

IT'S PALM SUNDAY

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John 12:12-13 KJV

On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13) Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

(NIV)

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. 13) They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna! [d]" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" [e]

"Blessed is the king of Israel!"

SUBJ: It's Palm Sunday!

INTRO: Palm Sunday serves as a day of reflection of the start of Holy Week.

It was the Sunday before JESUS was crucified on the cross, then laid in a borrowed tomb, then descended down into hell and took the sting out of death, and then on the third day rising with all power in his hands!

We remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem fulfilling the prophecy that was spoken by the Prophet Zechariah (Zechariah 9:9) about the King's coming riding on a donkey!

(QUESTION) But how many of y'all know that there's another prophecy of the Kings Coming?

JESUS said in

John 14:2-3

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

(EXPOUND) JESUS said, "I will come again and take you with me!"

Revelation 22:11-13 KJV

11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. [12] And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. [13] I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

(GNT)

11 Whoever is evil must go on doing evil, and whoever is filthy must go on being filthy; whoever is good must go on doing good, and whoever is holy must go on being holy. **12** "Listen!" says Jesus. "I am coming soon! I will bring my rewards with me, to give to each one according to what he has done. **13** I am the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

(EXPOUND) The king is coming back and he's going to give everyone there reward according to what they have done!

(EXP#) If you've done evil, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've done good, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been filthy, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been faithful, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been Hellish, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been Holy, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been ratchet, you're getting your reward

(EXP#) If you've been righteous, you're getting your reward

The king is coming back and he's not coming empty handed, but you better be ready when he comes!

Mark 13:32-33

But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. 33) Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is."

(EXPOUND) JESUS is coming back and nobody knows when he's coming, but you better be ready to receive your reward!

(EXPOUND) So as Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the believers placed Palm Tree branches in front of him and shouted Hosanna! Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord!

But what I want to look at today on this Palm Sunday are the Palm tree branches that were laid in front of him!

(EXPOUND) Now in those days the Palm tree held a profound spiritual meaning to the believers and each part of the palm tree had its own spiritual symbolism.

And even as JESUS entered into Jerusalem riding over the Palm tree branches there was a spiritual symbolism that was taking place.

BODY:

#1 THE FIRST SYMBOLISM OF THE PALM TREE SYMBOLIZED STRENGTH AND STABILITY!

(EXPOUND) The trunk of the Palm Tree, with its tall and straight structure, was a symbol of strength and stability.

So as they laid the Palm tree branches in front of JESUS as he was coming in, it was a symbolism of JESUS bringing strength and stability into their lives!

GOD said, "On this Palm Sunday, he's bringing strength and stability into your lives!

(NOTE: He's strengthening you where you're weak and he's stabilizing things in your life!")

Isaiah 40:29-31

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. [30] Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: [31] But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

#2 THE SECOND SYMBOLISM OF THE PALM TREE SYMBOLIZED RESILIENCE AND FLEXIBILITY!

(EXPOUND) The palm tree represents the ability to bend without breaking in the face of adversity.

So as they laid the Palm tree branches in front of JESUS as he was coming in, it was a symbolism of JESUS bringing Resilience and Flexibility into their lives!

(DEFINITION) Resilient – means being able to withstand and recover quickly from difficult conditions.

(EXPOUND) That means you have to be able to withstand some things and recover from those things.

(NOTE: You can't let what you go through to keep you there.)

(EXP#) You can't let the hurt, keep you hurt.

(EXP#) You can't let the misuse, keep you misused.

(EXP#) You can't let the pain, keep you in pain.

(EXP#) You can't let the sin, keep you in sin.

(EXP#) You can't let the past, keep you in the past.

You have to withstand and recover.

And GOD said, "On this Palm Sunday, he's equipping you with a faith, that'll bend but won't break!"

Paul said in
2 Corinthians 4:7-9
7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power

may be of God, and not of us. [8] We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; [9] Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;"

(EXPOUND) You may bend, but you ain't gone break!

**#3 THE THIRD SYMBOLISM OF THE PALM TREE
BRANCHES SYMBOLIZED ETERNAL LIFE!**

(EXPOUND) Palm trees are evergreen all year round. They never lose their green leaves and because they never lose their green leaves, they represent being eternal!

So as they laid the Palm tree branches in front of JESUS as he was coming in, it was a symbolism of JESUS bringing eternal life into their lives!

GOD said, "On this Palm Sunday, eternal life is yours!"

Romans 6:23
For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

CONCLUSION:

#4 THE FOURTH SYMBOLISM OF THE PALM TREE

BRANCHES SYMBOLIZED VICTORY AND TRIUMPH!

(EXPOUND) Palm tree branches have long symbolized victory, dating back to ancient traditions, where they were awarded to athletic winners.

So as they laid the Palm tree branches in front of JESUS as he was coming in, it was a symbolism of JESUS bringing them Victory and Triumph!

GOD said, "On this Palm Sunday, Victory is yours!"

That's why JESUS said in
John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

(It symbolizes victory over spiritual death.)

Revelation 7:9-10

9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10) And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."