



Palm Sunday 2026
Matt. 21:1-11
March 29, 2026
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I. Intro

A. Text: **Matt. 21:7-11**

⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. ⁸ And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

*“Hosanna to the Son of David!
‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’
Hosanna in the highest!”*

¹⁰ And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹ So the multitudes said, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.” (Matt. 21:7-11)

B. The Jerusalem Journey

1. Jesus set His face toward Jerusalem for His final trip to Jerusalem.
 - a. According to history, Jesus traveled from Galilee (his native region), through Jericho (Healing the Blind) on the way to Jerusalem.
 - b. The crucifixion was likely at the center of His thoughts.
2. Jesus stopped at Bethany to be with his friends (Mary, Martha, and Lazarus).
 - a. He then paused again, between Bethany and Jerusalem (at the Mount of Olives) to set the stage for His final ride into Jerusalem. **(v.1)**

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3. Jesus, accustomed to walking as his primary mode of transportation, decided that there'd be no more walking. He decided that He'd Ride on in!

¹ Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. ³ And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." (Matt. 21:1-3)

- a. Jesus sent the two unnamed disciples to fetch a donkey and her colt (**Mk. 11:5-6**).
- b. This young donkey had never been ridden by a man. (**Lk. 19:30**)

II. Body

A. The High King... Low

⁴ All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: ⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'" ⁶ So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. ⁸ And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. (Matt. 21:4-8)

1. Apparent Contradiction:
 - a. Your Highness was Humble
2. Royal Procession.
 - a. Clothing and palm branches were thrown in the streets, welcoming this King into the city as a victor and a conqueror.
 - b. While horses symbolized war, a donkey symbolized peace.
 - c. Donkey symbolized both Humility and Royalty.

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- i. All David's sons (**2 Sam. 13:29**)
 - ii. Solomon (**1 Kings 1:33**)
 3. This procession highlights God the Son's Regard for His Own Word.
 - a. Rode on a donkey (partly) to fulfill His own prophetic declaration almost 600 years earlier.

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. (Zech. 9:9)

- b. Behold, your King is coming!
4. The Coming King will ride on a donkey with salvation in His hand, dispensing deliverance to whosoever will.

¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.' (Zech. 9:10)

- a. This King was promised to usher in a government marked by unprecedented peace.
 - b. This King will have complete dominion from sea to sea... and to the ends of the earth.
 - c. This King will ride in and set captives free.

¹¹ "As for you also, Because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare that I will restore double to you. (Zech. 9:11-12)

B. The Hushed Crowd... Loud

⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!" ¹⁰ And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹ So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee." (Matt. 21:9-11)

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1. With the words of the prophets in their minds, an uncountable, uncontrollable multitude surrounded this King, Jesus, from on the front and in back of Him.
 - a. News spread throughout Jerusalem that the Messiah is on His way, riding on a donkey (just like Zechariah said).
 - b. There was a mob behind Him and He embraced every minute of it.
 2. But there was also a mob in front of Jesus, waiting on the One who recently called Lazarus out of the tomb.
 - a. All the city flooded the streets of Jerusalem, shouting at the top of their lungs.
 - b. “Hosanna to the Son of David”
 - c. God the Father promised to send the Seed of the woman to deliver man from the curse of sin.
 - i. Fully god and fully man.
 3. Hosanna (Be propitious): The mental picture of the people was exactly that of **Psalm 118**.
 - i. Save Now!
 - b. Acknowledgement of what Messiah will do, but will you do it now?

III. Conclusion

- A. Jesus’ triumphant procession into Jerusalem is a type and a shadow of the manner in which He’ll return at the end of the age.

⁷Lift up your head O ye gates! And be lifted up ye everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ⁸Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, The Lord mighty in battle. ⁹Lift up your head O ye gates! And be lifted up ye everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ¹⁰Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts (Jesus), He is the King of Glory. (Ps. 24:7-10)

- B. When Jesus returns, will He find a people desperately waiting for Him?