

The Triumphal Entry  
Mathew 21:1-11

I. Please turn with me to \*Mathew 21:1-11\* and let's read it together

- a. In Mathew Chapter 21, Mathew describes for us the "Triumphal Entry" of the Lord Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday
  - i. This glorious event would initiate the final week of Jesus' earthly ministry commonly referred to as "*Passion Week*"
  - ii. Traditionally, scholars affirm that passion week began on Palm Sunday with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and concluded on Resurrection Sunday with Jesus' resurrection from the dead
  - iii. This final week of Jesus' earthly ministry, Passion Week, was filled with many activities and events culminating on Resurrection Sunday
- b. However, it all began with the "Triumphal Entry" of King Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday
  - i. Interestingly, each of the four gospels record for us this glorious event which took place the Sunday before the first Easter
  - ii. We read about it in Mathew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19, and John 12
  - iii. The Holy Spirit considered this event so important and meaningful that He inspired each of the Gospel writers to include it into their account
- c. And this morning, being that we are celebrating Palm Sunday, I want to take the time and examine this glorious event in Jesus' life
  - i. This event, like no other, reveals to us a wealth of knowledge concerning the *person* and *work* of Jesus Christ
  - ii. One of my greatest passions and desires is to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ – "*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...*" – **2 Peter 3:18a**
  - iii. I don't just want to hear about Him, I don't just want to read about Him, I don't just want to talk about Him, but I want to know Him...
- d. And this morning, I want to share with you "Five Things" the Triumphal Entry reveals to us about Jesus – Let's get to know Him!

II. 1<sup>st</sup> – "It Reveals the Devotion of Jesus"

- a. In verse 1a, Mathew tells us, "Now when they drew near Jerusalem..."
  - i. With His arrival to Jerusalem, Jesus' earthly ministry would soon come to a completion/end
  - ii. Jesus had dedicated 3 ½ years ministering to the multitudes in Israel – "*He went around preaching the gospel to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, proclaiming liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, liberating those who were oppressed, and proclaiming the acceptable year of the Lord*" cf. **Luke 4:18-19**
  - iii. However, within a few days, Jesus would be betrayed, arrested, tried, condemned, scourged, and crucified in Jerusalem

- iv. Yet, in spite of being aware of all the horrors which awaited Him in Jerusalem, Jesus still journeyed to the City with His disciples
- b. Why? Because Jesus was completely *Devoted* to the will of His Father
  - i. You see, Jesus understood that it was His Father’s will for Him to go to Jerusalem and die for the sins of the world
  - ii. And because Jesus was completely devoted to His Father’s will, He willingly went to Jerusalem to offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world – ***“He Presented Himself as the True Passover Lamb”***
  - iii. Everything about Jesus’ earthly life, from birth till death, involved accomplishing, obeying, and fulfilling His Father’s will
  - iv. In **John 5:30**, the Lord Jesus declared, ***“I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”***
- c. And this is the question I have for you this morning, *“What are you Devoted to? What are you Passionate for? God’s will or your will?”*
  - i. Follow the example of Jesus and learn to be devoted to the will of God
  - ii. You see, soon we’re all going to come to the end of our lives/ministry, and we need to make sure we’re living for the will of God
  - iii. A life completely devoted, surrendered, and submitted to the will of God is not a wasted life

### III.2<sup>nd</sup> – “It Reveals the *Character* of Jesus”

- a. In verse 4-5a, Mathew tells us, *“All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey...”*
  - i. As Jesus was getting ready to enter Jerusalem, He commanded His disciples to go fetch Him a donkey – a young colt
  - ii. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords would humbly ride into Jerusalem on a young donkey
  - iii. He could have entered Jerusalem with great pomp, procession, and prestige, yet He choose to enter humbly, lowly, quietly, and meekly
- b. And in doing so, Jesus reveals to us a very important aspect of His character, *“He is Humble”*
  - i. The greatest of Kings is also the humblest of Servants...
  - ii. In **Mark 10:45a**, the Lord Jesus declared, ***“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...”***
  - iii. In **Mathew 11:29**, the Lord Jesus describes Himself as being, ***“meek and lowly in heart”***
  - iv. **1 Corinthians 8:9** declares, ***“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for our sakes He become poor, that you through His poverty might become rich”***
- c. During His first coming, the Lord Jesus came to the earth as a humble servant, and in doing so, He left us an example to follow Cf. 1 Peter 2:21

- i. Learn to conduct yourself in a spirit of humility at all times – “***Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up***” **Js. 4:10**
- ii. If you want to be great in the Kingdom of God, learn to be a servant – learn to serve others in the spirit of love cf. **1 Peter 5:5; James 4:6**

