

## **PALM BRANCHES ARE IN YOUR FUTURE**

### **I. [Matthew 21:6-11](#) [Mark 11:7-10](#) [Luke 19:35-40](#) [John 12:12-19](#)**

**A.** Today is Palm Sunday, the celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, launching us into what the Church refers to as Holy week. All four Gospels give an account of the triumphal entry. The beauty of having four Gospels is like having four skilled artists who've set up their easels to paint the same scene giving us a panoramic perspective. Rare diamonds are evaluated by what they call *the four Cs*; carats, cut, color, and clarity. All four are necessary to place value on such a precious gemstone. Likewise the four Gospels are necessary, revealing equally stunning glimpses of Christ's glory. Today we'll take in all four accounts...

**B. [Matthew 21:6-11](#) (ESV)** Jesus' disciple and former tax collector, also known as Levi writes: **6** *The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (see Psalm 118:26) 10 And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" 11 And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."* (Next up Mark, a.k.a. John Mark.)

**C. [Mark 11:7-10](#) (ESV)** Traditionally considered the scribe & protégé of Peter, Mark writes: **7** *And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and He sat on it. 8 And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. 9 And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"* (Now on to Luke.)

**D. [Luke 19:35-40](#) (ESV)** The good doctor who traveled with Paul and also authored the book of Acts, Luke tells us yet more: **35** *And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36 And as He rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. 37 As He was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of His disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, 38 saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."* (John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, is last but not least.)

**E. [John 12:12-19](#) (ESV)** One of the *Sons of Thunder* who eventually was known as the *Apostle of love*, John writes: **12** *The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" 14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, 15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt" (see Zechariah 9:9) 16 His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and had been done to Him. 17 The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and*

raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. **18** The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. **19** So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him."

**F.** What's clear from all four Gospel narratives is that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey as people waved palm branches, paved the road with their cloaks, and cried out multiple Messianic declarations of praise and adoration. Likewise, they falsely presumed Jesus would deliver them from the occupational forces of Rome. Sadly, many of these same people shouting their *hosannas*, would turn their chants to "*Crucify Him!*" "*Crucify Him!*" within a few short days.

**G.** But you see, despite their abject ignorance, their *hosannas* were not misplaced. Since man's fall in the Garden and his eviction due to sin, this world was given over to the prince of the power of the air, the father of lies, the great deceiver and accuser of the brethren. It was a world temporarily yielded to the evil one's influence and the occupying forces of his demon hordes. We were brutally enslaved. Rebellion was our lot. We were on a death march towards eternal damnation. But then Jesus came. And on this particular Sunday he rode victoriously into Zion as He prepared to secure the victory of all victories! That would take place on Friday.

**H.** Friday He'd be arrested. Tried. Mocked and spat upon. They'd crown the very Son of God with thorns, nailing Him to a cross. God planned it. God allowed it. And God ordained for our sin to be imputed to His Son and He opened the cages and set loose His wrath upon His One & Only. Jesus died in agony for what we alone deserved. He was buried. End of story? Not a chance! On the third day, Jesus walked out of that tomb alive! His second triumphal entry into Jerusalem was greater than His first! (We'll celebrate that one next Sunday!)

**I.** I recently sat with a man whose time was short. I asked him, who lived more righteously, him or Jesus. *Jesus!* was his instant reply. I reminded him that his sin went to Jesus on the cross even as Christ's righteousness was conferred to him. He nodded in faith. John 3:16 is better emblazoned on your heart than held up on a placard during March Madness. If you've never turned to Christ, turn to Him now! Let today become your March Gladness! Your Forever Gladness!

**J.** To those of you who know Christ, there will be palm branches in your future: **Revelation 7:9-12** (ESV) declares: **9** *After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,* **10** *and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"* **11** *And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,* **12** *saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."*

\* Close with Prayer...

[Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff](#)

### **Matthew 21:6-11 (ESV)**

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### **Luke 19:35-40 (ESV)**

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### **Revelation 7:9-12 (ESV)**

**9** After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, **10** and

crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" **11** And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **12** saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

### **[Bonus Rations for Further Nourishment](#)**

#### **Palm Sunday Video**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ23ryYK8ac&list=RDQMp\\_6O6k\\_IDuk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ23ryYK8ac&list=RDQMp_6O6k_IDuk)

#### **Shout Hosanna - Palm Sunday -HyperPixelsMedia**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYpjIMHTFMs>

#### **The Crowd or the Cross - Igniter Media**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bx5myFFHo\\_Q&feature=related](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bx5myFFHo_Q&feature=related)

#### **"Sing Hosanna" - Ken Middleton**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKFmzNPq7FA>

#### **The Triumphal Entry of Jesus Christ - R.C. Sproul**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xsu35uDLLY0>

#### **"Hoshiya Na to The King! - Pastor Steve (April 9, 2017)**

<http://millersportcc.com/sermons/hoshiya-na-to-the-king/>

#### **That's My King by Dr. S.M. Lockridge**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzqTFNfeDnE>

#### **They're Coming for Oral Roberts University, and Coming for You Too - Al Mohler**

<https://albertmohler.com/2021/03/25/theyre-coming-for-oral-roberts-university-and-that-means-they-are-coming-for-you-too>

### **[Psalm 24:7-10 \(ESV\)](#)**

**7** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. **8** Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! **9** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. **10** Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory! *Selah*

### **[Zechariah 9:9 \(NIV\)](#)**

**9** Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

### **[Psalm 118:24-29 \(NIV\)](#)**

**24** This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. **25** O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. **26** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. **27** The LORD is God, and He has made His light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. **28** You are my God, and I will give You thanks; You are my God, and I will exalt You. **29** Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever.

