

Mark 11 –18 July 2021

“Jesus: The Lamb of God”

Introduction

- *Jesus has had a 3 year public ministry
- *He had just come from Galilee down thru Perea and on His way to Jerusalem to finish His ministry
- *Jesus came to give 1) Compassion 2) Understanding of the Scripture 3) His life a ransom to win us back!
- *And now Christ comes into Jerusalem for the last week of His earthly ministry and life.
- *This is the culmination of His dedication to save our souls by being the Lamb of God, our substitutionary sacrifice
- *John Baptist declared, “Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world”
- *Jesus bears many titles (Talk of how He is the Lamb)

Today we'll look at 4 aspects of the Lamb of God

1st Aspect of Jesus as the Lamb of God is the Presentation of the Prophesied Lamb (Vs 1-11)

Read Vs 1-3

1. This is for Jesus to ride into Jerusalem & allow Himself to be proclaimed as King, as Messiah
2. Jesus gives the command to go get the colt of a donkey (We assume He had this prearranged)
3. “Say the Lord hath need of him”
 - a. Not b/c Jesus is weary
 - b. B/c He needs to intentionally fulfill prophecy

Read Vs 4-6

1. Read John 12:16 – Disciples didn’t understand why Jesus wanted the colt til after the resurrection
2. It was to present Himself as the prophesied Messiah as written by (Read) Zec 9:9

Read Vs 7-9

1. Spreading garments is a sign of respect to honor someone

2. Waving palm branches is a sign of victory, this is why we often call this day Palm Sunday
3. Hosanna; *save now*—Full recognition as Messiah
4. See we often call this “The Triumphal Entry”
 - a. Roman General would have a victory parade for victories with more than 5,000 kills
 - i. The procession would have the prisoners, the booty, the Roman army and the general
 - b. Jesus is ALL these things WITH humility
 - i. He's the prisoner – Allowing Himself to take and suffer the wrath of God
 - ii. He's the booty – Gaining the life of Jesus within us is the reward He offers us
 - iii. He's the army – By His might victory is won
 - iv. He's the general – He gets the focus & glory

Read Vs 10-11

1. Jesus is David's son – the king is here to save at the exact moment He was prophesied to come
2. Read Luke 19:39-40 – “rebuke thy disciples”

- a. Even creation knows this is the VERY day
- 3. Read Luke 19:41-44 – “this thy day”
 - a. Passover lamb gotten on the 10th day of 1st month – THIS DAY (Exo 12:1-6)
 - b. Dan 9 tells of the very day the Messiah will come – Fulfilled THIS VERY DAY
- 4. Jesus has held back from being publicly & openly declared as the Messiah...but no more!

2nd Aspect of Jesus as the Lamb of God is the Priority of the Priceless Lamb (Vs 12-18)

Intro

- 1. In vs 12-14 Jesus sees a fig tree & curses it
- 2. We'll come back to these vss in a moment
- 3. It's Monday, the 2nd day Jesus has been back to Jerusalem & He goes into the Temple again

Read Vs 15-16

- 1. Moneychangers called the people's sacrifices blemished so they could sell them 'better' ones.

2. He drove them out at beginning of ministry and now again here at the end
 - a. Notice from vs 11, Jesus was in the temple yesterday (Sunday)
 - b. They had lots of warning not to do this sin
3. Turn to Jer 7:3-11 – Focus should have been on the priceless lamb as payment this Passover Feast, but they made it about themselves

Read vs 17-18

1. So focus of the Passover sacrifice shouldn't have been on these moneychangers making money but it also shouldn't have been on Israel at all!
2. The Temple was designed FOR ALL PEOPLE to come to God
 - a. Look at Isa 56:1-8, Read Vs 6-8 – Everyone should be able to come show their priority on the Lamb of God
3. Vs 18 – They sought to kill Jesus b/c they prioritized their economy higher than God's Lamb

