

Matthew 21:1-17

- Excitement of that Day outside Jeru was a parade of sorts but w/ just 1 singular figure subject of fanfare
 - J quite popular 3 yrs. Ministry thru preaching/teaching/seems mostly miracles recently Laz.
 - Who people thought He was varied – fullness of who really was veiled in humility

I. THE PROCESSION TO JERU – bustling w/ passover enthusiasm + #s

A. Humble King - Birth to Death – manger to crown of thorns - ☩ on horizon

1. Prophetic fulfillment Odd px to us: donkey (not stallion) no real pomp

Zec 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jeru Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous + having salvation is he, humble + mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

2. Troubled King: **Lk 9:51** When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jeru

B. People's response – primarily Jews (Freedom now crew) (Some Romans/Gentiles/Gks observe)

1. Faithful Fans disciples + followers men women, children
2. Fickle Fans caught up in moment, # turn w/ turn of events to come
3. Chants: (songs?) **Ps. 118:24-29** - Messianic O, Save!

C. Some undoubtedly NOT chanting, charmed or amused

1. Foes – earthly agents of darkness # reasons envy, \$, concern peace, Law = unbelief + wicked
2. Unholy Alliance: chief priests, teachers of Law, leaders – Judas in the wings

John's summary description of crowd: Jn 12:9-11 When the large crowd of the Jews learned that J was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Laz, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, bec/ on account of him many of the Jews were going away + believing in J.

whole♥ed – half♥ed – hard♥ed

D. Children: caught up in the moment – shouting – little legs running out w/ palm/cloak

E. King of Kings – w/ people could not see

Meek, He rides upon the colt; ☩, who wields the thunderbolt, Lays His royal glory by - In our flesh for man to die. J. H. Anketell 1889

II. INTO THE TEMPLE COURTS

A. Amidst the cleansing/chaos infuriated J @ irreverence for place of prayer + worship (+ healings)

B. Children Cry Hosanna – seems while other voices fade, children still caught up in adoration

C. Irked Religious Officials + sneering over exuberant praise call foul

Earlier: Lk 19 As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mt of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice + praise ☩ w/ a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven + glory in the highest! & some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, Teacher, rebuke your disciples. He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.

D. J Accepts + Rebukes w/ § Ps. 8

E. Praises will Fade – commonly assumed some would cry “crucify” – shutter think some children among

- **Back to children** + Special Place they have in kingdom/church/worship

Jesus + Children: *Be like children – become children – literal children Mtt 19:13-15 not single incident*

⊃ Children when started focus on children realize so much bigger than Palm Sunday sermon

Consider how important it is for children to be cherished, treated kindly, guided in ways of Lord

3 negative things smacked in face in anticipation Pastor on vaca in ref to sermon/children

- Big abusive dad + little 4 yr. old near life guard sister near / life guard - helpless – Lord's name – cussed pushed
- Church handful singing – sure children noticed too
- Children (not all litte) **EXIT** under brightly lit signs excluded from corporate worship of God

III. Children + HEAVENLY WORSHIP <Genuine ♥-felt worship Hosanna! or a flash in pan → crucify!>

- on other side GF/Easter/Ascension – inclusion of Children of keen interest in worship LIVING X
- **Know** (who J really is) – **Grow** (grace/knowledge ☩s ways/live) – **Worship** (w/ whole ♥ participation)

- Salvation miraculous work HS – making disciples work of God's people (teach them to follow/obey)
- ⊃ Children in worship (love focus on young people/teens + worship – here the youngest)

A. Parent's Privilege: teach to **know, grow + worship** (that order bec/ worship ☩ know)

- Dads/Moms (espec Dads if present) Fear ☩ kind + gentle – in word + prayer – SING!
“worship is @ the very center + core of w/ it means for us to be a Xan fam.
As Xan fams we want to see our fams as worshiping fams. J. Helop Neglected Grace

B. Churches Duty: teach/equip **know, grow + worship** –on Ed program? Worship? Trying hard – can do better

- losing far too many young people grievously from faith – but to other churches too
- Missing something when comes to engaging/challenging/inspiring?

