

The Royal Welcome

Matthew 21:1-11

The Donkey Riding King (v. 1-5)

- When Jesus sent His disciples before Him to get a donkey, He was showing the kind of king He was by fulfilling Scripture
 - Matthew paraphrases Zech. 9:9
 - This image is set in contrast to the image of war in Zech. 9:10
- This king comes
 - Not on chariot
 - Not on battle-ready steed
 - Not with bow in hand
 - But on lowly, borrowed donkey
 - Meekly: Power under control to accomplish a purpose
- It is a symbol that Jesus came to bring peace!

The King the People Want (v. 6-11)

- When the people saw Jesus enter Jerusalem, they hailed Him as their victorious king
 - They called Him the son of David: A reference to Messiah
 - Hosanna: “Save us!”
 - Even the children praised Him
- But less than a week later, they would be calling for His death
- They wanted to crown Him their king
 - But instead, they put a crown of thorns upon His brow
- They wanted a hero to set them free from the tyranny of Rome
 - But they needed a Savior to set them free from their own sinfulness

The Once & Future King

- With His first coming, Jesus came in meekness
 - His purpose was to bring about salvation and call the world to repentance
- With His second coming, He will come with a different purpose
 - His power will be unleashed
 - He will ride a battle-ready steed (Rev. 19:11)
 - His people will meet Him as their victorious king (1 Thess. 4:17)
 - Every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus is the King (Isa. 45:23; Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:9-11)

So What?

- As we draw near the celebration of Jesus’ victory over sin and death (Easter)
 - Are we ready to see the King face to face?
 - Are we preparing others to greet Him as well?

Meditation Verse: *Zechariah 9:10b*