



**(SLIDE #1) GREAT EVENTS OF THE BIBLE -- THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM!**

**Introduction:**

- A. Our Last Great Event Was The Transfiguration Of Jesus, About One Year Before His Ascension.
  
- B. Tonight, We Study An Event On Sunday, Just Before He Was Crucified On Friday! (Some think this was on Monday)
  1. He had come through Jericho where he had the encounter with Zacchaeus. Lk. 19:1-10
  
  2. As He left Jericho, He healed the blind man, Bartimaeus, and another blind man who heard Jesus was passing and loudly shouted for Jesus to heal them. Mt. 20:29-34; Mk. 10:46-52; Lk. 18:35-43
  
  3. Then He traveled toward Jerusalem. Lk. 19:28
  
  4. As the Passover came closer, the religious leaders, enemies of Jesus, were plotting His Death if He attended the Feast! They gave orders that if ANYONE knew where He was, they were to report it so that Jesus could be arrested! 57 Jn. 11:55-57
  
  5. Six days before the Passover, on Friday evening [He could not have traveled on the Sabbath], He came Bethany, the town of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, whom He had raised, Jn. 11.
    - a. They fed Him when He arrived at their house. Jn. 12:2-7
    - b. The next night, Saturday, all four of them ate a meal at the house of Simon, a leper. Mt. 26:6; Mk. 14:3
    - b. While there, Mary anointed His feet with perfume and wiped them with her hair. This was the event where Judas condemned her wastefulness! Mt. 26:6-13; Mk. 14:3-9
  
  6. When people heard that Jesus was at their house, many came to see this resurrected man!! Jn. 12:9. The chief priests planned to kill Lazarus along with Jesus! Jn. 12:10.
  
- C. That Brings Us To His Triumphal Entry On Sunday. Many Described This Day As “Palm Sunday;” The Sunday Before Easter.

## I. The Text:

A. **(Slide #2)** Mt. 21:1-17 “Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, ‘Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose *them* and bring *them* to Me. <sup>3</sup>And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.’ <sup>4</sup>All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: **(Slide #3)** <sup>5</sup>*‘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.’*” <sup>6</sup>So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. <sup>7</sup>They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set *Him* on them. <sup>8</sup>And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread *them* on the road. **(Slide #4)** <sup>9</sup>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!’ <sup>10</sup>And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, ‘Who is this?’ <sup>11</sup>So the multitudes said, ‘This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.’ **(Slide #5)** <sup>12</sup>Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup>And He said to them, ‘It is written, *‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’* but you have made it a *‘den of thieves.’*” <sup>14</sup>Then *the* blind and *the* lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. **(Slide #6)** <sup>15</sup>But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David!’ they were indignant <sup>16</sup>and said to Him, ‘Do You hear what these are saying?’ And Jesus said to them, ‘Yes. Have you never read, *‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise?’*” <sup>17</sup>Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.”

### B. Other Passages:

1. Mk. 11:1-11
2. Lk. 19:29-46
3. Jn. 12:12-17

## II. (Slide #7) The Triumphal Entry!

- A. (►) The Crowds Heard That Jesus Was On The Way To Jerusalem; They Were In A Frenzy To See Him!
1. Now the question is, “Why?”
    - a. Was it that they saw Him as the Messiah? Some surely did.
    - b. Most likely saw Him as the deliverer of the Jews from Roman domination!

