
Theme: “A BIG CROWD MEETS A KING”

INTRODUCTION:

A. Movie bloopers
   1. 1948 movie with an ATM machine in it.
   2. Ferry ride from Detroit to Racine, WI.; when there’s no such ferry

B. Palm Sunday crowd thought they were witnessing a blooper

C. Three background details to help understand today’s text
   1. All Israel knew that Messiah would be enthroned as King in Jerusalem.
   2. Passover feast about to begin, bringing several million people to the City.
   3. Jesus performed number of miracles, fueling messianic enthusiasm, alarming the religious leaders.

D. Four ways to welcome the King this morning.

I. Welcome Him with OBEDIENCE (19:28-35a)

   A. Jesus walks ahead of the disciples (vs. 28)
      1. Jesus couldn’t wait to complete His job.
      2. Disciples dragged their feet, knowing He was under sentence of death.

   B. Jesus and disciples arrive at Bethany (vs. 29)
      1. Home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus
      2. Mary anoints Jesus’ feet with burial oil

   C. Disciples told to go to Bethphage (vss. 30-31)
      1. They would find a colt and bring it with its mother.
      2. Fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9

   D. How Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem was viewed.
      1. Followers of Jesus looked for Him to overthrow Roman rule
      2. Jesus sought to conquer the spiritual hearts of people

   E. Are we as quick to OBEY when we don’t understand everything that’s going on? (John 14:15)
II. Welcome the King with **GIFTS**

A. Colt
   1. Owners didn’t question disciples when told it was for Jesus
   2. Jesus has every right to possess what is ultimately His.
   3. King Solomon’s procession to Gihon (1 Kings 1:38-39)

B. Cloaks on colt and road (vss. 35-36)
   1. Like the red carpet for the Oscars
   2. People spread cloaks under King Jehu as he walked on bare stairs
      (2 Kings 9:13).

C. Palm branches on the road (Matthew 21:8)
   1. Common way to welcome victorious King returning from battle
   2. Expression of joy

D. What can we give today to welcome the King?
   1. Something expensive?
   2. Something essential?

III. Welcome the King with **PRAISE** (vs. 37-38)

A. Quote from Psalm 118:26 “**BLESSED IS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD! PEACE IN HEAVEN AND GLORY IN THE HIGHEST!**”

B. Pharisees ask Jesus to rebuke the disciples (vs. 39)
   1. Jesus’ response is that the rocks know more about what is taking place than the Pharisees.
   2. Literally fulfilled when Jesus rose Easter morning (Matt. 27:51)

C. How are welcoming the King with praise?

IV. Welcome the King with **FAITH** (vs. 41)

A. Jesus weeps over the city because it is lost
   1. He wept at the death of Lazarus (John 11:35)
   2. He wept at the sight of Jerusalem (Luke 19:28-44)
   3. He wept in the Garden of Gethsemane (Hebrews 5:7)
B. Jesus offered salvation to the people, but it was rejected
   1. People lose out on real peace
   2. Jesus saw Jerusalem’s future destruction

C. If we do not recognize Jesus’ coming and put our faith in Him, we face JUDGMENT. (Ezekiel 33:11)

D. Two aspects motivating us to put faith and confidence in Christ
   1. Jesus’ tears reveal His heart of compassion toward us. God’s kindness can lead us to repentance (Romans 2:4)
   2. The coming terror reveals Jesus’ holiness. (Luke 16 – rich man and Lazarus)

E. The biggest blooper of all times? Not putting faith and trust in Jesus Christ!