

Sunday Morning Message

April 1, 2020

The Triumphal Entry

Text – Luke 19:28 - 48

Introduction

In the first part of this chapter, we had the account of Zacchaeus, and then the parable of the pounds, which taught us that we are to “occupy” or stay busy until He comes.

The historical context of this chapter deals with the last year of Jesus’ earthly life as He is heading to Jerusalem to be crucified.

Beginning here in v. 28, Jesus will make his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, which is something that we typically celebrate on Palm Sunday, which ironically happens to be this Sunday.

Every year, I preach messages regarding the triumphal entry, but rarely would I teach about it exclusively from Luke’s perspective. Tonight, we will limit our view so that we will primarily see what Luke has to show us.

I. Preparation for the Lord’s Entry (vs. 28 – 34)

The Lord’s entry into Jerusalem was prophesied by Zechariah:

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." (Zechariah 9:9)

There are a few things that I would like to point out from these verses:

1. Verse 1 - Jesus had just given the *Parable of the Pounds*, which taught the disciples to stay busy until Jesus comes back. Now, He is busy heading to do what He came to do – go to the Cross.

"For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed." (Isaiah 50:7)

2. The second thing I notice is that these disciples did exactly what Jesus told them to do without question. It was a rather strange request. Jesus was basically asking His disciples to borrow a donkey from someone they did not even know.

Practical Thought – Jesus will sometimes ask you to do strange things.

Illustrate – “Say yes, figure it out, and get it done.”

3. The third strange thing that stands out from this passage is that the man who owns the donkey doesn't seem to question the request. The disciples said: the Lord hath need of Him,” and that was all that was needed for the man to give the donkey.

What do you own that the Lord could just take for His use at a moments notice.

Sometimes when God has a plan for us, there are things that do not make sense to us. Yet, God will work all of those things out according to His will.

II. The Glorification of the Lord in His Entry (vs. 35 – 40)

The people were right to glorify the Lord, and they should have kept glorifying Him, even after the religious leadership brought their false accusations against him.

The Pharisees like the praises of men, and they didn't want any competition from the Lord, and they demanded that Jesus shut up the people who were praising Him. Notice Jesus' reply: *“if these should hold thy peace, the stones would immediately cry out.”* Jesus said that if His people stopped praising Him there would be a rock concert of praise. I suggest that we keep praising Him, and , unlike these fickle people, keep praising Him; even when things are not going exactly the way we think they ought to go.

III. The Purification after the Lord's Entry (vs. 41 – 48)

1. Compassion because of their blindness (vs. 41 – 44)

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.” (Romans 11:25)

The other part of their blindness was due to their rejection of their Messiah.

“He came unto his own, and his own received him not.” (John 1:11)

Jesus wept over this city and the people in it, because they had closed their eyes to the truth of the gospel.

“For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.” (Matthew 13:15)

"But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." (Matthew 9:36)

2. Cleansing because of their belligerence (vs. 45 – 48)

There was a lot of money being traded in the Temple in the name of the Lord. Jesus was not at all pleased. This is the second time that Jesus cleansed the Temple. The first was in Jesus' first year of ministry (see John 2:13 – 25).

Conclusion

Jesus is spending these last few days of His earthly life teaching in the Temple by day, and going back to Bethany at night. In just a few short days will be the Last Supper, and then Jesus will be betrayed by Judas, denied by Peter, rejected by the nation of Israel, and crucified by the Romans.

The practical application that we all can make here is that there are a lot of people who are quick to start something, but also quick to turn back.

"And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62)

In just a very short period of time Jesus went from having the whole world loving Him, to having the whole world against him, even most of His closest friends and followers. What would it take for you to deny the Lord? Or worse, betray and turn against Him?



