

Palm Sunday

I. Introduction

A. Exhortations to reflect and remember the Easter Season.

1. Seems to sneak up on us every year.
2. Personal participation in Lent (40 Days before Easter).
3. Join us for Stations of the Cross (Monday—Thursday 5:00-8:00)
4. Good Friday (7:00 here at Ivy Street Chapel)
5. Resurrection Sunday (9:00 and 11:00)

B. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of passion week.

1. The gospel record of the final events of Jesus' last week, prior to his resurrection. It is one of the few events in Jesus' life by all four Gospel writers. This chapters mark the beginning of the last week of Jesus ministry (Matthew designates 8 chapters (over a quarter of the book); Mark 5 chapters; Luke 4 ½ chapters; John 9 chapters).
2. We often read the end into the beginning. Try and place yourself in the events of the final week of Jesus' like without knowing the resurrection is around the corner.
3. It is a week of great insight and misunderstanding. The great insight is that Jesus is the long awaited king, and messiah Israel has waited for. The misunderstanding is in regards to their expectations of how Messiah would come, and what He would do upon his arrival. "[Jesus'] actions on Sunday set in motion a series of events that could result only in either his overthrow of the Romans and the current religious establishment—or his brutal death."¹

C. Through the Bible Series: Promised Coming King

1. 2 Samuel 7:11-16, "Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a

¹ Andreas Kostenberger, and Justin Taylor, *The Final Days of Jesus* (Wheaton Illinois: Crossway, 2014), 32.

father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

- a) Promise of an eternal King (your biological descendant will be My king).
Psalm 89:3-4
- b) Promise of an eternal Kingdom (your kingdom will become My kingdom).
Is. 9:6-7
- c) Promise of an eternal relationship (I will be to him a Father)

D. The King's Arrival

1. Read Matthew 21:1-11
2. This is the official presentation of Jesus to the nation of Israel as messiah... up until this point He has been instructing people not to say anything (mainly because people had a real misunderstanding of Messiah)...but Jesus will make it clear to those who take note...
3. “The contrast between Jesus’ entrance and that of Roman leaders is culturally obvious. In sum, Jesus’ entry is a major statement about God’s plan and the nature of his kingship. It is a message some rejoice in, others do not understand, and still others emphatically reject.”²
4. Hosanna= Save us!
5. Son of David: David also rode into Jerusalem on a colt after his exile during Absalom’s rebellion (2 Samuel 19-20); Solomon’s coronation as king was also in similar fashion.

II. Three marks of the Coming King

A. Eternal Reign

1. The duration—He will possess an everlasting kingdom, reigning for eternity.
 - a) Psalm 72:5, “May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!”

² Darrell Bock, NIV Application Commentary, 492

- b) Psalm 72:15, "Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!"
- c) Psalm 72:17, "May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!"

B. Universal Worship and Blessing

1. The expanse and scope—His kingdom will extend to the ends of the earth, and he will be worshiped universally. He will receive universal worship, with his kingdom extending to the ends of the earth.
 - a) Psalm 72:8-11, "May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! ⁹ May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! ¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! ¹¹ May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!"
 - b) Revelation 11:15, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."
2. Psalm 72:17, "May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!"

C. Just Rule

1. The character—He will champion the cause of the poor and establish a kingdom based on righteousness. "Righteousness has to do with God doing all things rightly or justly."³
 - a) Psalm 72:2, "May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!"
 - b) Psalm 72:4, "May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!"
 - c) Psalm 72:12-14, "For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. ¹³ He has pity on the weak and the needy, and

³ James Montgomery Boice, *Psalms*, Pbk. ed., 3 vols. (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 2005), 601.

saves the lives of the needy. ¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.”

2. Luke 4:16-19, “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”
3. His Kingdom is based on righteousness and he is able to give his people his righteousness.

III. Closing Thoughts

- A. Palm Sunday is a powerful reminder of the eternal reign of King Jesus and his kingdom. As we celebrate this day, we are called to reflect on the fact that Jesus is not just a temporary ruler but the King who will reign forever. We are also reminded of the universal worship that King Jesus deserves, as people from every nation and tribe will one day bow before him. Finally, Palm Sunday reminds us of the just rule of King Jesus, who will one day bring perfect justice and righteousness to the world. As we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us renew our commitment to live in light of these truths and eagerly anticipate the day when King Jesus will come to establish his kingdom in all its fullness.

Bibliography

Boice, James Montgomery. *Psalms*. 3 vols. Pbk. ed. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 2005.

Kostenberger, Andreas, and Justin Taylor. *The Final Days of Jesus*. Wheaton Illinois: Crossway, 2014.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery 1821