

***“Behold, Thy King!”***  
***John 12:12-19***

**Introduction:**

1. As We Return In Our Bibles This Morning:
  - To John 12 - We Come To:
    - A Great Scene:
      - In The Final Week Of:
        - Jesus’ Ministry In This World!
    - It Is The Basis Of:
      - What We Now Call:
        - Palm Sunday!
      - Because - It Is The Triumphal Entry Of Jesus:
        - Into Jerusalem:
          - As The Rightful King Of Israel:
            - And As The King Of Kings, And Lord Of Lords!
2. Now - All Throughout His Ministry:
  - Jesus Made Clear Statements - And:
    - Performed Compelling Signs:
      - To Prove That He Was Indeed:
        - This King!
    - And - Over Time:
      - Many Believed In His Claims!
        - And - At One Point:
          - Right After Jesus Miraculously Fed:
            - The Five Thousand (+) (John 6)!
        - They Even Tried:
          - To “Force” Jesus To Be Their King:
            - Right Then & Right There!
3. But - Even Though Jesus:
  - Was King - He Wasn’t:
    - The Kind Of King:
      - They Were Looking For!
        - Later - In 18:36 - Jesus Will Say To Pontius Pilate:
          - “My Kingdom Is Not Of This World!”
    - But - Many, If Not Most, Of His Followers:
      - Didn’t Understand This Yet!
        - And - This Is What Led To:
          - The Event We Come To This Morning:
            - In John 12!
4. Where - Many Jews Had Come:
  - To The City Of Jerusalem:
    - To Celebrate The Great Festival Of Passover - As Well As:
      - The Feast Of Unleavened Bread:
        - Which Followed For A Week After!
    - And - During These Festivals:
      - The Population Of Jerusalem:
        - Would Swell!
      - According To Some Jewish Records Of The Time:
        - Even Though The City Only Had:
          - About 100,000 Residents During The Year!
        - That Number Could Grow:
          - Over 10 Times That:
            - During These Special Times Of National & Religious Holidays!
              - To Over 1 Million!
5. And So - As We Read Through:
  - 12:12-19 - Imagine Crowds:
    - Not Just Of Hundreds, Or Of Thousands:

- But, Likely, Even Tens Of Thousands:
  - Welcoming Jesus To Jerusalem:
    - As Their King!

- “On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, / Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. / And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, / Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass’s colt. / These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him. / The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record. / For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle. / The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him!”

## 6. What A Remarkable Scene!

- After Just Three Years Of Public Ministry:
  - Thousands Upon Thousands:
    - Either Saw Jesus:
      - With Their Own Eyes!
    - Or Heard About Jesus:
      - With Their Own Ears!
  - And - Having Been Under The Power:
    - Of The Roman Empire Now - For:
      - Almost 100 Years - Many Of The Jews:
        - Were Longing:
          - To Be Free & Independent:
            - Once Again!
    - And - Who Better:
      - To Lead Them:
        - Than Someone Who Could:
          - Heal The Sick - And:
            - Even Raise The Dead!
  - And - All This Brings About:
    - The Climax We Just Read About:
      - There In 12:12-13 - Which Tells Us About:

## 1. *The Reception Of Jesus:*

- At His Coming To Jerusalem!
  - His Reception - Even As King!
    - So - When Many Of Those:
      - Who Came To Jerusalem:
        - To Celebrate The Passover:
          - “Heard That Jesus Was Coming To Jerusalem!”
            - What Did They Do?
- According To 12:13:
  - They First - Put Their Hope In Jesus:
    - As Their King!
  - This Is Why They:
    - “Took Branches Of Palm Trees, And Went Forth To Meet Him!”
  - Now - Palm Trees - During This Time:
    - Were Plentiful In Jerusalem!
      - As They Still Are - Because Of The:
        - Climate Of The Region!
  - And - The Trees & Their Leaves:
    - Were Used As Symbols:
      - In Religious Celebrations Of The Jews!
  - Early On - In Leviticus 23:40:
    - For The Feast Of Tabernacles:
      - The Jews Were Supposed To Take: “Branches Of Palm Trees” And “Rejoice Before The Lord (Their) God!”

