Spc231 - Your Savior is Here - Matthew 21:1-9

It's PALM SUNDAY

<u>Palm</u> Sunday <u>BEGINS</u> "<u>Passion Week</u>" - <u>Which</u> is the <u>FINAL</u> Week of Jesus *COMPLETING our Salvation*

& - AS we celebrate our Salvation
& the Resurrection of Jesus Christ this week

<u>Each day</u> this week - <u>We'll</u> be <u>sending</u> out <u>DEVOTIONS</u> <u>by TEXT</u> - From <u>Word By Mail</u>

to prepare us for Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday

These special "Resurrection Week" devotions
will also go with our Alone With God daily Journal

So it will be a good way for you to get a feel for the Journal guides

If <u>you</u> would <u>like</u> to <u>get</u> these <u>Daily devotions</u>
TEXT - DEVO - to (877) 790-9673

<u>PALM SUNDAY</u> Is the <u>day</u> –we <u>celebrate</u> the event we call <u>The Triumphal Entry</u>

On <u>THAT Day</u> – <u>Jesus</u> rode <u>TRIUMPHANTLY</u> <u>INTO Jerusalem</u>

Clearly Announcing - "Your Savior is HERE"

On THIS DAY – MORE than ANY other day Prior to the Resurrection

Jesus Christ made it PERFECTLY CLEAR
To ISRAEL, & to YOU & ME

That He IS YOUR SAVIOR - The MESSIAH
Sent By God to SAVE YOU

& He <u>MADE SURE</u> - to <u>make</u> <u>this Truth</u> - <u>Miraculously Clear</u> In <u>His Triumphal Entry</u>

So - My Prayer is - at the end of this msg

that you would have more Confident Assurance
If Jesus is already your Personal Savior

Or <u>that Jesus</u> would <u>go</u> from <u>being *THE Savior*</u>
To being <u>YOUR Personal SAVIOR</u>

Let's Pray

The Triumphal Entry Occurred

At the Beginning of the PASSOVER celebration

PASSOVER is the celebration – of the Sacrifice
 of the Innocent Lamb

That was Slain – to Save God's People from the Angel of Death & Free them from Egypt (which is a picture of sin)

& 1 Cor 5:7 says - Jesus is OUR Passover Lamb

<u>Slain</u> to <u>SAVE US</u> - from the <u>Wages of Sin</u> <u>Which</u> the <u>Bible</u> says - <u>is Death</u>

& on <u>THAT SAME DAY</u>
As Jesus Rode into <u>Jerusalem</u> in the <u>Triumphal Entry</u>

The <u>Passover Lambs</u>
were <u>ALSO</u> being <u>brought</u> into <u>Jerusalem</u>

To <u>be prepared</u> – to be <u>sacrificed</u> – to <u>remind the people</u> of <u>God Saving</u> them from <u>EGYPT</u> - & The <u>Angel of DEATH</u>

& at the END of THIS Passover Week

The <u>True Lamb of God</u> that would be <u>SLAIN</u> for the <u>Sin of the World</u>

As a **perfect fulfillment** of **all** that the **Passover Celebration** - **PICTURED**

& so - MONTHS Prior to the Triumphal Entry

We read in Luke 9:51 (NLT)

51 As the time drew near for him to ascend to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

Month's Prior to the Triumphal Entry

Jesus "resolutely set out for Jerusalem"

Because he - Had to Make SURE

that he would Enter Jerusalem on a Very SPECIFIC – & Very EXACT Day

In order to Fulfill some Very Exact Prophecies

& when <u>THAT Day</u> came The <u>LORD of all Creation</u> - <u>MADE SURE</u>

That Every Single Detail went

Exactly **WHEN** it was **Planned**

Exactly **HOW** it was **Planned**

Exactly <u>HOW</u> it had been <u>Written</u> – long ago, <u>In Prophecy</u>

SO THAT Israel - & **YOU & ME** – would have

Every **possible chance** - to **Make the Connection**

Every possible chance - to Believe

Every **possible chance** – to **Put our Full Faith & Trust**

IN GOD - who Orchestrated ALL of these events before Time Began

Here's how it Started - Matthew 21:1-3 (NLT)

1 As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead.

2 "Go into the village over there," he said. "As soon as you enter it, you will see a <u>donkey</u> tied there, with its <u>colt</u> beside it. Untie them and bring them to me.

