

A Song of Triumph

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Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

This day is the first day of Holy Week. A countdown of sorts until the resurrection of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ!

In the preceding weeks Jesus had been making His way to Jerusalem. He knew well that His journey to Jerusalem was His journey to the cross. Jesus told His disciples, "I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:50) He would endure the cross for the "joy that was set before Him." (Heb. 12:2)

The time for the feast of the Passover had come and thousands of sojourners had made their way to Jerusalem. First century historian Josephus estimated the Passover crowd at 2,700,000.

In John's gospel, we learn that Jesus and His disciples were staying about 2 miles away in the little town of Bethany with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus whom he had raised from the dead. When the word got out that Jesus was not far from Jerusalem, a large crowd came out to see Him, and they also wanted to see Lazarus, the man Jesus had raised from the dead. Because of this miracle many had believed in Jesus to be the long-awaited Messiah.

Read John 12:12–15

On this day, prophecy was being fulfilled! The King was coming; the descendant of David; the Messiah sent from God. He was coming to Jerusalem – the daughter of Zion.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout *in triumph*, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

HOSANNA!

As the royal the procession was making its way into the city, many took branches from the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and *began* to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.

In Hebrew the word Hosanna means "save now"; "help now"; or "save us we pray thee!" By this time, it had become an expression of praise for God's salvation. So, the cries of the crowd expressed their belief in Jesus to be the coming descendant of David, the Messiah-King who was to save and deliver them from the great oppression of the Romans; they were rejoicing for His arrival! Their cries were also pleas for His salvation; Hosanna – save us now!

As they heralded Him as their king, they sang from one of the psalms of ascent (Psa. 118).

Psalm 118 is a song of praise sung by all who had ever cried out for salvation and received it from God! It was a sure declaration that Jehovah God was the One who had saved them. It is both the song of the individual and a song to be sung by the congregation!

**"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel."
This was a song of triumph!**

Truly, Jesus had come to their rescue! He would do more than deliver them from Rome's oppression. He would set them free from the power of death! He came not only to set them free from Rome's power, but from the power of the god of this age.

Do you know what it's like to seek for salvation and have Jesus come to your rescue? How can we do anything less than to exalt Him in praise with a voice or a song of triumph!!!!

Do you need saving today?

Are you living a life of Sin? Sin separates a person from God. The wages of sin are death. Sin rules over the life of its host; "He who commits sin is the servant of sin."

God sent His Son to be your savior – Cry out "Hosanna"! Help me, Lord! Save me now! Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved!

Do you need saving today?

Are you distressed with sickness? By His stripes we are healed!

Are you being persecuted? If God is for us, who can be against us?

- **Psalm 118:6–7** (NIV) *The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me? The LORD is with me; He is my helper. I look in triumph over my enemies.*

Are you depressed? For those who are in the region and the shadow of death, light has come!

Are you in need? God is able to do far more than you can ever ask or think. We ask all things in Jesus' name. The name above all names!!!

**"Oh, Blessed is the One who came from God!"
Hosanna to God Who is the highest!**

Psalm 47:1-2 "O clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy. ² For the Lord Most High is to be feared, A great King over all the earth."

Psalm 118:14–15 (NIV) ¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my defense; He has become my salvation. ¹⁵ Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: "The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!"