- But - Over Time - Palm Branches:
  - Became A Symbol Of:
    - Of The Nation & Race Of The Jews:
      - As Well!
  - And - During Times Of:
    - National & Political Demonstrations:
      - The People Would Cut & Wave The Branches:
        - Just Like We Wave The Flag On The Fourth OF July!
  - In Fact - Just Before The Destruction Of Jerusalem:
    - By Rome - In AD70
      - The Jewish Resistance Minted Coins With:
        - Palm Branches On Them!
- And So - After Hearing So Much About Jesus:
  - And His Powerful, Wonderful Works:
    - Thousands & Thousands Of Faithful Jews Rallied To Meet Jesus:
      - When They Heard That He Was Making His Way To Jerusalem!
  - And - They Were Ready To Welcome & Receive Jesus - Being Filled With:
    - National Pride & Zeal & Hope!
      - Taking & Waving Their Flags Of Palm Branches As They Went!
- And So - Then - Also According To 12:13:
  - They Gave Their Honor To Jesus:
    - As Their King!
  - Because - When They Finally Met Jesus:
    - On The Path To Jerusalem:
      - They “Cried, Hosanna! Blessed Is The King Of Israel That Cometh In The Name Of The Lord!”
  - Now - Even Though - There Is More Detail:
    - About Jesus’ Triumphal Entry:
      - In The Parallel Passages Of Matthew & Mark & Luke!
    - We Are Going To Focus Primarily On:
      - What John Gives Us, In More Or Less, A Summary Form!
  - But - By Singing & Shouting These Words:
    - That Come Directly From:
      - Psalm 118 - Which Is Last Of The Great Hallel Psalms - Sung By The Jews:
        - During Their Festivals & Celebrations!
  - They Honored Jesus As:
    - The One Who God Promised:
      - To Send - “In The Name Of The Lord” - And “Destroy” Those Who Came Against Them! (118:10-12)
  - They Honored Jesus - By Recognizing:
    - His Ability - To Save!
      - Because - “Hosanna” - Means:
        - “Save, Now!”
    - And - The Jews Saw In Jesus:
      - The One Who Could Save Them!
        - But - What Kind Of “Salvation” Were They Looking For?
  - They Also Honored Jesus - By Recognizing:
    - His Approval - By God!
      - They Knew That, In Order To Succeed:
        - Their Savior & Deliverer Would Have To Have The Favor & Blessing Of God Upon Him!
    - And The People Were Convinced That:
      - Jesus Was The One!
        - So They Cried - “Blessed Is (The One) That Cometh In The Name Of The Lord!”
  - They Further Honored Jesus - By Recognizing:
    - His Authority - As King!
      - When Jesus Was In Galilee - Many Wanted To - “Take Him By Force, To Make Him A

- King!" (6:15)
- And Now - It Seemed Like:
  - Jesus Was Finally "Coming Around" To Their Point Of View!
- And So - They Called Him:
  - "The King Of Israel!"
  - Even - Their King!
- What A Reception This Was - On That Day!
  - What A Welcome For Jesus!
    - And - Of Course - All That They Said:
      - About Jesus - Was Right & True!
  - Jesus Did Have:
    - The Ability - To Save Them!
  - Jesus Did Have:
    - The Approval - Of God Upon Him! And:
  - Jesus Did Possess:
    - The Authority - As King!
  - And - Jesus Accepted:
    - All Of Their Honor & Praise!
      - When Some Of The Pharisees:
        - Told Jesus To - "Rebuke Thy Disciples!"
    - According To The Gospel Of Luke:
      - Jesus Said:
        - "If These Should Hold Their Peace, The Stones Would Immediately Cry Out!"
        - (Luke 19:39-40)
  - But - Just As The People's Pride & Praise:
    - Was Reaching Its Height:
      - We See A Sudden Turn Of Events!
    - A Turn Of Events:
      - That Would Reveal To Them & To Us:

