

LOVE IS HERE

Palm Sunday | March 28, 2021

I. PALM SUNDAY: LOVE IS HERE

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John 12:12-13 The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!”

1. *Jesus Came to Lead.*

Psalms 118:25-29 LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. The LORD is God, and He has made His light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever.

A. Some of the people in the crowd were:

- Followers
- Believers
- Convenient
- Curious
- Skeptics
- Enemies
- *Which one are you?*

B. Jesus is the King.

- I live to serve Him.

2. *Jesus Came to Love.*

Isaiah 53

Who has believed our message? To whom has the LORD revealed his powerful arm? My servant grew up in the LORD’s presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. He was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him

down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins!

But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all. He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth.

Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people. He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave.

But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands. When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins. I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels.

A. His love drove Him to do the unexpected, unthinkable, and unbelievable.

- **God's plan is not always easy.**
- **We have to let Him be the King.**

B. God's plan is always to love.

- **Do not miss out on God's love because it does not match your plan.**
- **Jesus did not come to serve our cause. We are created to serve Him.**

3. Jesus Came to Save.

Matthew 21:9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

A. Jesus came to save us from our sins.

B. Jesus came to save us.