C. Children participate: How to **know Lord** Word/prayer – “Hosanna” Oh, save

- You are sinners + got understand/believe that w/o J dying on ☩ not forgiven/not good w/ ☩
- **worship participate** (times hard but grow) Call to worship → benediction try to follow be part
- Songs – Prayer – Word reading/preaching (Q's) try to get something

- w/ do in worship legit – but just a taste of w/ to come – always marvel @ heavenly px **Rev 7:9-10**

- things turn ugly quickly J from celebrity - w/in days criminal facing death press → arrest / beat / ☩

- King J now humble = King of Heaven to be worshipped + adored by all ☩'s children now + forever

Mat 21:1 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,

Mat 21:2 saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.

Mat 21:3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once."

Mat 21:4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

Mat 21:5 "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

Mat 21:6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.

Mat 21:7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them.

Mat 21:8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Mat 21:9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

Mat 21:10 And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"

Mat 21:11 And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Mat 21:12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.

Mat 21:13 He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."

Mat 21:14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.

Mat 21:15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant,

Mat 21:16 and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, "'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise'?"

Mat 21:17 And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

The Triumphal Entry

Mar 11:1 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples

Mar 11:2 and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it.

Mar 11:3 If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'"

Mar 11:4 And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it.

Mar 11:5 And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"

Mar 11:6 And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.

Mar 11:7 And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

Mar 11:8 And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

Mar 11:9 And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Mar 11:10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" – mtt 21:10,11 → Bethany →

Mar 11:11 And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Jesus Curses the Fig Tree

Mar 11:12 On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry.

Mar 11:13 And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.

Mar 11:14 And he said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Mar 11:15 And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.

Mar 11:16 And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.

Mar 11:17 And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers."

Mar 11:18 And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching.

Mar 11:19 And when evening came they went out of the city.

The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree

Mar 11:20 As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.

Mar 11:21 And Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered."

Mar 11:22 And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God.

Mar 11:23 Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.

Mar 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mar 11:25 And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

The Authority of Jesus Challenged

Mar 11:27 And they came again to Jerusalem. And as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to him,

Mar 11:28 and they said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?"

Mar 11:29 Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.

Mar 11:30 Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer me."

Mar 11:31 And they discussed it with one another, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?'

Mar 11:32 But shall we say, 'From man'?"—they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet.

Mar 11:33 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Children, Listen ...

1. Why were the children being so loud?
2. What were they saying?
3. Some people want to stop them, but does Jesus want them to stop?
4. Was Jesus ever too busy for children?
5. Is God ever too busy to listen to children praise Him?

Those Noisy Kids!

We simply can't know if the children crying out Hosanna to Jesus in the Temple was a spontaneous act of true worship or if they were just caught up in the moment mimicking what they heard at the grand parade. What we do know is that their adoration really annoyed the chief priests and scribes. In response, Jesus reminds them of the fact that God actually ordained such a thing – and in this case the little ones were boisterous! While we don't know exactly what was going on there, we do know that Covenant children are supposed to worship in a way that should be far more than simply parroting what they hear – they need to learn to worship God from the heart. That can only come from souls truly transformed by the Holy Spirit and as a result of effective discipleship. That is not to say there is no value in training our young ones in the elements and dynamics of corporate worship. It can begin in nursery years, but early on little

ones should become accustomed to joining the greater body for worship – not just as observers, not just biding time, but as participants – and the sooner, the better. We don't provide "children's church" at Covenant because we believe our children are part of the body of Christ here and should join in on the blessing we have of corporate worship. It may be hard for them to plug in to some of the parts of worship and we as a church need to work toward improving upon our ability to help them to be more engaged by making things accessible for them. With the combined efforts of parents, Sunday school teachers and the pastors we can help our littlest ones to understand, embrace and fully enjoy hearty praise to our Great God! What a wonderful thing it is to hear youthful voices reverberate in our sanctuary, more importantly it is a sweet sound to our Lord and Savior.