## 2. ***The Reason For Jesus:***

- Coming To Jerusalem As King! Because:
  - In 12:14-15 - Jesus Revealed:
    - The Truth About His Coming!
      - "And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, / Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt!"
  - Through His Own Actions:
    - Jesus Revealed The True Reason:
      - For His Coming - Not Just Into Jerusalem That Day:
        - But Into The World!
    - And - Jesus Revealed His Reason:
      - For Coming:
- In What He Found!
  - There In 12:14:
    - "And Jesus, When He Had Found A Young Ass, Sat Thereon!"
      - Now - There Is More Detail About:
        - How Jesus Sent Two Of His Disciples:
          - To Find & Retrieve Both A Donkey & Her Foal!
  - But - The Significance Is In:
    - What Jesus Used:
      - To Ride Into Jerusalem!
    - It Was A Donkey!
      - Not A Horse!
    - A Horse - Was An Animal:
      - Fit For A King!
    - A Donkey - Was An Animal:
      - Used By A Servant!
    - A Horse - Was A Symbol Of:

- Majesty & Might!
- A Donkey - Was A Symbol Of:
  - Meekness & Humility!
- A Horse - Was Used:
  - To Bring Deliverance:
    - Through Power!
- A Donkey - Was Often Used:
  - To Bring Dispatches:
    - Of Peace!
- And - When Jesus Rode Into Jerusalem That Day:
  - The People Would Have Expected Jesus:
    - To Come On A Horse!
  - But Instead - Jesus Rode In:
    - On Donkey!
  - Would The People:
    - Still Receive & Welcome Him:
      - According To His Terms & His Reason, Rather Than Their Own?
      - Time Would Tell!
- But Then - John Adds How:
  - Jesus Revealed His Reason:
    - For Coming:
- In What He Fulfilled!
  - Even The Prophecy Found In:
    - Zechariah 9:9 - Which John Summarizes For Us:
      - In 12:15 - "Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt!"
  - It Is This Verse In Zechariah - Along With:
    - The Verses Around It:
      - That Reveals The True Reason:
        - For Jesus Coming & First Advent Into This World!
  - Though - Jesus Did Come:
    - In Greatness:
      - As Their "King!"
        - Which They Themselves Recognized!
  - Jesus Also Came:
    - In Gentleness:
      - "Sitting On An Ass's Colt!"
        - Which Not Even Jesus' Disciples Understood Yet!
  - But - It Would Take Both:
    - The Greatness & The Gentleness:
      - Of Jesus - That Is:
        - Both His Majesty & His Meekness!
        - As Both King & Servant!
    - That Would Bring About:
      - His People's Highest Good! So That:
        - They Could Experience Real Joy Instead Of Fear!
  - This Was The Real Reason:
    - For Jesus' Coming:
      - To Jerusalem & To This World!
    - But, Sadly, Most Of Them:
      - Wanted Jesus To Come:
        - On Their Terms:
          - Instead Of His!
    - And - It Seems Like:
      - For Awhile - This Was True:
        - Even For His Own Disciples!
  - And So - In 12:16:
    - We Can See How Jesus Revealed:

