

March 28, 2021
Willerup United Methodist Church
Sermon Notes
Pastor Marvin Singh
Palm Sunday
Hosanna to Our King!



Created by Cono Studio Milano
from Noun Project

Palm Sunday

This great event is written of in all four of the gospels:
Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19.

Hosanna to Our King!

1. Why it is called Palm Sunday?

The people waved palm branches in greeting and celebration, as well as spreading them on the road where Jesus would pass. They did this to welcome the King of Glory. They were also shouting, “Hosanna! Glory to the son of David!”
“Blessed in he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Hosanna in the highest!”

Hosanna – the Hebrew word for a prayer of acclamation and praise for salvation.

2. It was time of festivity in the city of Jerusalem. The annual Feast of Passover drew a multitude of pilgrims to celebrate and to remember the exodus from Egyptian slavery. The original Passover event happened in Egypt prior to the departure of the slaves. The Hebrews were instructed, in each household, to slaughter a lamb and put some of the blood on the top and sides of the door post. Then when the angel of death came, to inflict the final plague on the

Egyptians, he passed over the homes which were marked by the blood. Those who trusted in God's promise were protected.

3. What can we learn about Palm Sunday from the four gospels?

A. This event was a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!

Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,
righteous and having salvation,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Psalms 118:26

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Isaiah 62:11

The Lord has made proclamation to the ends of the earth:

"Say to the Daughter of Zion,

'See, your Savior comes!

See, his reward is with him,

and his recompense accompanies him.' "

B. Jesus was from the royal lineage of King David and yet he did not have soldiers or an army to go with him, or any trumpeters to announce his arrival, no fine horses to ride, no throne of gold and precious stones, no crown of pearls. And even without all these things, this king's entry to the city was dramatic and enthusiastic.

Matthew 21:10-11

“When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, ‘Who is this?’

The crowds answered, ‘This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.’”

C. Though he was the king, he had to borrow a colt and a donkey from a household in Bethphage. Yet, he also showed his royal authority. He ordered his two disciples to untie the colt and donkey and bring them to him. If they were asked, they should say that “the Lord needs them.” And they will let them go.

In fact, Jesus borrowed much, all his earthly life: the womb of a woman Mary, the boat of the fishermen, bread and fish from a small boy to feed a large crowd, the shoulder of Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross, the many homes he stayed in, the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, etc.

D. John 12:17-18 “Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he had given this miraculous sign, went out to meet him.”

E. In Jerusalem, there were different slogans associated with Jesus:

(i). This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.

(ii). Hosanna

(iii). Crucify him! Crucify him!

F. The disciples who hoped to sit at the left and right of Jesus on his throne did not find their request happening. His kingdom was not of the world. It was different.

G. The Pharisees and the religious leaders were amazed to see what was happening in Jerusalem. They considered him to be a good teacher, while the crowd was proclaiming him as a prophet of Nazareth. The Pharisees never liked for anyone else than themselves to receive glory or honor.

They began to worry and think “What shall we do now?” John 12:19 “The Pharisees said to one another, ‘See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!’”

Luke 19:39-40 “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke your disciples!’

‘I tell you,’ he replied, ‘if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.’”

H. When Jesus came near to the city, look at his reaction. He saw and had compassion, and cried over the city. He predicted its destruction. (In AD 70, the Roman general Titus did destroy the city of Jerusalem.)

Luke 19:41-44 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, **because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you.**"

When have we failed to meet the opportunity of grace and mercy? The Lord shows us kindness and mercy. He answers our petitions. He fulfills our needs when we ask, and then we forget to thank him or even acknowledge him.

Look at the crowd in Jerusalem. The same people who were praising him one day for answering their prayers, is now demanding his

death. That he would die on the cross as a criminal. They were swayed and were influenced by the religious leaders through their money and power.

We too get entangled with the Satanic influence of lies. This influence makes us blind to see the truth, and in our blindness we crucify him again (Paul says this in Heb. 6:6).

Let us recommit to praising him – HOSANNA!

Study note: The four Gospel accounts of Palm Sunday are found in

Matthew 21:1-11

Mark 11:1-11

Luke 19:28-44

John 12:12-19

Luke includes most of the elements found in the other three accounts. Matthew and John both add a reference to the prophecy in Jeremiah. And each of the four ends their account with a different reflection – from the crowds, from the Pharisees, and from Jesus himself.