

Luke 19:28-44

A Different Kind of King

Image Church // Inverted Kingdom Vol. 2 / Radical Week 6

Introduction

Celebrate **Abide**...

If you have your bibles go ahead and grab them and turn to Luke 19...

As I was preparing for this weekend, I jumped on Google and Googled the greatest people...

- Wikipedia had a bunch of lists with a bunch of names...¹
- The first category was Kings... A lot of names of some of the greatest kings...
 - Alexander the Great
 - Constantine the Great
 - Charlemagne (*not the rapper*)
 - Darius the Great
 - Genghis Khan
- A lot of Greats on there everybody's like, *add great to my name!*

Then It had Aristocrats... And there as a bunch of names...

Then there was a category titled Religious figures: Christian and Jewish...

- A bunch of Monks
- A few Popes you might recognize:
 - Pope Gregory, Pope Leo
 - James, son of Zebedee, made the cut...
- Jewish: only 3 names

Lastly, there was a category for Legendary and Mythological figures...

- Some Greek heroes and mythical kings...
- Then I saw this there was a ***Mateo the Great***... I know there was something different about Jose and Ana...

But here's what I thought was so interesting, nowhere on any of those lists was Jesus named...

- Not under the Jewish category or even under Legendary/Mythological...

And the question that I asked myself was, **WHY?!?**

- And I think it's because people don't view Jesus as a King...
- And they don't view Him as great...
 - The reason is because of how we define great in our world...
 - Great is power, notoriety, success...

But what if we have the wrong definition of greatness??? And if so, what does true greatness look like, and what are the implications???

We've been on this Journey with Jesus as He makes his way to **Jerusalem...**

- Today, we're going to see Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem...
- *I want you to understand the significance of Jerusalem...*
 - It's located in the Promised Land God had given Isreal...
 - Later King David made Jerusalem the capital of Isreal...
 - It's also where King Solomon (David's son) would build the temple...
 - Jerusalem was the epicenter of the Jewish faith...

And Jesus is about to enter Jerusalem during what's known as **Passover...**

What is the Passover?

¹ https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_people_known_as_the_Great#Monarchs

- **Explain...** God told them to continue that meal as an act of remembrance...
- Jewish people from all over would come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate it...
 - The population would go from around 80,000 - 200,000.²

One other thing to note here is that Jesus' entry into Jerusalem would begin the start of what's known today in the church as **Passion Week or Holy Week**...

- Passion Week or Holy Week is where the church remembers the calendar week that leads to the crucifixion of Jesus...
- What's important to understand here is the timeline...
 - Jesus will enter Jerusalem at the beginning of the week and be crucified at the end of the week...

Alright, let's pick up in **verse 28**...

Luke 19:28-44

28 When he [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. **29** As he approached Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives,

Bethany is about 2 miles from Jerusalem, located on the slope going up the Mount of Olives- and Bethany is a significant place because it's where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11)...

- So Jesus coming back through here would have drawn a crowd!

[So as they near Jerusalem, Jesus] he sent two of the disciples **30** and said, "Go into the village ahead of you. As you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. **31** If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say this: 'The Lord needs it.' "

32 So those who were sent left and found it just as he had told them.

33 As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

² Tony Merida, *Triumph and Tears*

34 "The Lord needs it," they said. **35** Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their clothes on the colt, they helped Jesus get on it.

There's a couple of things here, the first thing is why did Jesus need it?

He needed it to fulfill a Prophecy that was laid out about **500 years before this**...

- **BTW**, did you know that there's approximately **322 prophecies** that describe the character and nature of Jesus that were given as specific signs to validate the Messiah...³
 - All of which Jesus fulfilled... Crazy right?!?
 - That's not something that happens on accident and not something you could fudge together based off of the different writers that make up the bible...

But back to this specific prophecy here... **500 years earlier**, the Prophet **Zechariah** would say this in **Zechariah 9:9**:

9 Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout in triumph, Daughter Jerusalem!
Look, your King is coming to you;
he is righteous and victorious,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

So Jesus needed this colt, not just for a ride, but to be the fulfillment of a prophecy about Him!

The other thing I want you to notice is how all this came to be!

Jesus displays total **knowledge** here on the events at hand...

- He says where the colt will be, that it will be tied up, the fact that it's never been ridden, and what to say to get it...

