

John 39 - Triumphal Entry Climatic Moment for Man

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John 12:12-26

Triumphal Entry Trivialized

- Gentile Christian churches trivialize Christ's epochal Triumphal Entry into Palm Sunday (Trees for Forest)
 - Without prophetic context the significance of this event devolves into a mob praising Jesus with palm fronds
 - Without Jewish context His entry becomes a transitory spontaneous acceptance that quickly turns against Him
- This is Jesus' clear declaration of Messiahship (Jo 10:21-24)

Understanding Prophecy

- Axial Age: Prophets prepared the world for Christ's coming; Habakkuk was the example to the Jews (Hab 2:3-9)
 - Habakkuk, as the True Jew, was to wait on the Lord until corrected by Him through His Word
 - Through Habakkuk God told His people that the world was changing: Time of Gentile empires was beginning
 - God's prophetic word would be fulfilled; if it seemed slow, wait, it will come as appointed; then, the Word came (Jo 1:1-5, 9-13)

Daniel Gave the Date (Da 9:25-26)

- God, via Daniel, gave the date Jews were to expect Messiah (מָשִׁיחַ) - Anointed One (Anointed by Mary)
 - Artaxerxes' decreed Jerusalem rebuilt (444 B.C.) (Ne 2:1-6)
 - Seven weeks (49 years) - Jerusalem rebuilt (Nehemiah)
 - Sixty-two weeks (434 years) - Messiah killed (33 A.D.)
Conversion of solar to lunar years prevents simple calculation
- Christ's Triumphal Entry, and death, foretold by Daniel (Anointed by God: Baptism-Holy Spirit)

<https://www.messiahism.com/2020/04/04/daniel-9-25-26-what-is-the-chronological-calculation-of-jerusalem-rebuilt/>
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Zechariah Gave the Mode (Zc 9:9)

- Zechariah wrote Messiah would be also be king (Is 9:6-7, 55)
 - He would be righteous
 - He would bring salvation
 - He would be humble, riding a donkey, despised by men
- Christ fulfilled these requirements-Why was He killed?
 - Sinner's worldview rejected Habakkuk's example, be taught by God to understand His word; they chose them (1Co 2:14)

Christ Arranged His Entrance

- Christ began His procession at Jericho (Mt 20:29-34, Mk 10:46-52)
 - He publicly healed two blind men who joined Him
One of the two men was Bartimaeus
 - He publicly saved Zacchaeus as a son of Abraham (Jew) (Lk 19:1-10)
 - As He walked toward Jerusalem the crowd swelled
 - He stayed the night in Bethany dining with Lazarus (Jn 12:1-11)
 - Then He arrived in Bethpage where donkeys were ready for Him to ride into Jerusalem fulfilling Zechariah

Christ traveled with thousands of pilgrims going up to Jerusalem singing Psalms of Ascent preparing for Pesach, i.e., the very fulfillment of the Passover Lamb celebration (Ps 120-134)

Not Everyone Praised Him

- Modern mythology depicts nearly entire population of Jerusalem participating in Christ's Triumphal Entry
 - However, it was mainly His disciples, not just Apostles, who were saying these words, proclaiming Him Messiah
 - Much of Jerusalem did not know cause of excitement
 - Pharisees demanded that He quiet the crowd; His reply: the very stones would declare Him Messiah - It was His time; prophecy was being fulfilled in the fullness of time (Lk 19:39-40; Ga 4:4-5)

Crowd's Spontaneous Declaration

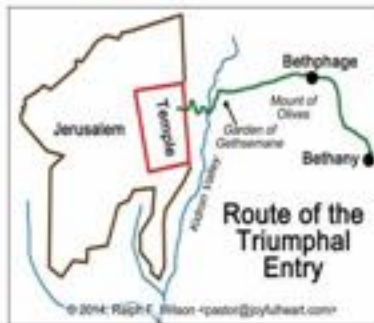
- Christ's public display of signs, public acceptance of sinners and association with Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead, electrified the pilgrim influx
- Jerusalem was already volatile due to Passover week and the large pilgrim crowds from around the known world
- From Bethpage to Jerusalem His disciples fulfilled the Scripture by declaring Him King and Messiah

Jesus Did Not Declare Himself King

- He did not stop His disciples; but, He was blameless (Ps 118:25-26)
 - Hosanna (ἠψῆ) - Ancient word for "Save Us" (Salvation)
 - Their cry for salvation was directed to Messiah
 - Implicit in their quotation of this Psalm - Messiah is to be the sacrifice by the Lord's Temple (Priesthood)
 - This Psalm asked for God's Light to shine on them
 - Opening Hymn - Light of God shining into dark world (Jo 1:4-5, 9-11)

From Bethany to Jerusalem

- Messiah enters Jerusalem via the Eastern Gate
- Sealed to stop Jews from claiming a Messiah-King
- When Messiah returns He will again enter by the Eastern Gate (Is 44:1-3)



