

“Our Coming King”

Summary

As we reflect on Palm Sunday and the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, we're reminded of the profound truth that our King is both humble and powerful. The story invites us to consider: Are we truly ready for His visitation in our lives? We explored the concept of 'building a place for His name' - not just physical structures, but more importantly, becoming living temples for God's presence. This challenges us to examine our hearts and ask: Are we allowing God to inspect every area of our lives? The message emphasized that God is looking for a response from us in our generation, urging us to be active participants in His work. As we navigate trials and afflictions, we're encouraged to see them as opportunities for deeper fellowship with Christ, understanding that nothing can separate us from His love. This Palm Sunday let's renew our commitment to worship Him as King and surrender every part of our lives to His lordship.

Main Points – Our Coming King

Title: Building a House for God's Glory: Responding to His Call in Challenging Times

Sermon Summary: This Palm Sunday sermon explores the concept of building a place for God's name and glory, both in physical structures and in our hearts. Pastor Rob emphasizes the importance of responding to God's call in our generation, even amidst trials and afflictions. He draws parallels between Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and His imminent return, urging believers to be prepared and responsive to God's work in their lives.

Key Points:

- God is building a house for His name, not for man's glory
- We are called to partner with God in building His church
- Trials and afflictions can be tools God uses to shape us and draw us closer to Him
- The importance of being ready and expectant for Jesus' return
- The fellowship of Christ's sufferings as a means of deepening our relationship with Him
- The need for humility and surrender in our spiritual journey
- God's desire to find and restore what is lost in His house (the church)

Scripture Reference:

- 1 Chronicles 29:1
- Mark 11:7-11

- 1 Peter 4:12-19
- Philippians 3 (referenced for the concept of fellowship in Christ's sufferings)
- Luke 15:8-10

Stories:

- The parable of the woman with ten silver coins, searching for the lost one
- A personal anecdote about a prophetic coffee cup with the phrase "note to self, die"
- A vision of a worship leader riding a horse bareback, illustrating the need for humility
- The story of Abraham offering Isaac, demonstrating deep fellowship with God through sacrifice

Small Group Study Guide – Our Coming King

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. God is building a place for His name and glory through His people.
2. We are called to participate in God's work in our generation.
3. Trials and afflictions can be opportunities for deeper fellowship with Christ.
4. God is looking for a response from His people as He visits His temple.
5. True identity is found in proximity to God.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions that "what makes something great is because it's for Him." How does this perspective challenge our typical views of success or greatness?
2. Reflect on the phrase "am I doing my part in my generation?" What do you think this means for you personally?
3. How does the concept of "the fellowship of His sufferings" change your perspective on difficult times in your life?
4. The sermon talks about God "looking at everything" in His temple. How does this idea make you feel? Challenged? Comforted? Explain.
5. Discuss the concept of being "the apple of God's eye." How might this understanding of our identity in God affect our daily lives?
6. What does it mean to you that God might use "affliction that brings response" in our lives? Can you share an example from your own experience?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, intentionally seek moments of closeness with God to "see yourself in His eye." Journal about these experiences.
2. Identify one area in your life where you might need to "die to self." Share with a partner for accountability.
3. Reflect on any current trials or difficulties. How might you invite Jesus into these situations for deeper fellowship?

4. Consider ways you can contribute to "building a place for His name" in your local church or community. Make a plan to act on one of these ideas.

5. Practice responding to God's "inspection" by spending time in self-reflection and repentance each day this week.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His desire to build us into a place for His name. Ask for grace to respond to His work in our lives, even through trials. Pray for a deeper understanding of our identity in Christ.

Discussion Questions – Our Coming King

How might our understanding of Jesus as both the 'meek and lowly' king and the prophet who cleanses the temple shape our relationship with Him?

In what ways can we prepare ourselves and our communities for the 'visitation' of Jesus in our lives and churches today?

How does the concept of 'fellowship in His sufferings' change our perspective on difficult times in our lives?

What does it mean to be 'the apple of God's eye,' and how might this understanding impact our daily walk with Him?

How can we balance the joy of Palm Sunday with the sobering reality of Jesus' impending suffering during Holy Week?

In what ways might God be using 'affliction' or challenges in our lives to bring about a response or transformation?

