

## Connection to Passage

The focus of this sermon is on Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, considering the scene from His perspective, knowing what waited for Him on the cross.

## Introduction/Opening

You can tell the importance of an event by the amount of books written about it. Obviously, the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem was one of those events. In fact, it is recorded in all four Gospels. The entrance into Jerusalem began the final week of our Lord's earthly ministry. This last week was full of ministry and culminated with His crucifixion and resurrection.

## Outline

- I. Jesus Arrived in a Procession (vv. 7-10)
  - a. Why did Jesus come in a procession? Wasn't it unlike Jesus to draw attention to Himself? The time had come for Him to reveal Himself as the King of kings.
  - b. Jesus also came in a procession to fulfill the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9-10, which predicted that Jesus would ride in on a donkey. Most kings would have ridden on a horse, which symbolized might and power. But Jesus rode in on a donkey, which was a symbol of humility.
  - c. Jesus also came in a procession to give the people one more opportunity to respond to Him as King. As Jesus passed by them one final time, He was offering them one last chance.
- II. Jesus Arrived to a Crowd
  - a. Although the crowd cheered for Jesus, they did not understand who Jesus really was. In verse 10, they said, "Who is this?" The crowd answered, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth." The crowd only had a shallow understanding of Jesus. They did not understand that Jesus was the Son of God and the Savior of the world.
- III. Jesus Arrived with a Broken Heart
  - a. Jesus wept because He clearly could see the tragedy of what was happening. And the tragedy was that the crowd did not understand the significance of who He really was.
  - b. Jesus had a broken heart, and the crowd had a hard heart. Jesus shed tears because He knew that the people were rejecting their only hope.

## Conclusion

We can draw two conclusions from this narrative:

1. Every nation has to make a choice.

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, He was giving Israel one last opportunity to choose Him. He tried to lead them, but they persistently opposed Him. Jesus tried to protect them from the coming judgments. Luke 19:14 sums it up well—the people said, “We don’t want this man to rule over us.” To reject Jesus is the worst decision that any nation can make.

2. Every individual has a choice to make.

As Jesus rode through Jerusalem that day, He was giving the people one final opportunity to receive Him. Likewise, each one of us has a choice to make about Jesus. It is the ultimate decision. The Lord has a great plan for your life. But if you reject Him, you will have to walk this lifetime without Him and without His blessing, guidance, and favor. And then you will face His judgment when you stand before Him.

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