Suleiman (Muslim) sealed the Eastern Gate, and despite numerous well-documented attempts to open it, the gate has remained sealed just as the Lord proclaimed to Ezekiel over 2,600 years ago

Pharisees Doubted Sanhedrin Plan

- John wrote that the Sanhedrin Council, supported by Sadducees and Pharisees, looked for an opportunity to quietly arrest (judge) Jesus away from the crowd (Jo 11:45-53, 57)
 - The Triumphal Entry made their secretive attempts ineffective (Jo 12:19)
 - After interacting with Jesus during this week Sanhedrin reaffirmed their plan of quietly arresting Jesus (Mt 26:1, Mk 14:1-2)

Latter Days – Technical Term

- God defines the term, *latter days*, as those times of Gentile rule revealed in Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Da 2:28)
 - Gold-Head-Lion with Eagle's wings: Babylonia
 - Silver-Chest and arms-Bear: Medo-Persia
 - Bronze-Loins-Leopard with Four wings: Hellen (Greece)
 - Iron-Legs-Dreadful Beast with Ten horns: Rome
 - Feet of Iron and Clay: Revived Roman Empire (Future)

Gentile Kingdoms Destroyed

- Daniel details that a "stone cut without hands" will crush the feet of iron and clay destroying Gentile and False Jew rule; Who is this stone? (Da 2:34-35)
 - Stone, builders (Jews) rejected, became the cornerstone (Ps 118:22-23)
 - False Jews align with Gentiles against God Who has laid a tested cornerstone in Zion (Triumphal Entry) (Is 28:16-28)
 - Jesus is the cornerstone (sacrifice) for Gentiles and Jews (Mt 21:33-46; Ep 2:19-22)

Triumphal Entry: Messiah Rejected

- The Triumphal Entry was the presentation of Messiah to the Jews
 - False Jews joined together to reject the Cornerstone
 - False Jews aligned with the Gentiles (Rome) to execute (reject) God's Stone cut out without hands
 - Their execution made Christ the Cornerstone based on His sinless sacrifice (Lk 20:17-18; Ac 4:11-12)

History Strained Toward This Time

- All history built toward this moment in history
 - Pre-incarnate Christ told Woman that her seed (Incarnate Christ) shall defeat Lucifer (sin) (Ge 3:15)
 - Nearly 1500 years after Moses, Jews waited return of the Prophet to guide them to God (De 18:15-18)
 - Just as their forefathers had refused to hear God at Mt Horeb so they refused to hear God and obey His divine Prophet (truth teller) who promised a great salvation (Ex 20:18-21)

Jews Rejected–Gentiles Sought

- Hellenists came to Philip [Greek name] seeking Jesus
 - Thus, as Jews were rejecting Messiah, Gentiles were seeking Him foreshadowing coming Church Age ^(Act)
- Christ speaks of His coming glorification, being *cut off* as foretold by Daniel
 - In other words, if Christ had not died, if the Jews had accepted Him there would be **no** salvation: death required to satisfy God's justice for sin; **no** glorification

Absolute Truth of His Death

- Christ came in an earthly, fleshly body like all people
 - If Christ had not died then He alone would be with the Father in eternity future as He had no sin
 - His fleshly body must die as it could not exist in eternity future; i.e., new earth with its different physical laws
 - Without His death as payment for our sin we would not be with Him in eternity future; i.e., Lake of Fire forever

Paradox to the Lost

- Christ said that if one loves his life, he will lose it; but, if he hates his life in the world, he will have eternal life
 - All religions, systems of works, envision living forever in the flesh in this world system; i.e., loving one's life: Lost
 - Christian gives up this life in the flesh in the world system because it is foreign to our new nature ^(2Co> 5:17)
 - Lost keep their lost nature (new body); described as death [separation from God forever] and never repenting

Service is Following

- Christ tells Greeks, apostles, disciples and us: salvation is a life of service that involves following His example
- Following Him means being different from the world because we are new creations in Him; forever different
- As Cain killed Abel for being a new creation in God and as *False Jews* and *Gentiles* kill Christ, though His Kingdom is not of this world, so should we expect the same as we also are new creations in Him

To Serve is to Join Him

- Christ makes the promise that whoever serves Him will join Him and the Father will honor him
- This means: to be absent from the body is to be present with Jesus giving an account of service: Christ or world (2Co 5:6-10)
- If we do not judge ourselves here, repent and ask forgiveness then we will stand before the Bema Seat receiving judgment, and loss, for embracing our sin

Unity Integral to Salvation

- John continues developing this unity theme during this last week--Entire purpose: of the stauros & of salvation
- This goal sustained Him as He anticipated His coming torture and murder as sin, for sin
- He promises believers the same integration with the Father as He enjoys; i.e., we have His nature
- Thus, whoever sees us should also see the Father and Jesus because all are united by the same Holy Spirit (Ep 4:4-7)