How can we cultivate a sense of urgency in our spiritual lives, given the repeated emphasis on 'the hour is late'?

What does it mean to 'build a place for His name' in our personal lives and in our faith communities?

How might the image of Jesus 'looking around at everything' in the temple apply to our own lives and hearts?

In what ways can we embrace the idea of 'dying to self' while also celebrating the triumphant aspects of our faith?

Scriptures – Our Coming King

Here are the [scripture references mentioned or alluded to in the sermon](#), along with some suggested relevant verses for the main themes:

Explicitly Mentioned:

1. 1 Chronicles 29:1
2. Acts 7:47-49
3. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
4. Deuteronomy 32:10
5. Zechariah 9:9 (alluded to, not directly quoted)
6. Mark 11:7-11
7. Matthew 21:10-13
8. Luke 15:8-10
9. Philippians 3:10 (alluded to)
10. Romans 8:28-29
11. 1 Peter 4:12-17

Alluded to or Implied:

1. Matthew 16:18 (Jesus building His church)
2. Isaiah 66:1-2 (quoted in Acts 7:49-50)
3. Luke 15:11-32 (Prodigal Son parable)
4. Psalm 105 (mentioned as referring to God sending a famine)
5. Genesis 22 (Abraham offering Isaac)

Suggested Relevant Verses:

1. Matthew 25:1-13 (Parable of the Ten Virgins - readiness for Christ's return)
2. Revelation 19:11-16 (Christ's second coming)
3. 2 Corinthians 4:17 (Light affliction working eternal glory)
4. James 1:2-4 (Trying of faith producing perseverance)
5. Hebrews 12:1-3 (Enduring hardship, looking to Jesus)
6. 1 Peter 1:6-7 (Trials refining faith)
7. Romans 8:35-39 (Nothing separating us from God's love)
8. 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (God of all comfort)
9. Malachi 3:1-3 (The Lord suddenly coming to His temple)
10. Ephesians 2:19-22 (Believers being built together as God's dwelling)

Devotional – Our Coming King

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide:

Day 1: The Apple of God's Eye

Reading: Deuteronomy 32:9-11, Psalm 17:8

Devotional: God's love for us is intimate and personal. He calls us the "apple of His eye" - a term that refers to seeing our reflection in someone else's pupil when we're close to them. Today, reflect on how near God wants you to be. Are you close enough to see yourself in His eyes? Take time to draw near to God, allowing His love to shape your identity and self-worth. Remember, your true self is found not in the world's reflection, but in God's gaze of love.

Day 2: Building for God's Glory

Reading: 1 Chronicles 29:1-5, 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Devotional: King David prepared to build a temple "not for man but for the Lord God." Similarly, we are called to build our lives and ministries for God's glory, not our own. Consider the areas of your life - your work, relationships, talents. Are you using them to glorify yourself or God? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any self-centered motives and to align your heart with God's purposes. Remember, what we build for God's glory will last for eternity.

Day 3: Anticipating Christ's Return

Reading: Matthew 25:1-13, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Devotional: Jesus' triumphal entry on Palm Sunday points to His future return. Are we living in anticipation of that day? Reflect on how the expectation of Christ's return impacts your daily choices and priorities. Are there areas of your life that need "tidying up" in preparation for His coming? Ask God to renew your sense of urgency and to help you live each day as if it could be the day of His return.

Day 4: Finding God in Suffering

Reading: Philippians 3:7-11, 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Devotional: The "fellowship of Christ's sufferings" isn't just about enduring hardship; it's about experiencing a unique intimacy with Jesus in our pain. Think about a current struggle in your life. How might Jesus be inviting you into deeper fellowship with Him through this difficulty? Ask Him to reveal His presence in your suffering and to use this experience to conform you more to His image. Remember, nothing can separate you from His love, even in your darkest moments.

Day 5: Repentance and Revival

Reading: Luke 15:8-10, 2 Chronicles 7:14-16

Devotional: God is constantly searching for what is "lost" in His house - areas of our hearts that have strayed from Him. What might God be trying to "sweep" out of your life? Is there

an area where you need to repent and return to Him? Remember that true revival begins with personal repentance. Take time to allow God's light to search your heart, and respond to His gentle conviction with humility and surrender. As you do, rejoice that your return brings joy to the heart of God.