3 If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will immediately let you take them."

THE EXACT Day - Had Arrived

& The Prophetic Signs – were about to Fall into Place

& <u>Suddenly</u> – the <u>COLT</u> of a <u>Donkey</u> become <u>CRUCIAL</u> to the <u>event</u>

Because the Holy Spirit

is **Perfectly Orchestrating** Every **DETAIL**

So <u>Jesus</u> says – "Go borrow a DONKEY and its COLT" "If anyone asks, just tell them 'The Lord needs it"

& that's Exactly What Happened

<u>in Mark 11:5–6 – it says (NLT)</u>

5 As they were untying it, some bystanders demanded, "What are you doing, untying that colt?"

6 They said what Jesus had told them to say, and they were permitted to take it.

This <u>moment</u> – <u>Went Perfectly</u> - <u>as Planned</u>
Like <u>every moment</u> of this <u>PASSOVER WEEK</u> - <u>Would</u>

<u>Because</u> on <u>THIS Day</u> (& <u>this WEEK</u>) - <u>Jesus</u> was <u>fulfilling</u> <u>MULTIPLE</u> - <u>Mind-Boggling</u> - <u>Specific prophecies</u>

About the Arrival of YOUR SAVIOR

Which is what the Next Vs in Mat 21 says

Matthew 21:4-5 (NLT)

4 This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said,

5 "Tell the people of Jerusalem, 'Look, <u>your King is coming to you</u>. He is humble, riding on a donkey - riding on a donkey's colt.' "

This is the **exact prophecy** written in **Zech 9:9**

Everything that is happens at the Triumphal Entry – IS: Extremely Prophetic - & Precisely Prophetic

In order to give ISRAEL - & YOU & ME - every possible CHANCE

To make <u>THE Savior</u> - <u>OUR Personal Savior</u>

YOUR Savior is **HERE** - **Don't Miss Him**

(cont'g) Matthew 21:6-7 (NLT)

6 The two disciples did as Jesus commanded.

7 They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it.

NORMALLY - A King would ride into a City On a WAR-HORSE - Showing STRENGTH & VICTORY

But - To ride on a Donkey was a symbol of Peace NOT WAR

& even more so – to ride on the Colt of a Donkey

<u>& 700 Years</u> Earlier – <u>Isaiah</u> had <u>Prophesied</u> the **Messiah** would **come** as the **Prince of Peace**

- & When <u>Jesus was Born</u> The <u>Angels of Heaven</u> announced That peace had come to earth
- & <u>today</u> Jesus is <u>riding</u> into <u>Jerusalem</u>
 As the "<u>King of Peace</u>" On the <u>Colt of a Donkey</u>

<u>& listen please – This is important</u>

That This is the <u>Only time</u> - Jesus <u>ALLOWED</u>
a <u>PUBLIC CELEBRATION</u> like this - <u>of WHO he Was</u>

<u>&</u> – He <u>didn't just ALLOW IT</u>
<u>He</u> completely <u>ORCHESTRATED IT</u>

Because Jesus did NOT Want Israel - or YOU & ME
To Miss the fact that - OUR SAVIOR IS HERE

So - It was the Beginning of Passover week
& Jews from all over ISRAEL

Were making their Pilgrimage to Jerusalem - for the Passover

Jerusalem would swell to over 1 million people on Passover

& MANY of them Would be walking up this same road to Jerusalem - at this same time

& <u>The Word</u> about <u>Jesus</u>
had been <u>spreading</u> like <u>Wildfire</u> for <u>some time</u>

But <u>then</u> - <u>Just before</u> the <u>Massive crowds</u> <u>started</u> entering <u>Jerusalem</u>

With perfect timing

Jesus had Just RAISED LAZARUS from the Dead

The **Raising of Lazarus** from the **dead Had** put The **FAME** of **Jesus** - **Over the Top**

& NOW - ALL of these people
Were LOOKING for JESUS

Because They wanted to Enter Jerusalem WITH Him for the Passover Celebration

These Crowds were Hoping - That Jesus would be

the <u>Messiah</u> that <u>Would OVERTHROW Rome</u> & <u>become</u> the <u>KING</u> of <u>ISRAEL</u>

& <u>Ultimately</u> - <u>Jesus</u> - <u>WILL DO THAT</u>

& <u>Ultimately</u> - <u>Jesus</u> - <u>WILL BE THAT</u>

But <u>today</u> - <u>Jesus</u> was <u>Entering Jerusalem</u> for a <u>Much Much LARGER Victory</u>

