March 28, 2021

1. The Background

And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. Luke 19:28 (ESV)

1. Jesus entered Jerusalem in a position of humility.

When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, Luke 19:29 (ESV)

…saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’ ” Luke 19:30–31 (ESV)

So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” Luke 19:32–34 (ESV)

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” John 1:47–49 (ESV)

But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man. John 2:24–25 (ESV)

If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread out our hands to a foreign god, would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart. Psalm 44:20–21 (ESV)

And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. Luke 19:35 (ESV)

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, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

1. The people expressed hollow adoration for Jesus.

And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. Luke 19:36 (ESV)

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, Luke 19:37 (ESV)

…saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” Luke 19:38 (ESV)

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” John 12:13 (ESV)

Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him. John 11:57 (ESV)

And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” Luke 19:39 (ESV)

1. Jesus condemned the city.

He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.” Luke 19:40 (ESV)

The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” Matthew 27:21–22 (ESV)

For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the woodwork respond. “Woe to him who builds a town with blood and founds a city on iniquity! Habakkuk 2:11–12 (ESV)

And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, Luke 19:41 (ESV)

…saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Luke 19:42 (ESV)

For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you,…” Luke 19:43–44 (ESV)

…because you did not know the time of your visitation.” Luke 19:44 (ESV)

How can we apply this to our life?

* Jesus is God. He knows everything that is happening in my life and my heart. In spite of knowing me completely, he still loves me fully. He loves me so much he died for me.
* Remember that Jesus didn’t come to save us from our felt needs. He came to save us from our real need, which is the problem of sin and our need to be in a right relationship with God.
* I don’t want to miss the day of Jesus’ visitation in my life. There is no guarantee there will be a second chance.

Life Group Questions

1. Review your sermon notes and the above outline. What stood out in this message? What did you learn that you didn’t know?
2. Jesus’ knowledge of where to find the colt, what people would say when the disciples took the colt, plus the Old Testament prophecies about this day show us nothing happened in the final week of Jesus’ life that was beyond God’s knowledge and control. How does knowing that change the way you feel about your life when it feels like it is spinning out of control?
3. If you had been present for the triumphal entry, what might you have felt if you had been in the crowd when Jesus rode into town?
4. The Jewish nation expected Jesus to serve as a political king. How do our expectations of Jesus differ from what he actually came to accomplish?
5. What else do we learn about Jesus from the details of his arrival?