

PALM SUNDAY

True Worship: From Hosanna to Surrender

Main Text

Palm Sunday / Triumphal Entry

Core Theme

Worship is not demand; worship is surrender.

Big Question

Am I praising Jesus for who He is or only for what I want Him to do?

Handout Purpose Use this sheet to follow the sermon, write in key thoughts, and respond personally at the end.

1. The Sermon in One Sentence

True worship is not loud emotion, religious activity, or self-centered expectation - it is costly surrender, obedience, and sacrifice laid at the feet of Jesus.

2. Key Notes to Follow

A. Not everything that looks like worship is worship

- Activity does not always equal adoration.
- Noise is not always nearness.
- Motion is not always surrender.
- The right church atmosphere can still hide a distant heart.

B. Palm Sunday exposes a dangerous kind of praise

- The crowd shouted “Hosanna,” but “Hosanna” means “save now” or “deliver now.”
- Their praise sounded right, but it carried demand underneath it.
- They wanted a king who would serve their agenda, not a King they would surrender to.
- They praised Jesus for what they hoped He would do, not for who He truly was.

C. Real worship begins with obedience

- Genesis 22 is the first major worship picture in Scripture.
- Abraham called sacrifice “worship.”
- Worship is not first a song; it is faith-filled obedience.
- Before worship is ever expressed with the lips, it is proven in the will.

D. Real worship is costly

- The woman with the alabaster box did not bring performance; she brought sacrifice.
- She broke what was precious and poured it out on Jesus.
- What cold hearts call waste, Jesus calls beautiful.
- Nothing poured out on Jesus is wasted.

E. Worship must mature

- Immature worship asks, “What can God do for me?”

- Mature worship asks, “What is He worthy of from me?”
- Real worship breaks pride, control, fear, image, and self-preservation.
- Until the box breaks, the fragrance cannot fill the house.

3. Fill-In Notes

1. Worship is not about what moved me; worship is about His _____.
2. The crowd on Palm Sunday had palms in their hands, praise in their mouths, and _____ in their hearts.
3. You can have the right volume and the wrong _____.
4. Real worship is not built on demand; real worship is built on _____.
5. Abraham teaches us that worship begins with _____ and faith.
6. The woman with the alabaster box shows us that worship is _____.
7. What the flesh calls waste, Jesus calls _____.
8. Until something breaks, nothing _____.

4. Scriptures and Scenes to Remember

Passage / Scene	What It Shows	Takeaway
Palm Sunday	A loud crowd praising Jesus	Praise can be sincere in sound and still selfish in motive.
Genesis 22	Abraham going to sacrifice Isaac	Worship begins where obedience starts.
Alabaster box	A woman pours out costly perfume	True worship gives Jesus the costly thing.
The altar	A place of surrender and response	What is laid down at His feet is real worship.

5. Questions for Personal Response

- Have I ever confused emotion, atmosphere, or routine with true worship?
Notes: _____
- Do I praise Jesus only when He seems to be moving in the direction I want?
Notes: _____
- What part of my life is still sealed up and protected from surrender?
Notes: _____
- What is the “box” God may be asking me to break - pride, control, fear, sin, reputation, comfort, or something else?
Notes: _____

6. Closing Response

Prayer Focus

Jesus, move me beyond a self-centered “Hosanna.” Break what must be broken in me. Teach me to worship You with obedience, surrender, and sacrifice. You are worthy of more than my song - You are worthy of my whole life.

*“True worship is not saying, ‘Deliver me now.’
True worship is saying, ‘Whatever it costs me, You can have it.’”*