



Dr. Joe K. Taylor, Senior Pastor, South Reno Baptist Church, Reno, Nevada • Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

A. WHY CHRIST CAME

Luke 19:10, NASB95 -¹⁰ *“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”*

1. A **SIGNIFICANT FACT** ABOUT CHRIST.

“The Son of Man came...” (NIV)

Galatians 4:4–5, NLT -⁴ *But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.* ⁵ *God sent Him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that He could adopt us as His very own children.*

2. A **SIGNIFICANT MISSION** OF CHRIST.

“...to seek and to save...” (NIV)

Ezekiel 34:11, NASB95 -¹¹ *For thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.*

3. A **SIGNIFICANT DESCRIPTION** ON THE STATE MAN.

“...that which was lost.” (NIV)

Isaiah 53:6, NIV84 -⁶ *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

B. QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT DAY

Why a donkey? - Zechariah 9:9, NASB95 -⁹ *“O Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey.”* (Predicted 757 years prior to this day.)

Why palm branches? - In the OT (Lev. 23), the Jews were told to wave palm branches as a part of the Feast of Tabernacles. Two hundred years before Christ, during the Maccabean Rebellion, when the Jews temporarily regained control of the Temple from the Syrians, they celebrated by waving palm branches, palms were used to welcome King David, and palms were on their currency—palm branches were ripe with messianic overtones.

Why shout “Hosanna”? - “Hosanna” means ‘Save us now!’ “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord” is from Psalm 118—a messianic psalm. Their Messiah had indeed come.

Why did Jesus cry? - Luke 19:42–44, NLT -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.”* ⁴³ *Before long your enemies will build ramparts against your walls and encircle you and close in on you from every side.* ⁴⁴ *They will crush you into the ground, and your children with you. Your enemies will not leave a single stone in place, because you did not recognize it when God visited you.”* Put another way, Christ knew on this Sunday that Friday was coming.

What is Palm Sunday really about? - The Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem was an ‘acted parable’ in which Jesus was sending a clear message to the nation. “This is what I am! I am your King, but I am not the King you were expecting! I am the Messiah you prayed for, but my kingdom is spiritual, not earthly.” And what Christ does, He does of His own accord.

C. LESSONS FROM PALM SUNDAY

“If you had only known...” - Christ on Palm Sunday

1. Opportunities to find Christ don't last forever.
2. The world that rejected Christ that day still rejects Him today.
3. Christ—our Rescuer—came to us therefore we must come to Him as Lord, and Messiah, and Savior.
4. We do know—therefore, from this moment on, we are without excuse.