The Victory FOR YOU - Over Sin, Death, & the Grave

But Still - This Huge **Crowd** - just **Fell Right Into place**

To play their part

In this **Great Prophetic Announcement**

That YOUR SAVIOR - IS HERE

Matthew 21:8 (NLT)

8 Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

This was Customary Treatment - At that time
For a VICTORIOUS KING entering a City

& it <u>made it clear</u> - that a <u>NEW KING</u> Was <u>Entering Jerusalem</u>

AND - The Crowd was Shouting Out
the Perfectly Correct - Prophetic Words

<u>Let me switch</u> to the <u>ESV</u> here – & <u>you look</u> for that Great <u>Word Of Praise</u> - <u>HOSANNA!</u>

Matthew 21:9 (ESV)

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

HOSANNA means "Save now" or "Save us now"

It was Israel's PRAISE to God – for Sending a SAVIOR

Which is exactly what Jesus was coming to BE
But - In a MUCH Greater way - than the people were thinking

& Jesus *IS* the <u>Greater Son of David</u> (as they were <u>shouting</u>)

Jesus <u>IS</u> the <u>Messiah</u> & He <u>IS</u> the <u>King of Israel</u>

- & Jesus *HAD COME to SAVE*
- & Jesus **WOULD (Ultimately) RULE** on the **Throne of David**
- & **EVERYTHING** about the **Triumphal Entry** is **SCREAMING OUT**

YOUR SAVIOR IS HERE!

But – this incredible event was not JUST to announce to ISRAEL and US - Our Savior Was HERE

It was also to accomplish another Critical Event

Because – as the **RELIGIOUS LEADERS** saw the **crowds growing** & growing

& <u>as they HEARD</u> the <u>people</u> - <u>shouting</u> & <u>shouting</u> that <u>Jesus</u> was <u>their Savior & their King</u>

It <u>Drove</u> the <u>Religious Leaders</u>
<u>TO DO - Exactly</u> What <u>God Needed them TO DO</u>

Jesus KNEW - he was only 5 days away - From the Cross

& <u>Jesus</u> knew – that <u>ALL</u> that was <u>Happening</u> <u>IN</u> the <u>Triumphal Entry</u>

Would ENSURE - that the <u>Jewish Religious Leaders</u>
GOT JESUS to the Cross - ON TIME - (at the exact right time)

& So - When the Pharisee's SAW what was happening here

We read in John 12:19 (NLT)

19 Then the Pharisees said to each other, "There's nothing we can do. Look, everyone has gone after him!"

You can just HEAR them Saying

There is NO WAY we are allowing this

<u>Ragamuffin</u> from <u>Nazareth</u> – to Become <u>KING of Israel</u>

We <u>Must ENSURE</u> – that he is <u>removed</u> – <u>permanently</u>

& So - THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS - (just like the crowd)

Were <u>Playing Right Along</u>
with God's <u>Perfect Orchestration</u> of this <u>moment</u>

BUT - WHY ON THIS PARTICULAR DAY ??

<u>Prior</u> To <u>THIS DAY</u> – <u>Jesus</u> Had <u>Side-Stepped</u> <u>EVERY Attempt</u> to <u>Proclaim</u> Him as <u>Messiah</u> & <u>King</u>

<u>In fact</u> - He <u>would slip out</u> - even <u>disappear</u>

<u>Whenever</u> the <u>people</u> started <u>CHANTING these things</u>

& in a **NUMBER** of **THOSE Situations** – **Jesus responded** with **the** Words – "**My HOUR has not yet come**"

But – **that** was **NOT** some kind of **spiritual metaphor**

There actually <u>WAS AN HOUR</u>
That had been Pre-Determined in the Throne Room of Heaven

& THAT DAY - & THAT HOUR - HAD COME

JUST AS it had been very specifically Prophesied

& <u>so</u> - at <u>this point</u> in the <u>Triumphal Entry</u> we <u>read</u> in <u>LUKE'S account</u>

Luke 19:39-40 (NLT)

39 But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, "Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!" (meaning things reserved only for the Savior)

40 He replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!"

On THIS Day - AT THIS Moment

IF those people would NOT have been crying out the announcement that The SAVIOR was HERE

Then GOD would've had the ROCKS on the ROAD

CRY OUT that same Announcement

Because GOD had clearly & specifically Promised

that Israel's <u>True Messiah & King</u> - would <u>COME</u> to them <u>ON this Exact DAY</u> - & <u>IN this Exact WAY</u>

