

When Jesus entered the city, it was filled with a frenzy of elation and wonderment. “Who is this?”... people enquired. Many responded, ***“It is the Prophet, Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.”***

Jesus' first stop was entering the temple, overturning the tables, and whipping those who were buying and selling to profit from those in need. I can imagine that when this happened, those who thought Jesus should take His Kingdom by force to establish it were entirely on board with His actions.

**PAUSE!**

**The expectations are set in their minds that He will make things better! Within a few days, there is a *shift in the atmosphere*, and their high praise vaporizes.**

What happens when you have given your heart and strength to believe when your expectations are not fulfilled? Does anger, resentment, and bitterness show their ugly faces, and pouting and cursing spew from your lips? One of life's strongest **“letdowns”** happens when you **plan, work, save, give, and wait** for a big event to happen as you imagined, only to walk away feeling unfulfilled.

Could people have unrealistic life-changing expectations of Jesus, such as defining their context of following Christ as having no more issues in life? They might expect Him to relieve them from every pain and not to suffer. They might expect Him to grant all their desires. They might expect Him to make them more prosperous and financially “secure” even when they are not good stewards.

When these things are not done according to their satisfaction, people blame and even reject Jesus because He did not cater to their will. Unfortunately, sinners like us have life-changing expectations that we place before Jesus **on our terms. 1 Corinthians 15:19** ***“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we of all people to be pitied.”***

Jesus did not come to take away all our physical struggles. He came and continues to come into our lives with His life-changing expectations, entering those struggles with us.

**This Palm Sunday**, we can experience the spiritual, life-changing power in His *way*, *will*, and *plan* for our eternal destiny. Jesus did not give in to fulfilling our human expectations. He remained faithful in fulfilling the Father's expectations of giving us an eternal relationship because we were created with eternity in the mind of Father God.

As you come in faith to Jesus with humble repentance, the Holy Spirit will seal and empower you to live by the promises of God's written Word. Then God begins working in you to will and do of His good pleasure by transforming your life into His Son's image!

**Applications:**

**You can trust in Jesus even when He doesn't meet your expectations.**

**What matters most is your eternal security.**