

Devotion 3: Ride On, Ride On!

April 1, 2026

Scripture: *Zechariah 9:9*

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

Devotion

When a great king won a battle in the ancient world, he would ride into the city on a tall warhorse, with soldiers marching behind him and trumpets blaring. Everyone would cheer for the mighty conqueror. But when Jesus rides into Jerusalem, He doesn't come on a warhorse. He comes on a donkey—a humble, everyday animal. The people still cheer. They wave palm branches and shout “Hosanna!” They spread their cloaks on the road. But they don't fully understand what kind of King He is. Jesus is coming to win the greatest victory of all time—not with swords and armies, but through suffering and love. He is a victor who wins by losing. He conquers death by dying. As Christians, we already know how the story ends. So when we see Jesus on that donkey, we can sing with the great hymn: “Ride on, ride on in majesty!” We encourage our King, because we know that what looks like defeat is actually the road to triumph.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Jesus chose a donkey instead of a big warhorse?
2. What does it mean that Jesus “wins by losing”?
3. If you were in the crowd that day, what would you shout to Jesus?

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, You are a King like no other. You come to us not with power and force, but with gentleness and love. Give us faith to cheer You on even when Your ways don't look the way we expect. Ride on, Lord Jesus, and reign in our hearts. Amen.

Family Action Item: Read or sing together a verse of “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty” (LSB 441). Talk about what the words mean to your family.