- The Reason For His Coming:
- In What He Furnished!
  - Which Was - Illumination & Insight!
    - Because Then - In 12:16 - John Explains:
      - “These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him!”
  - So - After Jesus Was Fully “Glorified!”
    - Through His Death, Resurrection, & Ascension:
      - Being Raised Up Higher & Higher:
        - To His Heavenly Home & Throne!
  - John Tells Us That:
    - The Disciples “Remembered” Both:
      - The Prophecy:
        - Of God’s Plan!
    - As Well As:
      - Their Participation:
        - In God’s Plan!
  - But - How Did They Come:
    - To “Remember” These Things?
      - By The Spirit Of God!
    - In Just A Couple Of More Days:
      - Jesus Himself Would Tell His Disciples In The Upper Room:
        - 14:26 - That The Holy Spirit Would “Bring All Things To (Their) Remembrance!”
- And So - Through What Jesus:
  - Found On The Street:
    - Fulfilled From The Scripture:
      - And Furnished Through The Spirit!
  - Jesus Revealed:
    - The True Reason:
      - For His Coming!
  - Jesus Came:
    - Not To Save & Deliver:
      - His People From Their:
        - National & Political Subjugation:
          - To Rome!
  - Jesus Came:
    - To Save & Deliver:
      - His People From Their:
        - Sin!
  - Even As Jesus Said In:
    - Mark 10:45 - “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many!”
  - But - This Is Not:
    - The Kind Of Savior:
      - The People Were Looking For!
    - They Were Looking For:
      - Jesus To Come To Them:
        - As A Lion!
    - But Instead - Jesus Came To Them:
      - As A Lamb! Even As:
        - “The Lamb Of God, Which Taketh Away The Sin Of The World!” (1:29)
  - And Yet - Jesus Is Both!
    - Even In Revelation 5:5-6 - When John:
      - Is Taken To Heaven In A Vision - He Is Told By One Of The Elders There To:
        - “Behold, The Lion Of The Tribe Of Judah!”
    - And Then - John Tells Us:

- “And I Beheld, And, Lo, In The Midst Of The Throne . . . Stood A Lamb As It Had Been Slain!”
- So - John Heard About A Lion - But:
  - He Saw A Lamb!
  - Because Jesus Is Both!
- And - The Problem For The Jews:
  - In Jesus Day - Is That They Were Not Willing:
    - To Receive Jesus:
      - The Way He Chose To Reveal Himself To Them!
  - They Wanted Jesus:
    - To Come As Their King!
      - And As A Mighty Lion!
    - And, Even Though Jesus Was / Is King:
      - He Chose To Come First As A Servant!
      - And As A Meek Lamb!
- But - It Seems Like Today:
  - We Have The Opposite Problem!
    - The World & Many In The Church:
      - Only Want To Receive Jesus:
        - In His Character:
          - As A Lamb! Meek & Humble & Gentle!
- And Yet - We Forget That:
  - The Way Jesus Is Revealed To Us:
    - Is The Way Jesus Is To Be Received By Us!
      - Again:
        - The Way Jesus Is Revealed To Us:
          - Is The Way Jesus Is To Be Received By Us!
          - And Jesus Is Revealed To Us:
            - As Both A Lamb & A Lion!
  - Yes - Jesus Is Meek!
    - But He Is Also Majestic & Mighty!
      - The King Of Kings - And:
        - The Lord Of Lords!
    - Jesus Served & Serves Us:
      - So That We Might:
        - Serve Him!
  - And - Yes - Jesus Is Humble!
    - But He Is Also Holy!
      - And When He Came To Save Us:
        - From The Penalty Of Sin!
      - He Also Came To Sanctify Us:
        - From The Power Of Sin:
          - Over Us!
    - So That We Might Have:
      - Forgiveness & Freedom:
        - Not - To Sin - But:
          - From Sin!
  - And - Yes - Jesus Is Gentle!
    - But He Is Also Great & Glorious!
      - And The Way Jesus Is Revealed To You:
        - Is The Way Jesus Is To Be Received By You!
    - And - When This Is The Case:
      - For You - Only Then You Can Experience:

### 3. ***The Reaction To Jesus:***

- And His Coming As King!
  - That We Find Next In 12:17-18:
    - “The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him

from the dead, bare record. / For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle!"

