### THIS IS THE DAY

- we worship a Father who is outside the boundaries of time and space, yet is active in both
- we live in a world marked by time a beginning and an end
  - Take a walk through a cemetery and notice the grave markers and tombstones
  - A person's life is measured by the dash between two dates
- when you think about it, most of out memories center around days, not seasons
  - We celebrate birthdays, anniversaries because they are days we want to remember
  - We celebrate holidays
  - We remember days that significant events happened
    - O I'll never forget that in the early days of TV before cable and internet that we would look forward to the weekly Saturday night movie, and of all the weekly movies we watched, the one I remember is "The Day the Earth Stood Still"
- we have been intrigued as we study the earthly ministry of Jesus
- one of the things that I would like to focus on today the references about time
  - Paul, speaking about the coming of Christ said in Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time had come,
    God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

- At the beginning of His ministry in <u>John 2:4</u> Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."
- Jesus tell his brothers in <u>John 7:6</u> Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.
- Jesus in His deliverance of the demon possessed man in Matthew 8:29 And suddenly they cried out, saying,
  "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"
- And in out text today in <u>Luke 19:43-44</u> "For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, "and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."
- There are many more, some referring to the future in which there will be a **day** of judgment
- this is the beginning of Holy Week with the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem

### (28-31) PREPARATIONS TO ENTER JERSALEM

- Jesus is coming up to Jerusalem from the top of the Mount of Olives from the Jordan Valley having passed through the city of Jericho
- Jesus sends two of His disciples into the village with a mission about finding and bringing a donkey

## (32-36) FULFILLMENT OF ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY

- here is the first of several things that should have caused the people to realize that something significant was happening
- Zechariah had foretold that the King would come riding on a lowly donkey in Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

# (37-40) FULFILLMENT OF PSALM 118

- as Jesus made His way down the Mount of Olives, the crowd began to cry out what had been recorded centuries earlier by the Psalmist in Psalm 118:19-26 Open to me the gates of right-eousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD, Through which the righteous shall enter. I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation. The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.
- as usual, the religious folk didn't like what they were seeing and hearing, and began to criticize
  - Rich Cathers said concerning v.40 If the people didn't praise Him, they would have heard the first "rock band".
    I think they might have been called the "rolling stones".

### (41-44) WARNING OF FUTURE JUDGMENT

- Jesus weeps over the city because they did not know the hour of their visitation
- why would Jesus mention the hour of visitation? Is this something that they should have been aware of?
- we have the convergence of 3 Old Testament prophecies coming together
  - Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
    Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.
  - Psalm 118:24 This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.
  - <u>Daniel 9:25</u> "Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.
    - The prophecy is about groups of "weeks" or "sevens". We believe this to mean groups of seven years.
    - o If you follow Daniel's thinking, there will be a total of 69 (7 + 62) "weeks" of years, or 483 of these years between a decree to build the city and the coming of "Messiah the Prince".
    - The decree is found in Nehemiah and it takes place in the month of Nisan in the 20th year of King Artaxerxes.

- To know when the Messiah would come, you need to add these 69 "weeks" of years to the time of the decree.
- When Daniel wrote his prophecies, he was under the Babylonian calendar, which was not like our calendar, called the "Gregorian" calendar. The Babylonians had 360 days in each year.
- If you multiply 483 years by 360 days, you come up with 173,880 days, or roughly 476 of our Gregorian years.

#### IS THIS YOUR TIME?

- <u>2 Corinthians 6:2</u> – For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.