³ JD Greear, *How did the Apostles view the OT Scripture?*

And not only that, I want you to notice the **power and control Jesus has here**... Not only does Jesus say how things are about to go down, but he says when they do, you're going to get asked, *why are you untying the colt?* And Jesus says just to tell them **the Lord needs it, and you'll get it!**

- **BTW:** I wish this was the way to make other things happen in life...

And what happens?!?!? The text says that the disciples found things **just as He had told them...** *Everything happened exactly how Jesus said it would flawlessly...*

- Jesus has perfect **knowledge** of what's about to happen and has the power and control to make things happen the way they should!!

Before we move past this, can I just stop here and say this... This knowledge, power, and control isn't just something that Jesus *flexes* for a donkey...

- **IOW:** The same knowledge, power, and control we see here is the same knowledge, power, and control that Jesus has over your life!
 - **Appeal...**

Verse 36:

36 As he was going along, they were spreading their clothes on the road. **37** Now he came near the path down the Mount of Olives, and the whole crowd of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles they had seen:

38 Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven

and glory in the highest heaven!

Ok, we've got to stop here and ask the question: Why did they call Jesus the King?? Not *a* King but **THE** King!

- **What kind of King is He?!?**

I mean, when you step back and look at this, it doesn't make any sense...

- What King rides in on a colt? The lowliest animal?
 - This is like the King and Queen of England riding in on scooters...
 - Or like President Biden rolling up in a golf cart...
- Not only does He ride in on a colt, but He has no weapon to lead the way to victory...
 - Esp. during this time, Isreal was desperately in need of a warrior king that would come and free them from their oppression under Rome...
- Which leads to another thing, Jesus had no political agenda, He had no political platform... What Kind of king has no political agenda?!?
- And look at who's surrounding Him? It's a bunch of misfits, fishermen, tax collectors, and a former activist...
 - Not to mention Jesus Himself is just the lowly son of a carpenter...
 - This is a rag-tag crew!

What kind of King is this?!?

He's a King like no other... He is the King of the world, God Himself, who's come to bring peace...

And the **peace** He came to bring is like no other...

- Not political peace, but eternal peace...

GOSPEL... *Flesh out*

Jesus didn't ride in on a white horse, He came in on a donkey... Jesus didn't have a political agenda He had an eternal agenda... He didn't bring a sword to slaughter the nations... He took the sword to die for the nations...

And He would show just how great a King He was **when even death itself submits to Him** as He busts out of the grave, showing the totality of His reign!

Jesus is a different type of King than the world has ever seen. He is the One True King who is over everything, He is the Lord God Almighty... Who came to do what we never could... Restore our broken relationship with God...

- If we could just be good enough, God's not that great...
- Only the One True King, the Creator Of The World, God Himself, could fix that which was broken...

We see God's greatness, but His greatness looks vastly different than the greatness our world seeks after...

- *The world's definition of greatness is a front that looks good on the outside, but is far from God on the inside... It's like when if you have what's supposed to be a chick-fil-a chicken sandwich and it turns out to be a cauliflower sandwich... Come on...*
- The greatness of God was revealed through humility and lowliness, meekness and gentleness, love and kindness, sacrifice and service...

And the beauty that I want you to see is that Jesus' greatness has incredible implications for us...

- His greatness is extended to us...

Meaning, **our hope is not found in our greatness and what we can obtain in this life...** Greatness comes from what's been imparted to you through Christ...

- you share in His greatness that's been given to you. It's how you can stand in the presence of God...
- Hidden in Christ (**Col. 3:3**)
- Greater is He who is in me (**1 John 4:4**)
- Heirs of God and coheirs with Christ (**Rom. 8:17**)
- God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the Heavens in Christ Jesus... (**Ephesians 2:6**)

And watch this; here's **why** He does this...

Ephesians 2:7-10... so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—**9** not from works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

Appeal to the search for greatness...

- You feel like you're not great according to the world's standards... Feel lowly, feel unworthy??
- Perfect

Jesus came to give you something that the world never could...

- It's not your stature, status or success that makes you great...
- It's what Christ has imparted to you... you are not great because of what you've done. ***You've been made great by what's been declared over you...***
 - You are a son or daughter of God!!

*Now watch this... look at what happens next in **verse 39**:*

39 Some of the Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples."

Remember, the Pharisees are the religious elite- they are the ones that give their lives to the study of scripture... The ones that should have seen this more clearly than anyone, but they missed it...

They were too consumed by their moralism and attempts at being righteous that they missed the righteous one...

They were so concerned with **power** and **prejudice** that they missed the perfect Savior of the world...

- He came to them in a way that they would have never expected... ***Because He came as the opposite of what they were!***

**What this shows us is that you can be around the things of God, you can know the things of God, and yet, you can still miss God...

I wonder if that's true for some of you?!?

- Appeal to the religious...

Let me say this: ***Don't let the things of religion distract you from the person they are designed to point you to!***

- We can all be guilty of this...

Example: if Christianity is drudgery or draining, then you're most likely disoriented...

- You're not working out of a place of
- The things of God are designed to be life-giving, not life-draining...
- ***They demand sacrifice, but there's a beautiful outcome in you...***
 - When there's not, then you're not doing it right...
 - Your working for God and not working out of a posture of being saved by God...

If we're not careful we will be around the things of God, maybe even doing the things of God, but in the process, we will miss Jesus!

Let's keep going, look at Jesus response to the Pharisees in **verse 40:**

40 He answered, ***"I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the stones would cry out."***

IOW: Even lifeless creation knows its creator, even if y'all don't!

It doesn't matter if the people are quiet or not! Even lifeless creation knows its creator, and God will be praised by his creation, even if rocks have to be the ones to cry out!

Family listen to me, Don't let anyone or anything stop you from praising Jesus! ***If Christ has brought you peace, then bring him praise!***⁴

- And I'm just going to say if you really know the kind of peace you've been it impacts the way that you worship!
 - *Appeal!*

OK, **verse 41:**

41 As he approached and saw the city, he wept for it, **42** saying, ***"If you knew this day what would bring peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. 43 For the days will come on you when your enemies will build a barricade around you, surround you, and hem you in on every side. 44 They will crush you and your children among you to the ground, and they will not leave one stone on another in your midst, because you did not recognize the time when God visited you."***

Jesus looks forward here in light of Jerusalem's rejection of Him to what's coming, and historically what did come, which is the attack of Rome on Jerusalem that led to their collapse in 70 AD.

But here's the thing I want you to see... When Jesus comes to Jerusalem, knowing what's about to come with their rejection and their destruction...

And He **weeps:** He wails, He sobs...

*These are the tears of one who knows that the people have already turned their backs on God's messenger. Much like a parent watching a child make a foolish decision, Jesus mourns a city sealing its fate.*⁵

We see the compassion of Jesus...

- Could have said it serves you right, but instead, He weeps!
- Plug for Podcast...
 - Living Beyond Sunday Podcast
 - Apple Podcast and Spotify
 - Imageatl.com/podcast

⁴ Christ-centered Exposition, *Exalting Jesus in Luke*.

⁵ Ibid.

Appeal: do you see the compassion of Jesus...

- Do you sense it in your own in your life??
- Or do you see Jesus as a taskmaster who's always disappointed?!?

Romans 2:4 *God's Kindness leads us to repentance...*

How is the compassion of Jesus flowing out of your life...

- Compassion to you, compassion through you...

And it leads us to this question: ***Is Jesus your king or is he not?***

- We see there are 2 groups of people here... One receives and one rejects... ***Which are you?***
- If Jesus is your true King then it means you submit to him...
 - That you worship Him!

Paul says it this way in 2 Cor. 5:14-15: For the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion, that one died for all, and therefore all died. **15** And he died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the one who died for them and was raised.

Conclusion [VAMP]

Do you see the greatness of King Jesus?

Where are you missing it in your life?

Reflect and Discuss:

1. How does Jesus model greatness in his life?
2. Is the Christian life drudgery for you? If so, what aspect?
 - a. What might be the disconnect between identity and belief causing the drudgery?
3. Where do you think most people search for peace?
4. How does Jesus provide peace in your life in good times and hard times?
 - a. Discuss areas of our lives that we often look for peace apart from Jesus
 - b. How can we run to Jesus for peace?
5. How can you help others find greater peace in Christ?
 - a. Who are you being intentional with to invite to Easter Sunday?