

**John 12:12–13 (NLT) *Jesus' Triumphant Entry*** <sup>12</sup>The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors <sup>13</sup>took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted, "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD! Hail to the King of Israel!"

*We can learn about everyday wholehearted excitement for Jesus from the crowd at the triumphal entry!*

**We are called to Love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, but we are sometimes dealing with the opposite in our heart!**

## **LOVE & WORSHIP**

**Called to love God with all of our heart.**

**Mark 12:29–30 (NLT)** <sup>29</sup>Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. <sup>30</sup>And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'

**Worship for real, in spirit and truth!**

**John 4:23–24 (NLT)** <sup>23</sup>But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. <sup>24</sup>For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

**However, we sometime deal with selfishness, disappointment, or lukewarmness rather than love & worship!**

**2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NLT) *The Dangers of the Last Days*** You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. <sup>2</sup>For **people will love only themselves and their money.** They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. <sup>3</sup>They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. <sup>4</sup>They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. <sup>5</sup>They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

**Revelation 3:14–22 (NLT) *The Message to the Church in Laodicea*** <sup>14</sup>"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen—the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's new creation: <sup>15</sup>"I know all the things you do, **that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other!** <sup>16</sup>But since you are **like lukewarm water,** neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! <sup>17</sup>**You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't**

realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.<sup>18</sup> So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.<sup>19</sup> I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.<sup>20</sup> “Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.”<sup>21</sup> Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.<sup>22</sup> “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.”

### Jesus’ Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem, during Passover Week, On The Sunday Before The Friday Crucifixion

- At triumphal entry, this crowd of people were naturally excited about Jesus and it was natural to be excited.
- We have more reason than they did to be established in excitement because we have a more complete picture!

**Luke 19:28–40 (NLT) *Jesus’ Triumphant Entry***<sup>28</sup> After telling this story, Jesus went on toward Jerusalem, walking ahead of his disciples.<sup>29</sup> As he came to the towns of Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he sent two disciples ahead.<sup>30</sup> “Go into that village over there,” he told them. “As you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.<sup>31</sup> If anyone asks, ‘Why are you untying that colt?’ just say, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ”<sup>32</sup> So they went and found the colt, just as Jesus had said.<sup>33</sup> And sure enough, as they were untying it, the owners asked them, “Why are you untying that colt?”<sup>34</sup> And the disciples simply replied, “The Lord needs it.”<sup>35</sup> So they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments over it for him to ride on.<sup>36</sup> As he rode along, the crowds spread out their garments on the road ahead of him.<sup>37</sup> When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.<sup>38</sup> “Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the LORD! Peace in heaven, and glory in highest heaven!”<sup>39</sup> But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, “Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!”<sup>40</sup> He replied, “If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!”

#### Points From Scripture:

- Passover Week
- Jesus Prophetically Saw The Young Donkey
- Jesus Riding The Donkey Was Prophetic and Symbolic of Humility (Zech. 9:9)
- Spontaneous Overwhelming Worship
- Pharisees ask Jesus To Rebuke The Crowd For Worshiping Him
- Jesus Said Rocks Would Cry Out

**Matthew 11:3–5 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup>“Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus told them, “Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen—<sup>5</sup> the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.”

**John 12:12–19 (NLT)** *Jesus’ Triumphant Entry* <sup>12</sup>The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors <sup>13</sup>took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted, “Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD! Hail to the King of Israel!” <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: <sup>15</sup>“Don’t be afraid, people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey’s colt.” <sup>16</sup> His disciples didn’t understand at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered what had happened and realized that these things had been written about him. <sup>17</sup> Many in the crowd had seen Jesus call Lazarus from the tomb, raising him from the dead, and they were telling others about it. <sup>18</sup> That was the reason so many went out to meet him—because they had heard about this miraculous sign. <sup>19</sup> Then the Pharisees said to each other, “There’s nothing we can do. Look, everyone has gone after him!”

#### G. Why did they worship?

- Lazarus was raised and people had heard (John 12:18)
- Who is this? – It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee (They must have known some of His miracles and work) (Matt 21:11)

**Matthew 21:8–11 (NLT)** <sup>8</sup> Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting, “Praise God for the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise God in highest heaven!” <sup>10</sup> The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. “Who is this?” they asked.

<sup>11</sup> And the crowds replied, “It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

#### H. Look – everyone has gone after him – indicated people were fired up and convinced

Worship, love, excitement for Jesus was easy, sincere, overflowing and exuberant!

#### How Do You Really Know Who He Is?

##### 1. Really Know Who He Is By Looking At The Cross And The Resurrection

**John 12:32 (NLT)** <sup>32</sup> And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.”

##### 2. Really Know Who He Is By Responding to God’s Call

(When we surrender our life to Jesus, we come alive spiritual. Then we can begin to really see. The veil comes off (2 Cor 4:3-4) and we can then see clearly spiritual truth! )

**John 6:44 (NLT)** <sup>44</sup> For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up.

**John 3:3(NLT)** <sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

**John 14:6 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup> Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

**2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup> If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don’t understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

**2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (NLT)** <sup>16</sup> But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

### 3. Really Know Who He Is By Welcoming the Holy Spirit

**John 16:13–14 (NLT)** <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. <sup>14</sup> He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me.

### 4. Really Know Who He is Today in Relationship

#### 5. Really Know What He Has Done

#### 6. Really Know What He Plans For You

#### 7. Keep your Eyes on Him

**Hebrews 12:2 (NLT)** <sup>2</sup> We do this by **keeping our eyes on Jesus**, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God’s throne.

**Colossians 3:1–4 (NLT)** *Living the New Life* Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, **set your sights on the realities of heaven**, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. <sup>2</sup> Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died to this life, and **your real life is hidden with Christ in God**. <sup>4</sup> And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

### If You Really Know Who Jesus Is, You Will Be A:

1. Wholehearted Worshiper of Him
2. Person who Wholeheartedly Loves Him
3. True Follower
4. Student & Disciple of Him
5. Minister For Him

6. Servant For Him
7. Friend of Him

Exuberant, free flowing, lay down my coat, break off palm branch to wave or lay down kind of worship was very natural when you realize the Miracle Working Messiah, is here. I have connection to Him, He can see me. He has the future of life and eternity for me. Wow!

I Cannot Not Worship Wholeheartedly!

Action:

1. Be Born Again By Surrendering to Jesus!
2. Focus on Jesus
3. This Week - Worship, Come to Church Palm Sunday With A New Level of Sincere Wholehearted Worship!