

Mark's Picture: The Triumphal Entry

Mark 11:1-14, FBCG – October 11, 2026

Mark 11:1–14 (ESV) Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’ ” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.

- How does Jesus’ triumphal entry differ from that of Rome’s triumphal entries?
- How did the Jewish community view Jesus’ entry?
- How you suppose God viewed His Son’s entry?

Zechariah 9:9–10 (ESV) ⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!

Psalms 118:25–27a (ESV) ²⁵Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success! ²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

In Revelation 19:11, we read of Jesus’ return, but this time riding on a on a white horse, a war horse called “faithful and true”.

Luke 19: ⁴¹And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴²saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

- According to Luke’s account, what are Jesus’ responses to the Jewish nation that had missed him?

- In giving thought to Jesus' return (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17), what might he be looking for from those who call themselves Christian?

¹¹And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. ¹²On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry.

- What are some things that Jesus is observing as he looked around in the temple?

¹³And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴And he said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.

- Besides leaves, what was Jesus looking for?

Hosea 9:10 (ESV)¹⁰Like grapes in the wilderness, I found Israel. Like the first fruit on the fig tree in its first season, I saw your fathers. But they came to Baal-peor and consecrated themselves to the thing of shame, and became detestable like the thing they loved.

Micah 7:1–2 (ESV)¹Woe is me! For I have become as when the summer fruit has been gathered, as when the grapes have been gleaned: there is no cluster to eat, no first-ripe fig that my soul desires.

²The godly has perished from the earth, and there is no one upright among mankind; they all lie in wait for blood, and each hunts the other with a net.

- Who is Jesus to you?
- What picture does Jesus have of you today? Is it one that you, and He, are pleased with? If not, what needs to take place? Be encouraged as you prayerfully consider the promise of Philippians 1:6.