500 years before Jesus was born

The **Prophet Daniel** made it **clear** (in **Dan Ch 9**)

When the Israelites were in Exile in Babylon & the Temple had been destroyed

That **there** would be **69 sets of 7 years**

Between the time the Decree to rebuild the temple - was Given

to the DAY the Messiah
would ANNOUNCE himself to Israel

69 sets of 7 years – is **483 years** (or **173,880 days**)

From the time the Decree to rebuild the temple - was Given

To **the DAY** that the **MESSIAH** would **present himself** to **Israel**

& in **Nehemiah 2:1** – the **MONTH** that **Decree** was **Given** to **Rebuild the Temple** – is **clearly stated**

NEH 2:1 Marks that Date as - our APRIL of 445 BC

& it takes some complicated math adjustments

But many Scholars have confirmed what a Detective named Sir Robert Anderson first determined

- & that is that 483 "years of days" (173,880 days)
 Takes us RIGHT TO Passover week in 32 AD
- & <u>THAT Passover</u> <u>STARTED</u> with <u>The Triumphal Entry</u> of <u>Jesus Christ</u> that <u>we</u> are <u>looking</u> at today

This is a Supernaturally Accurate Prophecy
(& if you'd like to see the math on that - let me know)

But - There are actually over 300 Prophecies in the O.T. that Jesus Christ Fulfilled in his life, death, & resurrection

300 Miraculous, Prophetic ANNOUNCEMENTS That - Your SAVIOR is HERE

& <u>MOST</u> of <u>Israel</u> - & <u>too many people</u> that <u>you</u> & <u>I know</u> Are <u>STILL</u> are <u>MISSING IT</u>

We have ALL the SIGNS - ALL the Miraculous PROOFS

But STILL – there are Far TOO MANY People
who REFUSE to SEE – What God has Made SO CLEAR

So – Just ONE MORE Prophecy – for today

AS Jesus crested the Mount of Olives

& <u>Started down</u> toward <u>Jerusalem</u>

we read in Luke 19:41-44 (NLT)

- 41 But as he came closer to Jerusalem and saw the city ahead, he began to weep.
- 42 "How I wish today that you of all people would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from your eyes. (because they refused to see it)
- 43 <u>Before long</u> your enemies will <u>build ramparts</u> against your walls and encircle you and close in on you from every side.

44 They will <u>crush you</u> into the ground, and your children with you. Your enemies will <u>not leave a single stone in place</u>, because you did not recognize it when God visited you."

<u>Jesus</u> is <u>Prophesying</u> The <u>Destruction of Jerusalem</u> *AND* the <u>Temple – BY ROME – Which Occurred in 70 AD</u>

& - AS v.44 says – When Rome destroyed the Temple They Did Not Leave One stone on top of another

& when we're there - We stand Next to a huge Pile of Stones

that were toppled off the Temple mount
When Jerusalem was destroyed by Rome in 70 AD

Guys - IN The Triumphal Entry - Jesus gave US
His CLEAREST SIGNS - Prior to the Resurrection

SO MANY Prophecies Came to **PASS** here – **So Clearly**

But . . . for the Most Part

the <u>Religious Leaders</u> - <u>AND</u> the <u>People</u> <u>STILL MISSED IT</u>

<u>God GAVE THEM</u> - <u>Crystal Clear</u> - <u>Miraculous</u> - <u>Undeniable</u> - <u>Prophetic PROOF</u> - <u>That their Savior was HERE</u>

But they still . . . MISSED IT !!

DON'T Miss – **The Signs** that **Your Savior** is **HERE**

God has Given you – So Many - Clear

Miraculous – Undeniable – Prophetic SIGNS

That Jesus Christ <u>IS</u> who <u>he says</u> he <u>IS</u>& <u>He is going</u> to <u>DO</u> what <u>he says</u> he's <u>going to DO</u>

<u>But</u> – <u>in order</u> for <u>You</u> - to <u>NOT Miss it</u> <u>you must reach out</u> (<u>IN FAITH</u>) <u>& RECEIVE it</u>

You must Have "Eyes to See" - & you WILL See
You must Have "Ears to Hear" - & you WILL Hear

You must CHOOSE to Believe

& then God will continue to Reveal Himself to you

& the Lord Jesus Christ - will be - YOUR SAVIOR

Let's Pray