

Palm Sunday 2024 HANDOUT: Why Did The Cheering Stop Luke 19:29-19:44

TEXT Luke 19:29-44; LUKE 23: 13-24

Jesus, the son of a carpenter, educated in Nazareth, one who gained favor with men, one who was cheered and praised, would soon be mocked, scorned, and cast aside by the same ones who did the cheering.

As Jesus approached Jerusalem...He Knew the Conditions Surrounding the People...They were under heavy Roman Oppression. Heavy Taxes, Restrictions and Executions by means of Crucifixion.

- He Knew the Condition of the People's Heart...They were in Search of a Conquering King...Someone to Set them Free. They had seen the mighty works of this man Jesus.
- *The Timing was Right...It was Approaching the Passover feast. Celebrating the event where the death angel passed over Egypt, and Pharaoh let God's children go.*
- They Thought that Maybe Now "Jesus Would Lead Them From" the Restraints and Cruel Treatment they Received from the Roman Government.
- *As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the crowd's shouted, "Blessed is the King who Comes in the Name of the Lord." Cheering, Praising, Exalting...But then Something Happened...The Cheering Stopped!*

Jesus Didn't Lead a Revolt. He Didn't Do What They Expected! Instead, He Drove the Moneychangers Out of the Temple. He Paid Tribute to Caesar.

POINT: Jesus did Everything the People Did "NOT" Want, So the Cheering Stopped.

APPL: It's Amazing that When Things Go Our Way, When God Does What We Want, When Jesus Rises to Our Cause it's easy to Cheer! But what about when He Doesn't Do These Things That We Want or Expect?

- *When You Face Oppression or Experience Troubles...Too Often, the Cheering Comes to a Stop.*

KEY: Sometimes God Gives Us What We Want...But Always Gives Us What We Need! *So Too Often our Wants and Desires Blur Our Vision to our Real Needs!*

POINT: There were some things that Jesus Saw...But They Did Not See: Luke 19:41-44.

- FIRST: the Cheering Stopped Because **They Did NOT "Recognize His Purpose"**.
- Verse 44b, *because you did Not Recognize the Time of God's Coming to You."*
- Jesus is saying...*You Did Not Understand the Reason that I Came!*
- The Greek word used here episkeptomai (epis-kept-o-ma-ee) means "to Relieve."
- The same word is used in Matt 25:36, Jesus said, "I was sick and you visited me." They Desired Relief from Oppression. Yet They Failed to See their Opportunity for True Relief for All Eternity!

POINT: The Reason that they could Not See His Purpose was Because they had their Eyes on Their "Immediate Circumstances" Instead of their "Current Condition".

- Application for Us, We Experience a Trial or Hardship or go through a Difficulty our eyes tend to focus on our Circumstance. When we focus on Circumstances going on around us something Happens
- Our Prayer Begins to Change. Instead of, *"Lord, Mold Me, Use Me, Grow Me Through These Things, Change Me, So that You Will Be Glorified...Our Prayer Shifts to "Lord, Deliver Me, Help Me, Fight for Me, Uplift Me...MEET MY NEEDS!"*

Too Often Our Desire is for God to CHANGE Our CIRCUMSTANCES, INSTEAD of God CHANGING US Midst Our Circumstances. And SADLY...OUR CHEERING STOPS!

- We end up going through the motions of service, and Praise Him for what we want Him to do, instead of Praising Him for...Who He Is!
- We Must NOT Let that Be what Causes OUR Cheering for Him to STOP.

KEY POINT: Don't Lose Sight of the Fact that Through Every Circumstance...YOU are in the Presence of the Prince of Peace. John 16: 33

Not Only did they Refuse to Recognize His Purpose...They Refused to "Accept His Terms". Verse 42

- The word KNOW is Not used in the sense of being aware of something, or to have knowledge of something. It's use is used in Matthew 7:23 when Jesus said, "Depart from me, I Never Knew You."
- What is Meant in this Passage is that He Never "APPROVED" of You. It means, "Even though I know every little detail about you, You Must Depart from Me Because...I DO NOT APPROVE OF YOU!"

Jesus' Terms were Spelled Out in Luke 14. His Terms Involved a Cross, "Take Up Your Cross and Follow ME." The Terms Involved Careful Consideration..."COUNT The COST."

- The Terms Involved Submission. The People in Jerusalem Desired Peace, But Wanted it to Come Through Conflict. **JESUS WAS OFFERING THEM PEACE MIDST THEIR CONFLICT!**

QUESTION: How often do We Do the Same Thing? We want Peace. We want Blessings. But...We Want to Do Things Our Way in Order to Get Them.

- The Attitude: "God, I want Your Peace and Blessings, as I do this, and that, Because that's how I want to handle it...And Lord, Your Job is to Just Bless Me in My Actions.
- It's Much the Same for those who have Not Accepted Christ as their Savior. They want to Set the Terms Themselves. "*Oh, I'm going to get to Heaven one day, But I'll Get There On My Own Terms.*"

Jesus said, "*I am the way, and no man comes to the Father but by Me.*" But, time and time again Many Refuse His Terms.

- Jesus is the ONLY Way...Jesus Christ is the Only Provision for Salvation! The Blood that was Shed on the Cross of Calvary is the Only means whereby you can be Forgiven of Sin. The Righteousness of Christ that Must be Applied to You...If You Desire to Spend Your Eternity in Heaven!
- On Palm Sunday, They *did Not Recognize His Purpose*. They *Refused to Accept His Terms*, and Thirdly...They Did NOT Realize that it Would Bring Judgment. **Notice VS 42-44,**

Here Jesus describes the future judgment of Jerusalem in this passage. They had been warned, they knew the terms, they knew who Jesus was, but they REFUSED TO ACCEPT these things, and so it Brought Judgment. **They wanted it to be their way, and so...The Cheering Stopped with One More Silencing Blow...JUDGMENT!**

KEY: You Cannot Approach God On Your Own Terms...YOU MUST COME TO HIM THROUGH JESUS!

- You cannot come to Him in your own time; Jesus said...No man comes to Me Unless the Father Draws Them. God the Holy Spirit will speak to your heart...But after times of refusal to respond the Holy Spirit will Stop and leave you to your own desires. When you come to Him you must accept His claims; Jesus is the Son of God, the ONLY Sacrifice for Sin, He Is the Lord and Savior.

There is NO Other Path: It requires Confession of Sin and Choosing to Turn from that Sin. Turning from That Lifestyle that Does Not Please God. Choosing to humble yourself and daily follow Christ as Best You Can!

You May Know Jesus as Your Savior...But Maybe Your Desires have been Self-Centered Instead of God-Centered...And The Cheering has Stopped in Your Life. You are Saved...**But perhaps you have Never Accepted His Terms of Service to Him. Instead doing things on your own, and in your own strength SO... There is No Power in Your Daily Living...And the Cheering Has Stopped!**

If so, will you Surrender All...Turn Your Eyes on the One Who Saved You who Loves You and wants to fill your life with His strength, power and hope. Let the Cheering Roars as you follow Christ Completely!