2. Other nations had dominated Palestine for Centuries! The Jews longed for deliverance and freedom from being under the domain of any other country!
  - a. The returnees came back to Jerusalem under Persian rule. 538 - 428 B.C.
  - b. The Greeks overthrew the Persians and controlled Palestine.
    1. Philip of Macedon. 359 - 336 B.C.
    2. Alexander the Great. 336 - 323 B.C.
    3. Ptolemies and Selucids. 323 - 165 B.C.
      - a. Ptolemies -- 320-204 B.C.
        1. Ptolemy took over Egypt and Palestine.
        2. Palestine changed hands five times in twenty years after Alexander's death.
        3. Ptolemy Philadelphus invited Jews to come to Egypt; almost a million settled there. He was the impetus for the translation of the O.T. into the Greek language in 285 B.C. This translation is called the Septuagint; it is identified by LXX.
      - b. Selucids (Syria) -- 204-165 B.C.
        1. Seleucus Nicator founded Antioch of Syria and induced the Jews to settle in his cities.
        2. Antiochus III bitterly persecuted the Jews.
        3. Antiochus IV Epiphanes came to power in 175 B.C.
          - a. He re-captured Palestine.
          - b. He set up 5 provinces in Palestine:
            1. Judea
            2. Samaria
            3. Galilee
            4. Trachonitis
            5. Perea
          - c. He declared himself to be the human manifestation of Zeus, the chief Greek god. Idols were placed throughout Palestine.
          - d. He tried to force the Greek culture upon Palestine.
          - e. An incorrect report spread throughout Palestine that Antiochus had been killed in Egypt, great joy ran through the Jews. However, he was not dead. He returned to Palestine in 168 B.C. and slew 40,000 Jews.
          - f. He profaned the Temple, offering a sow on the altar. Then he erected an altar to Jupiter at the Temple.
          - g. He forced the Jews to eat pork.
          - h. Temple worship ceased for 3 years.

- c. During the time of the Greeks and Seleucids, there were great conflicts between the Jewish loyalists (called Hasidim) and the Hellenistic Jews. The Hasidim resisted Greek culturalism; the Pharisees are their descendants. The Hellenistic Jews still followed the Law of Moses but were willing to adopt Greek culture.
- c. Maccabees -- 165-63 B.C.
  - 1. Mattathias Hasmoneas was the father of 5 sons.
  - 2. Judas Maccabees (Hammer): 165-161 B.C.
    - a. He began waging guerrilla warfare upon the Seleucids.
    - b. He defeated Antiochus Epiphanes in 3 battles.
    - c. Judas retook Jerusalem in 164 B.C.
    - d. He became the new governor of Palestine.
    - e. He purified the Temple and re-dedicated It! This instituted the “Feast of Dedication” (Hanukkah) that Jesus attended in Jn. 10:22,23.
  - 3. Jonathan: 161-143 B.C.
  - 4. Simon: 143-135 B.C.
    - a. He appealed to Rome for help.
    - b. This brought the connection between the Jews and Rome.
  - 5. Hasmonean Rulers: (Priests And Kings Simultaneously)
    - a. John Hyrcanus: 135-104 B.C.
    - b. Aristobulus: 104-103 B.C.
    - c. Alexander Janneus: 103-76 B.C.
    - d. Queen Salome Alexandra: 76-67 B.C.
    - e. Hyrcanus II and Aristobulus II: 67-63 B.C.
- d. Rome came to rule over Palestine in 63 B.C.
  - 1. Julius ruled from 46 - 44 B.C. He was assassinated.
  - 2. Marc Antony and Octavian, grandnephew of Julius defeated the assassins of Julius Caesar. 42 B.C. This led to years of struggle for power occurred between these two men. 42-31 B.C.
  - 3. During this time, the Jews threw off Rome’s dominion from 40-37 B.C.
  - 4. When they were re-conquered, Antipater’s son, Herod the Great, was made king of the Jews.
  - 5. Octavian won the struggle and was declared to be the first Roman emperor and given the title Augustus Caesar. 27 B.C. - A.D. 14
- e. The Herods:
  - 1. Herod The Great. 37-4 B.C.
    - a. He was an Idumean (former Edomite).
    - b. He was constantly trying to kill every person that he saw as a threat to his power. Imagine how he felt when he heard that “The King Of The Jews” had been born! No wonder he gave the decree to kill all the male children under 2! Mt. 2:1-11; 16-18
    - c. He stirred up antagonism among the Jews toward Rome. He promised to build them a Temple.

2. Herod divided the land into 3 parts:
  - a. Herod Archelaus was given Judea, Samaria and Idumea. 4 B.C. - A.D. 6
  - b. Antipas was given Galilee and Perea. 4 B.C. - A.D. 39
  - c. Philip was given a non-Jewish portion northeast of the Sea of Galilee. 4 B.C. - A.D. 34
  - d. Herod Agrippa I. A.D. 37-44
  - e. Herod Agrippa II. A.D. 44-100
- f. NO WONDER nationalistic Jews hated foreign nations and longed to have a deliverer who would free them from ALL foreign reign!