3rd Aspect of Jesus as the Lamb of God is the Patience of the Powerful Lamb (Vs 19-26)

Read Vs 19-20

1. At the end of Monday, they're leaving the Temple and city & they see the fig tree dried up
2. Let's go back & catch the story from the beginning of the day (Monday)

Read Vs 12-14

1. Israel is pictured at different times as a Vine, a Fig and as an Olive Tree
 - a. Vine – Spiritual Privileges
 - i. Psm 80, Isa 5, Jer 2, Eze 15, John 15
 - b. Fig – National Privileges
 - i. Hos 9, Jer 24, Matt 20, 21, 24
 - c. Olive – Religious Privilege & Heritage
 - i. Hos 14, Isa 17, 24, Psm 52, 128, Rom 11
2. Leaves indicate that this Fig Tree should have fruit, but didn't (false advertising)
 - a. National Israel professed to have fruit, but didn't

3. Notice end of vs 13 – “time of figs was not yet”
 - a. Rom 11 tells us of the day coming that all Israel will be saved & THEN they’ll have fruit
4. This is the only destructive miracle of Jesus
 - a. It’s to make the point that Jesus’ patience with rebellious Israel is finally over
 - b. Read Luk 13:6-9 – God has done all He can to woo Israel, but they have to choose Him

Read Vs 19-23

1. Jesus answers how He did this...by faith
2. Continually He keeps saying faith is the victory
3. This is the heart of Israel’s problem
 - a. They relied on their power rather than God
 - b. Jesus has great patience but it isn’t endless

Read Vs 24-26

1. There must be right relationship based on forgiveness in order to access the power of God
2. Sometimes the hardest mountain to move is your own unforgiving heart

4th Aspect of Jesus as the Lamb of God is the Proof of the Perfect Lamb (Vs 27-33)

Read Vs 27-28

1. Jesus is the unbiased Judge & God of the Universe and they question His authority
 - a. Men think they have authority like Pilate judging Jesus in (Read) John 19:9-11
 - b. Jews rely on men like past Rabbis for their authority (Read Matt 7:28-29)
 - c. Many denominations get hung up on following men instead of God's authority
 - i. Who would a Lutheran have followed before Martin Luther?
 - ii. Who would a Methodist have followed before John Wesley?
 - iii. Who would a Presbyterian have followed before John Knox?
 - iv. *Take guidance from men's authority only to the extent that they're following God's*

Read Vs 29-33

1. Jesus isn't dodging the question
 - a. He's showing that answer to their question is the same as the answer to His question
 - b. So instead of just answering the question, He's trying to draw it out of their conscience
 - i. They already know in their hearts that He's the perfect Lamb & Messiah, but haven't bow their heart or knee yet
2. John's ministry is complete & He's dead, Jesus' ministry is not complete yet
 - a. Jesus used the full example of John to demonstrate that neither would they accept His authority...even if He told them
3. For all of Mark 12, men will challenge Jesus trying to show some sin or shortcomings
 - a. These encounters demonstrate the perfection of Jesus, the Lamb of God
 - b. Jesus even throws the questions back trying to give the questioner a chance to repent

Conclusion

I hope you see that this Triumphal Entry, this Palm Sunday is no mistake. Jesus specifically fulfills the role of being the Passover Lamb of sacrifice. We've seen...

1. **The Presentation of the Prophesied Lamb**
 - a. He comes humbly, not to judge, but to offer salvation and life
 - b. This was the very day He was to come in
2. **The Priority of the Priceless Lamb**
 - a. The priority in the temple should have been to give all people access to God's forgiveness
 - b. Jesus has come to finish sacrifice Himself
3. **The Patience of the Powerful Lamb**
 - a. As the Fig Tree represents Israel, Jesus has had 2,000 years of patience w/ them
 - b. Patience, but judgement day's coming
4. **The Proof of the Perfect Lamb**
 - a. Passover Lamb will now submit Himself to 4 days of examination & be found perfect