

Demonstration - Celebration - Examination

I. Slide#1 **Announce:**

- A. Slide#2 Divorce Recovery/Rick & Lorrain DeLeon - Congrats on retirement from Los Alamitos, PD 30 yrs
 - 1. Slide#3 Divorce Recovery *begins on Monday, August 19 at 6:30 pm.*
- B. Slide#4 New Emails - no longer ccmurrieta. Now, calvarymurrieta.com
- C. Slide#5 RippleFX - started as a collaboration of *Advocates for Faith/Freedom, Student Venture & California Family Council*. Sean McDowell guest. This Tues Aug.13th. 7pm here at CM.

II. Slide#6blank **Intro:**

- A. Story: In Oct.2007, Greg & I were on a plane leaving London for Kosovo. Greg had the window open, I was staring out, & a Mercedes pulled right up to the plane. I thought has to be some dignitary to get that treatment. He came on with 2 other guys & they sat in the not so prestigious *front row*. People started pointing & whispering something about him. I asked a gal Slide#7,8 who is it, she said the president (Fatmir Sejdiu/*Fat-Meer Say-dyoo*). 4 months before Kosovo's Independence, here was *the president*. Besides getting to drive right up to the plane & board...I felt bad...I don't even think he got an extra bag a peanuts.
 - 1. This morning we look at Jesus' not so triumphal entry. **He deserved so much more.**
- B. Slide#9 Jesus was at the *End* of His journey. A journey that started **9 months** ago. **A busy itinerary in this final journey where He ministered in at least 35 localities.** He timed the journey to end in **Jerusalem** right at **Passover**.
 - 1. The **Passover** now only a few days away. **Throngs** around Him. **Everyone** spreading the news about Him. Back now in **Bethany** where he rose Lazarus from the dead. The **religious leaders** counseling on how to kill Him. The **Roman Soldiers Special Forces** on Heightened alert, *Threat Level Orange* for potential Terrorist attacks. **Would Jesus make a move? As the pressure mounts, Jesus took definite, calculated, & premeditated action.**
- C. Slide#10 He carefully ordered everything.
 - 1. **His Timing:** The day & hour were selected from eternity w/countdown precision. He chose the **1st day** of the week for his **Triumphal entry** which would precipitate his **terrible death** on that **Friday**, His **rest** in the grave on **Sabbath**, & his triumphant resurrection on the following **1st day** of The Church.
 - 2. **His Mode of transportation:** A previously *unridden* donkey.
 - a) He reaches **Bethphage** & sends his disciples to obtain his *donkey limo* he'd ride in on.
 - 3. **His Going Public:** He was purposely *going public*. **He was promoting a public demonstration.** Never before. He had repeatedly withdrawn from the crowds. **But now** He invited it. **He courted danger & did it with calculated purpose.**

D. **Title/Outline is: *Demonstration - Celebration - Examination***

III. **Slide#11 DEMONSTRATION (1-6) *His Deity & Authority***

A. **His Deity** (2,3)

B. Jesus was demonstrating **His omniscience**/His all-knowingness.

1. He was **in control** of the whole situation.

a) **I like that.** That brings me comfort today. He has all the details of my life figured out.

C. **His Authority** (3)

D. **The Lord has need of it.**

1. The Lord had need of **it** & He has need of **you**.

a) Like Philip & the Ethiopian Eunuch. *The Lord had need of Philip.*

2. In His sovereignty & grace God has given **you & me** the privilege of being used to tell other people about the Lord.

IV. **Slide#12 CELEBRATION (7-10) *Hebrews on Holiday***

A. **His Lowliness** - *on a donkey.*

B. Back to the donkey.

1. **Unridden** - an animal devoted to a sacred task must be one that had not been put to ordinary use.

a) **Slide#13** Interesting....*ever see The cross on the back of a donkey?*

b) **Legend** - Seeing the tragic event taking place, he wished with all his heart that he had been able to *carry the cross for Jesus*, as he was the proper one to *carry heavy burdens*. Ashamed of what was happening, the donkey turned his back on the sight, but would not leave for he wished to stay until all was over because of his love for Jesus. **In reward for** the loyal and humble love of the little donkey, the Lord *cast the shadow of the cross to fall across his back* and **left it there for the donkey to carry forever** more as a sign that the love of God, no matter how humble, carries a reward for all us to see.

2. **Slide#14 A Colt Tied** - This points to a Messianic prophecy by Jacob. Gen.49:10,11 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from his descendants, until the coming of the one to whom it belongs, the one whom all nations will honor. **He ties his foal to a grapevine**, the **colt** of his donkey to a choice vine. He washes his clothes in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes.

a) And of course **He wants us to make the connection of Zech.9:9** Look, your **king** is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is **humble**, riding on a donkey - riding on a donkey's colt.

3. **Slide#15** Riding a donkey was **a kingly act** which identified Him with the royal line of David.

a) It was a royal animal during King David's reign. After him, the Hebrew kings switched to horses, & the donkey was considered unsuited to the dignity of Kings.

