

Observations from the Triumphal Entry

Sunday, April 14 2019

Palm Sunday

Announce

- No midweek service
- Friday (Good Friday) communion at 7:00pm in the sanctuary
- Men's breakfast Saturday 10:00am
- No Sunday school next week - Easter Service only
- Missions giving - consider your pledge, and increasing it

Text

**Luke 19:36-40 (ESV)* (36) And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. (37) As he was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that 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 in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." (40) He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."*

Observations

Observe their worship

- Part of the story most often emphasized
- Warrants another look

Who are they

- His disciples. See **Luke 19:37 (ESV)* (37) As he was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen,*
- In Luke's account - his disciples are the ones who worship Him
- They've chosen to follow Him and His ministry
- **Note:** From Galilee - coming down to Jerusalem for Passover
- They have...

- Seen his miracles
- Heard his teaching
- Believed in Him
- As a result - they have followed him!
- **Point:** I trust you too have become his disciple!

Why are they worshipping

- Recognize in Jesus their Messiah, their king
- Now as he rides in on the donkey, they connect the dots and worship him **Matt 21:4-5 (ESV)* (4) This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, (5) "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"*
- They begin shouting *Hosanna* - Save us and worshipping him as their Messiah!
- **Discuss:** True worship is the result of a revelation of who Jesus is
- Consider **Matt 16:15-17 (ESV)* (15) He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" (16) Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (17) And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.*
- See the reaction of the demons
- **Point:** When we, by the Spirit, see him for who he is, we will worship!

How was their worship received

By the Pharisees

- See **Luke 19:39 (ESV)* (39) And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples."*
- Genuine worship will threaten the religious status quo
- **Thought:** Has our worship ever made anyone nervous?

By Jesus

- By Jesus - he allowed it, condoned it
- See **Luke 19:40 (ESV)* (40) He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."*
- Some claim Jesus never expressed a belief in his own divinity, but this incident says otherwise
- He knew he was worthy of worship.
- He knew he was the Son of God
- **Point:** There is only one who is worthy of worship!

Observe his destination

See his determination to go

- He knew they would kill him when he arrived
- See his repeated attempts to teach this to the disciples. Here's 3/3 **Luke 18:31-33 (ESV)**
(31) And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. (32) For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. (33) And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise."
- Peter even rebukes him earlier for suggesting he would be killed
- **Point:** Are we determined to obey?

See his heart for the city

- See **Luke 19:41 (ESV)** *(41) And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, - Weeping over the judgment on the city*
- God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. See these passages:
 - *Ezekiel 18:23* Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord GOD, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?
 - *Ezekiel 18:32* For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."
 - *Ezekiel 33:11* Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?
 - **2 Peter 3:9 (ESV)** *(9) The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*
- They are deserving of God's wrath - yet wept for them
- This is the heart of Jesus for us. They are the very ones who will crucify him - yet he loves them!

See his fulfilment of God's plan

- To Jerusalem to die
- For God so loved - this week culmination of the fact
- See how God has done everything to spare mankind the wrath they deserve

Applications

Make Him King

- On that day - the worshippers were those who had chosen to follow him (disciples) and

were expecting Him to reign as king

- I trust that we are in both categories
- **Note:** Lip service is not good enough
- Consider **Matt 7:21-23 (ESV)* (21) "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. (22) On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' (23) And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'*
- We either choose him as king now - or are destroyed when he returns to rule and reign!
We cannot remain neutral about Jesus

Prioritize worship

- We were created to worship
- We don't make it a priority
- Its what we were created to do
- **Thought** Praying for fresh revelation

Thought: re: end of the week

- I've often thought they were shouting *Hosanna* on Palm Sunday, and *Crucify him* on Good Friday . See **Mark 15:12-15 (ESV)* (12) And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" (13) And they cried out again, "Crucify him." (14) And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." (15) So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.*
- The reality is - his disciples weren't there... they weren't raising their voice!
- See Pilate's motivation from v15 *wishing to satisfy the crowd*
- Kennedy's quote *The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.* (**Note:** Wrongfully attributed to Burke, and possibly traces back to a sermon by Rev. Charles F. Aked. See [this article](#) for more information.
- We are called to the salt and light both of these illustrate how our lives are supposed to impact the world around us
- When Christians withdraw from their culture, they no longer influence the culture