

# Palm Sunday

## THE MESSIAH HAS COME

## PART 1

*The Triumphal Entry*

**READ MATTHEW 21:1-11**

### INTRODUCTION

*Jesus entering into Jerusalem was something that was prophesied to happen during Daniel's day some 490 years beforehand. This day was so important that God told the prophets in the Old Testament to write of its events. (See Daniel 9:24-27 and Zechariah 9:9) The Messiah entered into Jerusalem and with Him came the beginning of a New Covenant. He was, at the time of His entry, heralded as the Son of David and the One who was coming in the name of the Lord. These sayings would have been clear to the people. This was their Messiah.*

*The expectation of the Jews was that the Messiah would come and overthrow the governments that had enslaved and tortured the Jewish people. They expected Him to reign over the world and put their enemies as a footstool as well as enter a new era of Jewish prosperity within the world. This was the popular opinion and expectation of the day when Messiah would come. It is interesting because that day will come in the future when Jesus comes as a conqueror and ruler of the world but that was not this day.*

*This day was reserved for the ushering in of God's Son to the people. A day that would see the people declare Him to be their Chosen One and yet, in only a few short days, would end with a lot of these same people turning their backs on Jesus and even assisting in the mockery of His crucifixion. How we look at who Jesus is can be similar. We can expect Him to perform for us and meet our needs. We can look to Him as our genie in a bottle and desire that He should give us every desire of our hearts. This is not treating Him as Lord and King. This is treating Him like a servant. The people of Jerusalem would learn very soon that Jesus was not going to perform what they desired but, if they looked closely, they would see that He was going to do something that they desperately needed.*

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## *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*

1. Is the Triumphal entry of Jesus significant? Why or why not?
2. Reading in Daniel and Zechariah, what do we see about who the Messiah would be and what the entry into Jerusalem meant for the people?
3. What are some of the expectations that you have or have had on Jesus that were not what He has in mind? What is the best method of releasing those expectations?
4. Do you think that the Jews' expectations on Jesus were fair? Why or why not?
5. Is Jesus who He said He was? Is He who the people said He was? Is Jesus your Lord or is He your servant? Discuss.

## *WRAP UP*

The Triumphal entry into Jerusalem was a prophetic day that was certainly important. It was the day that the Lord started the last few days of His time with His disciples in the flesh. There would be other times, but none of them would be the same. Things were about to get very hard for Him, for the disciples, and the world in general. Soon, Jesus would be put on a cross for crimes He didn't commit and pay the price for our sins that He did not do. This is the love of our Saviour.