



## Repentance Tabernacle Church

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### The Triumphal Entry!

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 21; Mark 11; Luke 19; John 12

**Focus Verses:** Luke 19:36-38 - <sup>36</sup>And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way. <sup>37</sup>And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; <sup>38</sup>Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

**Truth About Covenant:** Jesus is the messianic King who sits on David's throne.

**Covenant Context:** As Jesus neared the end of His life on earth, everything had been pointing to that final week as He entered Jerusalem. Rather than enter as a conquering king on a white horse, Jesus fulfilled Zechariah's prophecy by riding on a colt, showing Himself to be a meek Messiah for all humanity. At the end of that week, Jesus would introduce the new covenant based not on Jewish law, but on His death, burial, and triumphant resurrection.

Many Jewish people had traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover. As Jesus slowly made His way through the streets of Jerusalem, many of them greeted Jesus with palm branches, shouting, "*Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord*" (Mark 11:9). The people proclaimed Jesus as the Son of David (Mark 11:10). However, Jesus' rule would extend to the whole world, not just to the Jews, which embraces the Abrahamic covenant to bless all nations (Genesis 12:1-3). We can see this covenant unfold as some Greeks came to worship at the Passover Feast and asked to see Jesus as recorded in John 12.

As the Pharisees observed the triumphant process of Jesus, they should have rejoiced as well. Instead, they were angry. They had tried everything to intercept this chaos. They were distraught that everything they had tried failed. It was a joyous occasion. People surrounded Jesus, praising and worshiping Him with the disciples. As Jesus drew near Jerusalem, in the midst of the rejoicing, He began to weep, overcome with grief for His beloved people. Sadly, most of the Jewish leaders were conspicuously absent. The ones who had studied God's law for years were too busy plotting His arrest.

The hunger we see in these people to be near Jesus should inspire us to move ever closer to Him. We must follow Jesus wherever He leads. **We may not know His purpose or when He will take us, but be assured He has a plan.** "*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end*" (Jeremiah 29:11). The psalmist promised that even when we walk through the dark valley of death, we have no fear; God will not leave us. We can put our trust in Him.

We must remember why Jesus came to this earth. His mission was for us. From the manger to the grave. Jesus' purpose was to fulfill the Law and become the perfect sacrifice for our sins. In doing so, He would close the gap between the Garden of Eden (the site of the first sin) to the introduction of the new covenant. Let us lay down our coats and cloaks and pick up the palm branches and shout as the parade goes shouted: "*Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*" He alone is our King and He is the only one worthy of our allegiance, our devotion, our worship.

Jesus' triumphal entry was a parade. It was a celebration of freedom likened to the time when the children of Israel were set free from slavery in Egypt. The Passover was a time of remembering how God passed over the Israelites' homes when He slew their firstborn children. Each Hebrew household obediently applied blood from their sacrificial lamb to the door posts as Moses had commanded. The Lord passed over the houses that had blood on their doorposts.

Jesus came as the perfect sacrifice for all our sins. Jesus' purpose was to take the place of the carefully selected, unblemished animals His people brought before the Lord as burnt offerings under the old Law. The old covenant was not abolished; it was fulfilled when Jesus—the spotless, sinless sacrifice—took the place of all the past sacrifices. This new covenant will last until Jesus returns a second time in the heavens.

*"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also"* (John 14:3). Everything Jesus did was preparing His children to go to the place He has prepared for us in Heaven. We may not realize or be able to comprehend all the wonderful things God has in store for us, but today we can take the necessary steps to ensure our attendance at His heavenly parade.