

Life Guide applying God's Word to life

Worship Theme – Rethinking Real Strength Sermon Theme – Praise the King of Peace March 23-25, 2024

Mark 11:1-10 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly."" ⁴They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, 5 some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "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 heaven!"

- 1. What does "hosanna" mean? Why is hosanna such a fitting thing to shout to Jesus?
- 2. Why a donkey? Seems like an unusual choice of steed, doesn't it? What significance did this humble beast have?
- 3. Think about Jesus' response to the disciples' actions of preparing the donkey for his ride. What does this show us about how Jesus views genuine acts of love and devotion, regardless of their outward grandeur?

- 4. Some, many possibly, in the crowd misunderstood the nature of Jesus' kingship, expecting him to deliver from Rome, not sin. How do misunderstandings about Jesus impact our expectations of him and his work?
- 5. Luke's account of Palm Sunday includes Jesus speaking to the truth that he, the Lord God, will be praised no matter what. How does such a statement and the truth behind it(!) show divine approval for Jesus' mission?
- 6. Jesus is both king and suffering servant, fighting and self-sacrificing for the salvation of humanity. What can we learn from that?
- 7. How does the repetition of the phrase, "Hosanna in the highest," underscore our deep need for salvation? What's the danger in losing sight of this?
- 8. How did Jesus display real strength on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday? What does his strength mean for you?