B. (►) At Bethphage, On The Mount Of Olives, Jesus Sent Two Of His Disciples To Go To A Village And Retrieve A Colt For Him To Ride. Mt. 21:1-6; Mk. 11:1-6; Lk. 19:29-34

1. They would find a donkey tied and a colt with it; it had never been ridden.
  - a. That is a very intriguing statement.
  - b. Any animal that had never been ridden could be extremely wild.
  - c. Donkeys are notoriously stubborn!
  - d. **(Slide #8)** Pictures of donkey basketball -- the stubbornness and uncooperativeness of donkeys!
2. If one asked, "What are you doing?" reply "The Lord has need of them."
3. When the owners asked, "What are you doing?" and the disciples replied, "The Lord has need of them, but He will return them when He is finished with them," the owners allowed the disciples to take the donkey and the colt.
4. This was not a pre-arranged agreement that Jesus had previously made with the owners of these animals; rather, it is another example of the Lord's Divine nature and supernatural knowledge!
5. This was a fulfillment of:
  - a. "All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: <sup>5</sup>'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.'" Mt. 21:4,5
  - b. "as it is written: <sup>15</sup>*'Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt.'*" Jn. 12:14,15

6. This is a fulfillment of Zech. 9:9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.”
  - a. King -- Zechariah declared “He is coming” -- this was give centuries before He came; His coming was planned!
  - b. Just -- He will do what is absolutely best for others. He is humble and lowly; He is not prideful and arrogant; He does not mistreat others!
  - c. Salvation -- “Having salvation;” He would be delivered, likely from the grave!
  - d. Lowly -- arrogant Kings could not have come this way; false Christs would have come in haughty self-absorption!
  
- C. **(Slide #9)** The Disciples Put Jesus On The Donkey. Mt. 21:7; Mk. 11:7; Lk. 19:35
  1. His disciples put their clothes on the donkey for Him to sit on.
  2. Then they had Him seated on their clothes that lay on the donkey.
  
- D. **(Slide #10)** Actions Of The Multitudes As He Approached Jerusalem. Mt. 21:8-13; Mk. 11:8-10; Lk. 19:36-40; Jn. 12:12,13
  1. Two great multitudes meet -- those coming into the city WITH Jesus and those coming OUT OF THE CITY to meet Jesus. Mt. 21:9; Mk. 11:9
  2. Many in the multitude spread their clothes on the ground. This was symbolic of submission to a ruler. II Ki. 9:13
  3. **(Slide #11)** Others cut branches from tree and spread them on the road. John describes these as “branches of palm trees.” Jn. 12:13.
    - a. This was a declaration of victory.
    - b. The Jews were making a declaration of hope in Jesus -- He will lead us to victory over Rome!
  4. They cried:
    - a. “Hosanna! *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!*”<sup>10</sup>*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David That comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!*” Mk. 11:9,10
    - b. Jn. 12:12 “Hosanna! *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!*’ The King of Israel!” Jn. 12:13
    - c. This is a quote of Ps. 118:25,26.
  5. Some of the Pharisees chastised Jesus and told Him that He should quiet the multitudes. Jesus said, “if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out!” Lk. 19:40

6. These events occurred as He descended the Mount of Olives, crossed the Kidron Valley, and ascended into Jerusalem.
  7. The meaning of the multitudes' actions:
    - a. "Hosanna!" -- "Save, we pray!"
    - b. They were looking for the Messiah.
    - c. They were viewing Him as a King. Compare Jehu's acceptance as king. II Ki. 9:13
    - d. Jesus did not ride into town on a horse (symbolizing war); He came into town on a donkey, symbolizing peace). He enters Jerusalem as "The Prince Of Peace!"
- E. **(Slide #12)** Jesus' Agonizing Concern For And Prophecy About Jerusalem! Lk. 19:41-44
1. As He saw the city of Jerusalem, He wept for it!
  2. They did not realize the things that would bring them peace; those things were hidden from their eyes!
    - a. "Jerusalem" means "City of peace."
    - b. Sadly, the people of this city did not comprehend that The One who brought true peace had been in the city for 3 ½ years and was entering it now!
  3. He prophesied about enemies attacking and destroying the city; this would occur because of their rejection of Jesus.
- F. (▶) When He Entered Jerusalem People Were Asking, "Who Is This?" The Multitudes Declared That "This Is Jesus, The Prophet From Nazareth of Galilee." Mt. 21:10,11
- G. (▶) The Second Cleansing Of The Temple -- Jesus Went To The Temple And Drove The Merchants Out Of The Temple And Overturned The Tables Of The Money Changers. Mt. 21:12; Mt. 11:11; Lk. 19:45,46
1. This imitates what He did at the beginning of His ministry. Jn. 2:13-22
  2. Again He declared, "*My house shall be called a house of prayer, ' but you have made it a 'den of thieves. ' "*" Mt. 21:13
  3. Observe that in this event He calls the Temple "My House!"
- H. **(Slide #13)** The Blind And Lame Came To Him; He Healed Them! Mt. 21:14