4. Riding a donkey was also a *humble act* for that day.

a) Seeing this procession, the Roman Soldiers must have laughed/mockered.

b) Slide#16 When a **victorious Roman general** would return from war, elephants, tigers, and other animals would accompany him. The general would be in a chariot pulled by handsome horses. The swords of the soldiers behind him would be lifted high. The streets would be filled with the order of incense. The whole city would be shouting and rejoicing over the victorious king. Can you imagine how Caesar in Rome would have laughed and mocked as he saw this procession? But this was the beginning of the parade that would ultimately topple the Roman Empire.¹

(1) Slide#17 Now look at Jesus' parade... Him on a **donkey** (a beat up VW in that day, no limo); coats for His **saddle**; His soldiers hold **Palm Branches** instead of Swords. **No incense** burning, just *the fragrance of Christ*, which is the **aroma of life** to those being saved & an **aroma of death** to those who are perishing.

(a) *I'm in that parade*. It's a looong line of followers. *Are you in the parade?* If you are **saved** you are in it too.

5. Slide#18 The Donkey, by G.K.Chesterton

When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born.
With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.

Slide#19 The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.
Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.

C. We can all find encouragement from the fact that Jesus enlisted *the donkey* in His service!

D. Slide#20 His Loftiness - Save now.

¹ Jerry Vines, Exploring the Gospels/Mark, pg.221,222.

- E. **All eyes were fixed on Jesus, all honor & respect was poured forth.** Not only did some place their clothing on the animal as a saddle, some **flung their robes to the ground** as a gesture of reverence, indicating their willingness for him to **have everything** - even to trample their property if He so desired. **There was swelling, mounting joy!**
1. **Slide#21** He **rode up the ridge** to where the road starts *down* the Mount of Olives.
 2. Fresh pilgrims from **Bethany & Bethphage** have joined Him & the procession grows.
 3. When they reached that spot they caught a glimpse of the **southeastern corner** of the city. With its magnificent terraces & imposing towers, they broke into loud Eastern praise. **These were Hebrews on Holiday!**
- F. **The chant** -
1. **Slide#22** In vs.9 it says there were **2 groups**(*b4 & behind*). This was **antiphonal chant** that some scholars suggest it went like this:
 - a) **First group:** “Hosanna!”
 - b) **Second group:** “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Blessed is the kingdom of our father David!”
 - c) **First group:** “Hosanna in the highest!”
 - (1) This chant from **Ps.118:26** was often used for pilgrims, **but here** it perfectly fits **Jesus**. - This became a **mass prophetic ecstasy** as the long procession moved along the slope of Mount of Olives.
 - (2) **The Lord was making a statement** - their words were His statement, “**Save us!...Save us!**”
 - (3) **The Lord was revealing His position & His person** - by riding in on the **donkey**.
 - (4) **The Lord was revealing His work**- The **Hosannas** describe His work.²

V. **Slide#23 EXAMINATION (11) His City & Church**

- A. **His City** - *He went into Jerusalem.*
- B. The road that descends down the Mount of Olives descends into a hollow, & the sight of the city dips out of sight from the multitudes because of the ridge line. But then after a moment of **Slide#24** walking, the path mounts again, in an instant **the whole city** bursts into view.
1. **Slide#25** Now with the **whole** city is in view & the Savior begins to **weep**. Not with **quiet tears** as were described when Lazarus was risen from his grave, **but** with **loud deep sorrow**. They ceased their **Hosannas** & heard the Lord of the Universe **wail** over Jerusalem. This was a new king.
 2. **Read Luke 19:41-44** where His wailing turns into lamentation.

² Kent Hughes, Mark, pg.82.

3. **Slide#26** By prophetic vision(seeing 4 decades into the future), the Lord saw the proud, unrepentant Holy City reduced to a pile of rubble *wet with the blood* of His people.
4. They missed **the things that makes for peace!** - What? What did they miss? *Well, repentance toward God & faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.*
 - a) As your life stands right now, what does Jesus Christ see in your future? Judgment? Your towers pulled down? Desolation?
 - b) The *tears of Christ* measure the infinite value of your soul.
5. **Slide#27** Jesus saw human beings with needy hearts...what do you see when you look at your city?
 - a) If we could see our cities the way Jesus sees them, *we'd see* young lives being wrecked with drugs & immorality. *We'd see* businessmen/women whose lives are empty & meaningless. *We'd see* struggling mothers & absent fathers. *We'd see* many elderly staring into their sunset, ready to slip off into eternity w/o a relationship with Christ.

C. **His Church** - *He went into the temple.*

D. **Slide#28,29** *He had looked around at all things* - It was a look of examination.

1. What does Jesus see when He comes to our churches? As He walks up & down our aisles, moves in& out of the pews.
2. What does Jesus see when He look around in our Temple/in our hearts/in our lives? He knows what we are like inside. When Jesus looks into your heart, what does He see?