- There Are 2 Groups Of People:
  - In These 2 Verses!
- The First Group - Was A Smaller Group:
  - That Was Made Up Of The People Who:
    - Went With Jesus - From Bethany:
      - To Jerusalem!
  - And - They Are The Ones Who:
    - Heard Jesus' Powerful Word - And:
      - Saw Jesus' Powerful Work:
        - When It Came To Raising Lazarus From The Dead! (Chapter 11)
  - And From Back In 11:45:
    - It Seems Like They Really Did:
      - Believe In Him!
        - Even In A Saving Way!
  - And So - As Jesus Was Finally:
    - Making His Way To Jerusalem:
      - They Just Couldn't Help Themselves!
    - They Kept On Telling People:
      - About What Jesus Had Done!
        - And So:
- The People - Of The Second & Larger Group:
  - Were Excited - As Well!
    - According To 12:18 - This Was One Of The Reasons Why They Went Out To Meet Jesus!
      - They Responded To:
        - The Testimony Of Jesus' Followers About:
          - His Miracle!
      - A Miracle Which Was:
        - Just Another "Sign" - That:
          - Confirmed Jesus' Claims!
    - And - Though They Didn't Fully Understand It All:
      - They Rightly Concluded:
        - As Others Had In 7:31 - "When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?"
  - Only When You:
    - Receive Jesus - In The Way:
      - He Is Fully Revealed To You:
        - Can You Then React To Him:
          - In The Right Way!
    - Only Then Can You:
      - Be Struck By His Wonder:
        - And Be More Of His Witness!
  - But - As Much Excitement & Enthusiasm:
    - As There Was About Jesus:
      - On That Day!
        - In 12:19 - We Also See That:
- The Pharisees Were Enraged!
  - Even More!
    - Because - "The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him!"
  - They Were Enraged:
    - Because Of Their:
      - Powerlessness!
  - And - They Were Enraged:
    - Because Of His:
      - Popularity!
- And - Once Again:



- As We've Seen Throughout John's Gospel:
  - There Are Two Kinds Of Reactions:
    - When People Are Confronted With:
      - The Claims Of Jesus!
- Some - Will Receive Him:
  - At Least, In Some Measure!
  - While Others:
    - Will Continue To Resist Him!
- But - The Work Of Jesus:
  - Will Continue!
  - And Though - What The Pharisees Said:
    - Might Have Been An Exaggeration Made Out Of Exasperation!
  - "Behold, The World Is Gone After Him!"
- This Was More True Than:
  - The Knew!
    - Because - What Do We Find Next:
      - In 12:20? "And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast!"

**Conclusion:**

1. And So - The Ministry Of Jesus:
  - As Both Lion & Lamb:
    - Was Intended To Reach:
      - The Entire World!
    - And - In One Sense:
      - It Already Has!
        - Even - To Where We Are This Very Morning! (6,215 Miles Away!)
  - Because - This Too:
    - Is In Fulfilment Of:
      - The Prophecy Found In Zechariah 9 - Where:
        - In 9:9-10 - The Same King Who "Is Just, And Having Salvation; Lowly, And Riding Upon An Ass, And Upon A Colt The Foal Of An Ass!"
          - He Is The One Who "Shall Speak Peace Unto The Heathen: And His Dominion Shall Be From Sea Even To Sea, And From The River Even To The Ends Of The Earth!"
2. We Are Those Who Live:
  - In "The Ends Of The Earth!"
    - And Now - We Can Behold Jesus:
      - As *Our* King!
  - But - We Must Never Forget That:
    - The Way Jesus Is Revealed To Us:
      - Is The Way Jesus Is To Be Received By Us!
        - We Must Not Receive Jesus:
          - On Our Terms - But On His!
  - Because - Only When We Believe In:
    - And Welcome Jesus:
      - In Both His Mercy & His Majesty:
        - Only Then Can We React To & Live For:
          - Jesus In The Right Way!

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