

# Matthew 21

Jesus

## I. Triumphal Entry

<sup>1</sup> Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose *them* and bring *them* to Me. <sup>3</sup> And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."

- **King heads to Jerusalem:** Cross not a Throne
- **Triumphal Entry?** Jesus triumphed over temptations to bail...Family/Satan/Peter

**Isaiah 50:7** ... I have **set My face like a flint**, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

- **Passover:**
  1. Blood of Lamb on doors of Egypt caused death Angel to Pass-over
  2. Jesus blood on Cross would cause judgement to pass-over us onto Him
- **Mount of Olives:** Jesus sends 2 Disciples see a man about a donkey
  1. Go to town/Find the Donkey and colt. Untie and bring to Me
  2. If anyone says anything tell them the Lord has need of them
- Prophesied in Zechariah **500 years earlier...**

<sup>4</sup> All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: <sup>5</sup> "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

**Q.** How did the events play out?

**A.** God is the great orchestrator using man's freewill/personal choice with His foreknowledge

**6** So the disciples went and **did as Jesus commanded** them.

**Mark 11:5** But some of those who stood there said to them, "What are you doing, losing the colt?" **6** And they spoke to them just as Jesus had commanded. **So they let them go.**

**7** They brought the **donkey and the colt**, laid their clothes on them, and set **Him on them.**

- Jesus rode into Jerusalem exact day prophesied by Daniel in Ch. 9 476 years earlier
- **173,880** days after the decree to rebuild Jerusalem

**This is the Day that the Lord has Made**

**Psalm 118:19** Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the Lord. 20 This is the gate of the Lord, Through which the righteous shall enter. 21 I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation. 22 The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This was the Lord's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. 24 **This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

- **Day the King came to town for Coronation...**

8 And a **very great multitude** spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "**Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!**" 10 And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "**Who is this?**" 11 So the multitudes said, "**This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.**"

- **To Jerusalem...the people prepared**

1. Great Multitude cutting Palm Branches [John 12]
2. Throwing down Green carpet to Jerusalem/Throne

#### **Hosanna to the Son of David! The King is Here!**

'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!"

**Psalm 118:25** Save now, I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord. 27 God is the Lord, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

- **In Jerusalem...the people were moved**
- Who is this? / What's going on? Jesus the Prophet from Nazareth
  1. **David:** Prophet/King
  2. **Jesus:** Priest/Prophet/King. Frankincense, Myrrh, Gold

### **SUMMARY Triumphal Entry**

## **II. Jesus Cleans House**

12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. 13 And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"

- Jesus enters Jerusalem heads to Temple...
  1. Turned tables on those selling sacrifices for profit
  2. Drove out both those who bought/sold. Both wrong

## House of prayer now a money-making machine/Circus atmosphere

- Jesus purified the temple [2x] to make way for **true ministry...**

### We need to let Jesus purify the temple to allow for true ministry

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [Gossip/slander/malice, sexual sin, etc.]

**1 Corinthians 9:26** Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. 27 But I **discipline my body** and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should **become disqualified**. [Read/Pray/Fast]

- **Cleanse the temple:** Repentance/Self-Discipline are vital for **true ministry**

14 Then the **blind and the lame** came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. 15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the **wonderful things** that He did, and the **children crying out** in the temple and saying, "**Hosanna to the Son of David!**" they were indignant 16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

- **Religious leaders...**

1. Saw His wonders
2. Heard children praising

### Reaction? Only God is to receive praise...Do you hear what they are doing?

**16b...** And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, '**Out of the mouth of babes** and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?" 17 Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.

- Prophesied by David 1000 years earlier...

**Psalms 8:1** [David] O Lord, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! 2 **Out of the mouth of babes** and nursing infants You have ordained **strength...**

- **What if they had been told to be quiet?**

**Luke 19:40** [Jesus answered] "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would **immediately** cry out."

## SUMMARY Jesus Cleans House

### III. Fig Tree Lessons

18 Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry. 19 And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the

fig tree withered away. 20 And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?" 21 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. 22 And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

- **Fig Tree:** Picture of Israel
  1. Here seen withering away.
  2. Bore no fruit. Since Ch 12 [Blasphemy of HS]
- **Mark 11** Parallel Scripture...
  1. Jesus on His way to Jerusalem sees fig tree...**no fruit**
  2. Jesus curses the fig tree...Let no one eat from you again!
  3. Jesus continues on to cleanses Temple...**heads back**

**Mark 11:20** ... in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. 21 And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away."

### Why did the Fig Tree wither away?

- **A.** Became it became useless/Did not bear fruit/Cursed

#### **Israel became useless to God not bearing fruit and was cursed**

Why did Jesus then teach on faith/ability to move mountains?

- **Q for next 2000 years?** How would Israel come back/Dead bones dance again?
- **Q for last 70+ years?** How did Israel come back from the dead?
  1. God did keep His promise to His people
  2. God did bring the dead back to life... and Israel will one day bear fruit

### Fig Tree Lesson for the boys that day?

**Because it bore no fruit,** Israel is about to Spiritually wither away

- **Why? Watch...**

### SUMMARY Fig Tree Lessons

## IV. Jesus' Authority Questioned

23 Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people **confronted Him** as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

- **Chief Priests/Elders confront Jesus:** Who do you think you are?

