



ADVENT

The Arrival of the King





"He brings war to an end; he orders peace; by manifesting himself, he surpasses the hopes of all who were looking for good news."

Matthew 21:1-14

**Three expected-yet-unexpected
Messiah things Jesus does in this story**

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1. Jesus rides into Jerusalem
(expected) on a donkey
(unexpected)

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2. Jesus cleanses the temple
(expected), but not of foreign
influence (unexpected)



A coin depicting Antiochus IV Epiphanes, minted ca. 173/2-164 B.C.E. On the obverse (front) side, he is shown wearing a diadem. On the reverse (back) side, we see an unnamed goddess seated on a throne while holding Nike (victory) in her right hand, and the words *Basileus Antiochos*—meaning emperor/king.

credit: [Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.](#)

Three expected-yet-unexpected Messiah things Jesus does in this story

3. Jesus defeated the powers that be (expected), via his self-sacrificial death on a Roman execution device (unexpected)

God raised him up, ending the pains of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by death."

Acts 2:24, CSB

“In the story the Bible tells, hope is not magic. It does not appear out of thin air on our emotional doorstep. It requires effort to develop.”

- Curt Thompson