

I. Role of a Donkey (Mark 11:1-7)

The Donkey was Tied – Genesis 49:10-11

The Donkey was a Colt – Zechariah 9:9

The Donkey was Unridden – Numbers 19:2; Deuteronomy 21:3; 1 Samuel 6:7

In symbolic action, Jesus revealed that:

He is the One who is to come

He is righteous

He will rule the nations

He brings salvation

II. Responses of the People (Mark 11:8-11)

The Disciples

Spreading cloaks – 2 Kings 9:13

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” – Psalm 118

“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

Pharisees - Luke 19:39-40

City crowd – Matthew 21:10-11; John 12:12-13

Jesus – Luke 19:41-44

Jesus wept because they did not “recognize the time of their visitation.”

How successful was this “Triumphal Entry?”

III. Ruling against a Fig Tree (Mark 11:12-14)

In symbolic action, Jesus curses the fig tree as a symbol of judgment against Israel for not believing and receiving their revealed King

Fig trees as a symbol for Israel

1 Kings 4:25

Micah 7:1-2

Luke 13:6-9

Main Message: The King has been revealed, and our response to Him will be judged

Questions for Personal Study

1. How has God revealed Himself to us?
2. Are you ever tempted to not follow God's instructions exactly as given?
3. How do you respond when Jesus fails to meet your expectations?
4. How can we fall into the trap of empty ritual and miss seeing Jesus?
5. What is the status of your fig tree (your spiritual response to Jesus)?