- I. (▶) The Chief Priests And Scribes Were INDIGNANT As They Saw The Miracles That He Performed And Heard The Praise That The Multitudes Were Ascribing To Him! Mt. 21:15-16
  - 1. They asked Jesus, “Do You hear what these are saying?”
  - 2. Jesus’ response: “Have you never read, *‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise’?*”
  
- J. (▶) That Evening, He Left The City And Returned To Bethany To The House Of Mary, Martha, And Lazarus. Mt. 21:17; Mt. 11:11
  
- K. (Slide #14) His Disciples Did Not Understand These Events At First; However, After Jesus Was Glorified, They Remembered These Things And Understood! Jn. 12:16
  
- L. (▶) Those Who Were In Bethany When Jesus Raised Lazarus From The Dead Then Bore Witness To What He Had Done In Bethany! Jn. 12:17

### III. (Slide #15) What Makes The Triumphal Entry Such A Significant Event?

- A. Jesus Has Known About This Since Before He Created The World; The Time Is Present For The World To Know!
  - 1. He had been telling His disciples and others that they should not tell no one! Mt. 12:16; Mt. 16:20; Mk. 8:30; Lk. 9:21
  - 2. Just over ten months previously, at the Transfiguration, He told Peter, James, and John to tell no one about that event until he was risen from the dead. Mt. 17:9; Mk. 9:9
  - 3. Now, as the people are glorifying Him, the Pharisees chastised them; Jesus declared that “if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out!” Lk. 19:40
  - 4. The time is now here! It is time to glorify Him!
  - 5. The time to worship Him had arrived!
  - 6. He is affirming that He is their King and Messiah!

- B. (▶) The Imagery Of People Welcoming Him As A King Is Riveting But Disappointing!
1. The praise of the people was not because they recognized Him as their Savior from sin!
  2. Their praise seems SO real; however, they longed for a Messiah who would deliver them from Roman dominion.
  3. Their praise, thus, is misguided.
  4. You wonder how many of those who are praising Him on Sunday were shouting “Crucify Him!” on Friday!
  5. He truly comes as the “King of kings and Lord of lords!” I Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14; Rev. 19:16
- C. (Slide #16) Jesus Entry Into Jerusalem Is So Profound.
1. Zechariah prophesied that He would come as:
    - a. King -- Zechariah declared “He is coming” -- this was give centuries before He came; His coming was planned!
    - b. Just -- He will do what is absolutely best for others. He is humble and lowly; He is not prideful and arrogant; He does not mistreat others!
    - c. Salvation -- “Having salvation;” He would be delivered, likely from the grave!
    - d. Lowly -- arrogant Kings could not have come this way; false Christs would have come in haughty self-absorption!
      1. He did not come as a king of armies and splendor!
      2. He came as a lowly, servant King!
  2. This is Jesus’ public declaration that He is the Promised Messiah, the King of the Jews, and Savior of sinners!
  3. He does not enter Jerusalem as a conquering hero; He enters the city as a victorious king; interestingly this is BEFORE He become the Victor or Conqueror of Satan when He is raised from the dead!
  4. He came to reign in your heart and mind!
- D. (▶) He Comes To Jerusalem As “The Prince Of Peace!”
1. He came to Jerusalem, the “city of peace” to bring TRUE peace!
  2. He provides a peace that “surpasses all understanding.” Phil. 4:7

- E. (▶) We Truly Understand Who Jesus Is -- Our Savior, Deliverer, King, And Lord! WHAT A SAVIOR!!!!
  
- F. Truly, As The Song Says, “We Shall See The King Some Day!”