

The Messiah Enters Jerusalem

Matthew 20:29-21:11; Psalm 118:19-29; Isaiah 42:1-9

I. **THE BLIND MEN SEE** (20:29-34; Isa 35:5)

A. **The Condition of the Men**

1. **Blind** (Lev 21:18; 2 Cor 4:4)—in darkness, disadvantage
2. **Poor** (Mat 5:3)—beggars by the road
3. **Positioned** (Ps 27:14 & 130:5-6)—in the right place waiting
4. **Listening** (Jn 20:29)—heard the news of Jesus and believed

B. **The Cry of the Men** (30-31)

1. **Humility** (Pr 3:24; Isa 57:15 & 66:2a)—acknowledge their need for His mercy.
2. **Faith**—(Isa 35:5 & 42:7; Lk 4:18)—know the Messiah can restore sight to the blind
3. **Insistence**—no half-hearted, timid prayer!
 - a. **They seize the opportunity.** (2 Cor 6:2) Today if you hear His voice...
 - b. **They refuse to be discouraged.** (1 Sam1:12-17; Mat 15:22-28) Shame, fear, social pressure
 - c. **They persevere until He answers.** (Gen 32:26; Mat 7:7-8; Lk 18:1) Want it

C. **The Response of the Lord** (32, 35)—*merciful and gracious*

1. **He stopped for them.** Jesus is never too busy to attend a soul in distress.
2. **He encouraged them.** (Heb 4:15-16) Jesus is gracious and kind to those who call.
 - a. **He called them to Him.** He grants us audience.
 - b. **He inquired of them.** He invites us to ask and is willing to listen.
3. **He pitied them.** (Ps 103:13; 2 Cor 1:3) Jesus' heart is engaged and willing to help.
4. **He touched them.** (1 Jn 1:1) Beauty of the Incarnation, personal connection of touch
5. **He healed them.** (Ps 146:8) Jesus has the power to do what no one else can do.

D. **Their Response to His Mercy** (34; 2 Cor 4:4, 6)—*They followed Him*.

II. **THE PROMISED KING ARRIVES** (21:1-11)

A. His Ride—*the donkey's colt*

1. The Fulfillment of Scripture (4)

- a. The Prophetic Word (Zec 9:9)—Zechariah's prophecy of the coming king
- b. The Prophetic Type (1 King 1:33, 38, 44)—King Solomon's Coronation

2. The Significance—a common, low and slow, humble beast of burden; not the proud steed of rich men and military generals

- a. A Peaceful King (1 Chron 22:7-9; 1 King 1:29-40)—not a military conquest
- b. A Gentle King (Isa 40:11 & 42:1-3; Mat 11:28-30)—to rule by love, not by force
- c. An Accessible King (Eph 3:12; Heb 4:16)—even the poor, weak and timid can approach Him and keep up

3. The Miracle

- a. Jesus' supernatural knowledge—the details of location and condition
- b. Jesus' command of animals (Ps 8:6-7)—colt not broken, had never been ridden
- c. Jesus' command of human hearts (Prov 21:1; Ex 12:35-36; Ne 2:8)—the owner

B. His Reception—*spontaneous and improvised (human), but planned and symbolic*

1. The Cloaks (2 King 9:13)—placing themselves at His service, under His authority

2. The Branches (Ex 40:34, 35; Lev 23:40-43; Psalm 118:27; John 1:14)—feast of tabernacles

3. The Praises (Ps 118:25-27; Ex 12:3)—**a Passover Psalm**

The day Jesus enters Jerusalem is the day the Passover lamb was to be set apart.

- a. Authority—God's chosen Messiah, Israel's rightful king, heir to David's throne
- b. Salvation—Hosanna means "Save now!" (greater salvation than they understood)
- c. Blessing (Lk 2:14; Ph 2:9-11)—We bless Him with the highest blessing because He brings us the blessing and favor of God.

C. His Followers (2 Sam 6:20, 22; Jn 7:48-49; 1 Cor 1:26-29)—*The common people; clergy & nobility notoriously absent*