

Group Study Guide

April 1-2, 2023

Shattered Expectations

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MESSAGE NOTES:

Luke 19:28-44

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

³⁴ They replied, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices 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!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

⁴¹ As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it ⁴² and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

STUDY GUIDE:

STEP ONE: Read Luke 19:28-44 and pray to open your time together in God's word.

STEP TWO: (Optional) Icebreaker: Name a well-loved or famous restaurant you've visited that failed to live up to your expectations. Why was it so disappointing?

STEP THREE: Discuss Questions

1. What stood out to you the most in this weekend's teaching? What was challenging, encouraging, or confusing to you?
2. As Jesus is entering Jerusalem, He tells the disciples in verse 30 that they will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. How could Jesus have known that? If it's true that He has that kind of intimate knowledge about the details of all of life, including our own, how could that provide us with comfort?
3. Read verse 37. Why was the crowd praising Jesus? How did the crowd's expectations for what Jesus would do perhaps differ from Jesus' ultimate mission and purpose?
4. Read verses 39-40. What's the significance of Jesus saying that the "rocks will cry out" if the people don't praise Him?
5. Consider the stark contrast of praise/joy with Jesus' somber words in verses 41-44. Why was Jesus weeping? And why do you think that the Jewish people failed to recognize Jesus for who He truly was and what He ultimately came to do?
6. How is it possible for someone to "miss" Jesus today?
7. In this holy week (between Palm Sunday and Easter) how do you believe God is calling you to respond both now and this week as a result of His coming to you personally as Savior and King? Who might God be calling you to share this with in the coming days?

STEP FOUR: Close in Prayer