**v 24 to end:** Answers the Question/Elephant in the room from Mat. 11...  
Why did Jesus say John was the greatest man born of women to that time?

1. **John ushered in the Son of God.** Obvious.
2. Future of Jews hung how sincere they were at John's baptism re. **repentance**

**Matthew 3:4** Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.7 But when he saw many of the **Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism**, he said to them, "**Brood of vipers!** Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore **bear fruits worthy of repentance**, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 And even now the **ax is laid to the root of the trees**. Therefore every tree which does not **bear good fruit** is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

### **Who do You think You are? Who gave You authority?**

- John warned you re. sin/judgment. John told you who I was. Lamb of God. Messiah.

You came to John to repent... Right?  
You made an honest confession of faith...Right?

24 But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: 25 The baptism of John—**where was it from?** From heaven or from men?"

- Was John's baptism of repentance that you were at **from God or not?**

**25b...** And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, '**Why then did you not believe him?**' 26 But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet."

- **Paint themselves into corner:**

1. **John was from God?** Admitting Jesus is Messiah as John proclaimed
2. **Not from not God?** Get a beating because people like John

27 So they answered Jesus and said, "**We do not know.**" And He said to them, "**Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.**

### **SUMMARY Jesus' Authority Questioned**

- Jesus continues rationalizing with Jews. Some would listen...

**Isaiah 1:18** "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be

as wool.

- **Rapid Fire Rationale vv 28-44:** Why Israel/Self-righteousness is going down

## V. Parable of the Two Sons

28 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, '**Son, go, work today in my vineyard.**' 29 He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. 30 Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, '**I go, sir,**' but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "**The first.**" Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you."

- **Two sons told to bear fruit in Father's vineyard**

1. First son says yes and doesn't go
2. Second son says no but does go

### **Which one did the Father's will?**

The one who talked about going or the one who actually went?

- **Nation had its last chance at John's baptism**
- **You represented the Nation of Israel...**

1. You said yes to repentance but did not bear fruit by coming to Me
2. Others said no at first [we don't deserve it] did repent/came to Me/bore fruit...

32 For John came to you in **the way of righteousness**, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him.

- You did not believe John about Me: Behold the Lamb of God
- **"Sinners" believed John about Me/Came to Me/Transformed by Me**

You saw the change in those "sinners".  
Instead of repentance **got angry/jealous**

**SUMMARY Parable of the Two Sons:** Jews said yes did not repent. Sinners said no but did repent. They will enter in before you.

## VI. Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers

33 **"Hear another parable:**

- **Jesus continues chopping...**rapid fire basis for why Israel will wither...

**33b...** There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. 34 Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its

fruit.<sup>35</sup> And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup> Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. <sup>37</sup> Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' <sup>38</sup> But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' <sup>39</sup> So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

- God gave His people the land of Israel that they might bear fruit
- God sent His prophets to check out the fruit; if it was good. Repentance/Salvation
- People of Israel; God's chosen... beat, killed, stoned them to death
- God sent His only Son to set them straight. Instead sought to kill Him...and did

<sup>40</sup> "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" <sup>41</sup> They said to Him, "He will **destroy those wicked men miserably**, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons."

- **Religious leaders blinded by pride:**
  1. Still couldn't see Jesus was talking about them
  2. Should have listened to John's warning...

**Matthew 3:12** [John of Jesus] His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly **clean out His threshing floor**, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Blinded by Pride/Power and Self-Righteousness...

**You missed/rejected the Messiah you say you have been waiting for**

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The **stone which the builders rejected** Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

- Jesus is the Stone the builders [Jews] rejected
- Saw His work/fruit in people's lives **and rejected it....**

**Psalms 118: 22** The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. <sup>23</sup> This was the Lord's doing; **It is marvelous in our eyes.** <sup>24</sup> This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. <sup>25</sup> Save now, I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. <sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord. <sup>27</sup> God is the Lord, And **He has given us light...**

- God has given us light...but man rejected the Light

**John 3:19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men **loved darkness** rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

**John 1:10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> **He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.** <sup>12</sup> But as

many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become **children of God**, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be **taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it.**

**You're losing the Kingdom and a Nation of sinner will receive it**

**1 Timothy 1:15** This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ **Jesus came** into the **world to save sinners**, of whom I am chief.

44 And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."

- **Humble yourself** Broken: Fall on stone be saved God love contrite
- **Walk in Pride** Resist: Stone fall on you/grind powder Resists proud

45 Now when the chief priests and Pharisees heard His parables, they **perceived that He was speaking of them.** 46 But when they sought to lay hands on Him, they feared the multitudes, because they took Him for a prophet.

- **Finally, Perceived Jesus spoke of them:**

Kingdom of God will be taken from you!  
Statement was rocket fuel leading to the Cross

**John 7:8b...** My time has not yet fully come." [It is now here]

- Jewish Nation will be left spiritually desolate for 2000+ years

**Luke 13:35** See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, '**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**' "

**Soon the Jews will see Jesus for who He is...their Messiah/King  
See the actual Triumphal Entry into His Kingdom**

**Revelation 1:7** Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. **And all the tribes of the earth will mourn** because of Him. Even so, Amen.

**Revelation 7:8** After these things I looked, and behold, a **great multitude** which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, **with palm branches in their hands**, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

**SUMMARY Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers**