

## Palm Sunday 2024 “The Time of His Visitation”

Please Stand and Open your Bibles to Luke 19:28-44

Prophecy. It is the thing that seems to be ignored more and more by churches and even some Calvary Chapels. How soon we can forget it is the one thing that differentiates us from all other religions. It also the one thing that proves that the book you hold in your hand is the very word of God. When the early church went about sharing the story of Jesus Christ it was always backed up by the saying “It is written”. Even the very gospel message being shared and written down by Paul...

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures

What scriptures were they referring to? Not the New Testament as it was not written yet. When they shared the gospel they used the Old Testament and it verified their message because Jesus is the fulfillment of all prophecy!

Revelation 19:10

For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

When Peter in his second letter was sharing about the Mount of Transfiguration, he said...

## 2 Peter 1:16

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

And how do we know that he is telling us the truth? He writes...

## 2 Peter 1:19

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed

You can't just come out and tell someone you know the future without having built that trust by some sort of proof. Peter could boldly say we have the Prophetic word confirmed. The context is of course the person and work of Jesus Christ.

One thing we must learn is that Bible prophecy is set by patterns. If you have been following us through our Daniel study via the Apologetics in Prophecy podcast you would know that these patterns are built by near and far fulfilments. This is how we know that future prophecies are literal and not figurative. A pattern is set, and it will follow through the same way it started. In today's story we see Jesus confirming a pattern in scripture by what we know as "Palm Sunday"

## The Preparation

Luke 19:28-35

Now Luke does not tell us, but Matthew and John point out that this is fulfilling a scripture from Zechariah.

Matthew 21:4-5

All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: “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.’ ”

John 12:14-15

Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

John does add this very interesting statement...

John 12:16

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

The People

Luke 19:36-40

Matthew tells us:

Matthew 21:8-9

And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!”

Mark 11:8-10

And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

Why do we call it Palm Sunday? Because of this account in John...

John 12:12-13

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ The King of Israel!”

Now, Luke is the only Gospel that tells us about the interaction between Jesus and the Pharisees. Why were they so upset? They knew that this was a messianic psalm they were singing.

## Psalm 118:24-26

This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now (Hosanna), I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.

Many of have said that how cool it would be to hear the rocks cry out, but the reality is that when Jesus returns and sets up His Millennial Kingdom that all creation will respond with praise, including the rocks! This does lead us up to our final point...

## The Prophecy

Luke 19:41-44

Jesus points out two things. First, He knows that this acceptance will be short lived. They will have Him crucified before the week is out. Second, He foretells the destruction of Jerusalem that will happen in 70 AD. But the most amazing thing He does here is confirm something even more astounding, a pattern of prophecy given by God to Daniel that deals with City of Jerusalem, what He is crying over, and the rejection of Himself by His people, the Jewish People. Let's look at this, crunch some numbers, look at a new discovery, and you decide for yourselves whether this book can be trusted and what it says about our near future.

Daniel 9:24-27

“Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. and on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”

Now as we have taught already in our Daniel Study that this is 490 years for the City of Jerusalem and the Jewish People. We can prove today by Palm Sunday that 483 of these years have already been fulfilled and we are waiting for the final 7 to begin. Why was Jesus so descriptive to the “Day” and the “Times”? Because they should have known! They could have just started

counting days and known that this day was the day the Messiah would appear! How do we know it is that exact? Notice it says in Daniel 9:25 that the command to restore and build Jerusalem included the wall? We are given that day in the Bible...

Nehemiah 2:1 & 8

And it came to pass in the **month of Nisan**, in the **twentieth year** of King Artaxerxes... and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he must give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which pertains to the temple, for **the city wall**, and for the house that I will occupy." And the king granted them to me according to the good hand of my God upon me.

Now there has been some debate on when this exact date is. Sir Robert Anderson in his book "The Coming Prince" puts it on March 14, 445 BC but Harold Hoehner in his book "The Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ" calculated it as March 5, 444 BC. There are lots of arguments on all sides and some that see this started with the decree of Cyrus and going to the birth of Christ. Some argue for a Hebrew Calendar vs the Gregorian one. All are good arguments, and all take us to the time of Christ which is amazing in itself.

I have been a Sir Robert Anderson person for a long time. My previous pastor and I have used it in all our teachings for many years. But recently we have discovered something that points to Hoehner's theory as the best. Many newer commentaries

including Todd Hampson's "A Non-Prophets Guide to the Book of Daniel" uses it. Let's look at the Math...

$62+7 = 483$  Babylonian Years

$360 \times 483 = 173,880$  Days

Solar Year = 173,800 divided by 365.2422 = 476.068 years

$.068 \times 365.2422 = 25$  Days

476 years and 25 days from March 5, 444 BC is March 30, 33 AD or Palm Sunday!

Why is the March 30, 33 AD date so important? In a recent movie that many of us went to see called \* "The God of Heaven and Earth" which tells us about new evidence of earthquake dating that has been discovered at the Dead Sea. Over the last 50 years the Dead Sea has been receding and revealing layers of ages. They have been able to date an Earthquake in Jerusalem in 33 AD.

[https://www.deanbibleministries.org/file-downloads/preview?path=Resources%2FChafer+Conferences%2F2016%2FJerusalem\\_Earthquake.pdf](https://www.deanbibleministries.org/file-downloads/preview?path=Resources%2FChafer+Conferences%2F2016%2FJerusalem_Earthquake.pdf)

In this study done by Steven Austin shows us the evidence. See these pictures of the gal we saw in the movie showing us the spot of line that dates the crucifixion to April 3, 33 AD.

I don't know about you, but I think this is amazing! We have two proofs that Jesus came on the exact date in history as God said He would and fulfilled prophecy to the exact time and



letter. This also sets and confirms the pattern given to us by Daniel. We are told that the last seven-year period will start with a “Prince” that will rise up and confirm a covenant with Israel and the all the nations. Do we not see Israel and the Nations looking for Peace? Are we not warned by Paul...

2 Thessalonians 5:3

For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

It doesn't mean there is peace and safety, just when they say it. Jesus is coming again. Just as sure as He came the first time as history and prophecy foretold, He will come a second time. First for His bride and that will soon start the clock of the last seven years and then His wrath will be poured out on a world that has rejected Him. Just like the first time they are doing it the second time. The evidence is there what will you do with it?

2 Peter 1:19

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, **which you do well to heed** as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts

Peter would remind us how we should respond to this truth before he closes his letter...

2 Peter 3:10-11

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in **holy conduct and godliness**

Jesus would tell you and I who now know what's coming...

Luke 21:34-36

“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that **Day** come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is no time to be ignorant of it as the religious people were. It is no time to be fickle and follow the crowd as many will on the day of the crucifixion. It's no time to have our heads in the sand. Palm Sunday is just the right time to remind us that He is coming soon! Maranatha!