### **1 John 4:9-10 (AMP)**

**9** By this the love of God was displayed in us, in that God has sent His [One and] only begotten Son [the One who is truly unique, the only One of His kind] into the world so that we might live through Him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation [that is, the atoning sacrifice, and the satisfying offering] for our sins [fulfilling God's requirement for justice against sin and placating His wrath].

### **Quote by Augustus Toplady**

"When Christ entered into Jerusalem the people spread garments in the way: when He enters into our hearts, we pull off our own righteousness, and not only lay it under Christ's feet but even trample upon it ourselves."

- Augustus Montague Toplady (1740 - 1778) was an Anglican pastor and hymn writer. He is best remembered as the author of the hymn, "*Rock of Ages*."

### **What Palm Sunday Is All About?**

By Tom Barnard

The crowd was clueless. They never got it right. They shouted praises. He wept. They looked for a warrior-king riding a white stallion. They got a carpenter riding a donkey. They wanted hype. They got a healer. They wanted a prophet. They got One who fulfilled prophecy. They wanted a scepter. They got a Savior. They got nothing they asked for but everything they needed. Only they never got it. They were clueless. Jesus was the only One there who really knew what was happening on that first Palm Sunday.

It's so easy to become like those people in Jerusalem. We think we know what's going on, but we really don't have a clue. We have a bad week, and we blame God. Our kids act out, and we blame the school. We work two jobs and wonder why things aren't better at home. Jesus comes to our town, and He wants to help; but we don't recognize Him for who He is. We think He will be impressed with our boats and our businesses and our stuff. He is not. He wants our hearts. That's what Palm Sunday is all about.

### **Quote by Kevin Gray**

"We wave palms because we have long awaited God's deliverance and now we're within 7 days of it. We wave palms because Jesus shows us life-saving answers when we feel crushed by problems threatening to overcome us. We wave palms because Jesus has set us free from the destructive longings of our fallen nature. We wave palms because, like the pilgrims who came to Jerusalem and gave thanks for their healing by Jesus, we too can really be healed in body, mind, and spirit."

### **Quote by Robert Barron**

"Jesus was not only the glory of Yahweh returning to His Temple; He was also the new David, indeed Yahweh Himself, reclaiming His city and preparing to deal with the enemies of Israel. He fought, of course, not in the conventional manner. Instead, He took all of the dysfunction of the world upon Himself and swallowed it up in the ocean of divine mercy and forgiveness. He thereby dealt with the enemies of the nation and emerged as the properly constituted King of the world."

### **Prayer by David Maddalena**

"I worship You Lord! You did not enter your holy city Jerusalem on the back of a war horse, but humbly and on a donkey. You knew that You were surrounded by murderers, yet You came in peace, and by Your sacrifice You would utterly conquer death before the week had passed. You, oh Lord, are blessed and worthy of my praise. You have saved Your people. I say, "You are my King!"... I long to live in the city where You sit on the throne! Establish Your Kingdom, so that Your people can live in peace. Jesus, I bow before You, and I will sing Your praises until Your Kingdom comes and is established, and forever after."

- David Maddalena is a writer, poet, pastor, teacher, student, and artist.

### **Sermon Excerpt by Pastor Steve**

One of the Hebrew phrases they shouted was '*Hoshiya na!*' which we translate, Hosanna! It's a cry for help and a shout of hope, all in a single word. (Pleading + Praising) "*Save us Lord--we praise You!*" Think of an emergency where one says, "*Call 911--oh praise God the squad just arrived!*" V9 again: "And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "*Hoshiya na! to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hoshiya na! in the highest!*"

If you call 911 the dispatcher will ask, "*What is your emergency?*" When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the emergency was sin and death and all its offspring: enslavement, brokenness, blindness, hopelessness, lawlessness, idolatry, immorality, hatred, murder, abject poverty--spiritual and otherwise. But Jesus was coming to do something about all of it and that would involve dying on a cross.

What's your 911 emergency? Your marriage? Your children? Finances? Addiction? Health crisis? Aging parents? Aging self? Depression? Doubt or fear? Worry or dread? Idolatry? Immorality? Pride? Selfishness? Self-righteousness? Have you cried, Hoshiya na!?! Or do you believe this King is unable to rescue you, heal you, or deliver you? Have you convinced yourself that you're beyond His reach? Remember His royal proclamation, directed to you: Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV) 28 "*Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*"

- Excerpt from sermon titled, "*Hoshiya Na to the King!*" by Pastor Steve Bush, April 9, 2017.

### **Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!**

Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868) written in 1827.

1. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry.  
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,  
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin  
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
The angel armies of the sky  
Look down with sad and wondering eyes  
To see the approaching Sacrifice.

4. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
The Father on His sapphire throne  
Expects His own anointed Son.

5. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain.  
Then take, O Christ, Thy power and reign!