#### IV. **3<sup>rd</sup> – “It Reveals the *Sovereignty* of Jesus”**

- a. In Luke’s account of the Triumphal Entry, he tells us that the young donkey used by Jesus to enter Jerusalem was a “colt on which no one has ever sat” – Cf. Luke 19:30a
  - i. I find this little detail given by Luke to be very interesting because normally it takes time for a wild animal to be tamed by its owner
  - ii. Generally, when someone gets on a horse or donkey for the first time, they are immediately tossed to the ground by the untamed animal
  - iii. However, the Gospels tells us that when Jesus got on this young donkey, He had complete control over the animal
  - iv. The fact that the young donkey had never been ridden, yet submitted perfectly to Jesus, reveals to us Jesus’ sovereignty over His creation
- b. King Jesus is in complete control over all of Creation – “He is Sovereign”
  - i. **Psalm 115:1-3** declares, “***Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth. Why should the Gentiles say, ‘So where is their God?’ But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.***”
  - ii. The Lord Jesus is in Heaven, sitting on His throne, and He is in complete control over all the affairs of mankind
  - iii. Not the Government, not the Devil, not the President, but King Jesus is in control, and He will accomplish His purposes according to His good pleasure
- c. Therefore, this morning, I want to encourage you by saying, “Stop worrying, everything is going to be okay, Jesus is still sitting on His throne – He is in control!”

#### V. **4<sup>th</sup> – “It Reveals the *Identity* of Jesus”**

- a. In verses 4, Mathew tells us, “All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet...”
  - i. In the Old Testament, the prophet Zachariah prophesied that when the Messiah came He would enter Jerusalem riding on a Donkey (Zach. 9:9)
  - ii. And approximately 500 years after this prophecy was given, Jesus of Nazareth rode into Jerusalem riding on a Donkey
  - iii. By doing so, Jesus revealed to the Nation of Israel, and the entire world, His true identity – “***The Messiah***”
- b. Throughout the Old Testament, we have hundreds of prophecies concerning the Messiah

- i. These Messianic prophecies paint for us a detailed picture of the promised Messiah who would come into the world (\*blue-print\*)
    - ii. And as you study the prophecies and examine the evidence, they always point to one Man – “*Jesus of Nazareth*”
    - iii. It is estimated that Jesus fulfilled approximately 300 prophecies throughout His lifetime – All written hundreds of years before His birth
  - c. And this morning, I want to briefly share with you eight Messianic prophecies fulfilled in the life of Jesus of Nazareth
    - i. Messiah would be from the Seed of Abraham: Genesis 22:18 c.f. Galatians 3:16; Mathew 1:1
    - ii. Messiah would be from the Tribe of Judah: Gen. 49:10 c.f. Heb. 7:14
    - iii. Messiah would be from the line of David: II Samuel 7:13, Jeremiah 23:5 c.f. Mathew 1:1, Romans 1:3
    - iv. Messiah would be born from a Virgin: Isaiah 7:14 c.f. Mathew 1:23
    - v. Messiah would be born in Bethlehem: Micah 5:2 c.f. Mathew 2:1
    - vi. Messiah would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver: Zechariah 11:13 cf. Mathew 26:15
    - vii. Messiah would be Crucified/Pierced: Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 22:16; Daniel 9:26 c.f. Mathew 27:35; Luke 23:33; John 20:27
    - viii. Messiah would rise from the dead: Psalms 16:10 c.f. Acts 2:32
  - d. Interestingly, a scientist by the name of Peter Stoner calculated the odds of one person fulfilling just eight Messianic prophecies and concluded that the chance of that happening would be 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power
    - i. That would be a One in One-Hundred Quadrillion chance for One person to fulfill just eight prophecies
    - ii. Now, think about this for a moment, Jesus didn’t just fulfill eight prophecies, but approximately three-hundred prophecies
  - e. With such strong evidence like that, I don’t have enough faith not to believe that Jesus was the Messiah – “Jesus of Nazareth is the Promised Messiah”

VI. **5<sup>th</sup> – “It Reveals the *Mission* of Jesus” (\*Call Jonah to the Front\*)**

- a. In Ancient Days, when a King entered a city riding on a Donkey, he was proclaiming to the people that He came to bring peace
  - i. The Donkey was a symbol of peace and tranquility...
  - ii. Therefore, when Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a Donkey, He was proclaiming to the people that He came to bring peace
  - iii. He came to be our Peace...
- b. Now, this is extremely important, because the Bible tells us that by nature mankind is at enmity and war with God
  - i. Because of their sins, Mankind is at war with God – “*Fighting a war which will never be won*”

- ii. However, through the Lord Jesus, we are able to experience peace with God; the Lord Jesus has caused the war to end...
- iii. **Colossians 1:19-20** declares, “*For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His Cross*”
- c. The first time He came, He came to bring peace; the second times He comes, He will bring war and crush all those who rejected Him (\*Riding a white horse cf. Revelation 19:11-16)
  - i. However, this morning, the Prince of Peace offers you peace in the place you need it most, with God and with Yourself
  - ii. At the Cross, Jesus was crushed, shattered, wounded, maimed, injured, smashed, crippled, wrecked, demolished, fractured, handicapped, disabled, and ultimately, killed, in order to bring you peace
- d. And this morning, we are going to take the time to remember that great sacrifice the King of Kings made to bring us peace with God