



Easter Series

Moments that Matter

King Jesus

Setting for Matthew 21:1-17

- Jesus 3 years into ministry
- Roman Occupation
- Conflict with Religious Leaders
- Headed to Jerusalem for Passover
- Lazarus – John 11
- John 11:57 “Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.”

“Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethpage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

“Say to the daughter of Zion,
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹ And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee." And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.

¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.” And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.

¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they 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 infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise’?”

¹⁷ And leaving them, he went out of the city to
Bethany and lodged there.” Matt. 21:1-17

Four Snapshots showing Jesus declaring he is the
promised one come to set people free.

One snapshot of what is coming

1. Jesus Transportation into Jerusalem

- arrest warrant out, people waiting for him

a) Human Perspective

- hailed and celebrated as King
- parade like atmosphere, historical meaning
- here comes the one to set us free

b) What God was up to

- fulfilling promise of Zech. 9:9-10
- hundreds of years before - prophecy

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ”

- anyone who knew the signs of God's promised redemption would know

2. The Confrontation at the Temple

a) Human Perspective

- huge swell of people coming, looking for ...
- celebration of God's deliverance before
- open challenge to Religious leaders
- able to lead the revolution, deliver them

b) What God was up to

- system making money out of access to God's covering for sin. Taking advantage
- excluding some, distorting what it was about

- Isaiah 56:6-8 ““And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant — these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, “I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”

- context of Isaiah passage – coming King
- announcing a change – for all nations

3. Divine Healings

a) Human Perspective

- lame walk and blind see vs.14
- staying at Bethany – Lazarus raised
- power to overthrow any opposition
- evident He is the one who saves

b) God's Perspective

- showing power over sin, death & sickness
- open display of authority & power
- Isaiah 36:4-6 "Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert"

- John the Baptist in Matthew 11 “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.”

- I am who you have been awaiting

4. Allowing & Receiving the praise of people

a) Earthly Perspective

- cloaks and calls of hosanna
- 2 Kings 9:13 – laying garments for king
- Hosanna, Son of David, Comes in Name of the Lord
- Jesus will set us free from Roman Occupation, restore our nation, rule the world
- look at leaders astonishment Jesus would allow children to praise him

b) Gods Perspective

- Making clear – this is the promised one
- Psalm 8:2 – out of the mouth of infants
- God understood they proclaimed, yet didn't understand what God was doing.
- was coming as one holy, perfect, and powerful – to willingly offer himself in their place paying the price of sin, making a way for right relationship with Holy God.

5. Jesus' Return as King

a) Looks very different! Revelation 19:11-16...

“Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

- coming this time in power & strength
- first appearing – season for recognizing & responding to a savior, second coming – end of that season!

2 Cor 6:1-2 “Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For he says,
“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”
Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

So What?

1. Our Human Perspective is Incomplete

- see events & God through our lenses
- set expectations & hopes in the right place, the promise & prophecy of the Word.

2. God is Active & Able

- He is at work accomplishing His will
- we have his word & promises, see His hand

3. Jesus went willingly in Your Place

- authority over everything earthly and heavenly evidenced
- Love of God evidenced in this
- season of response – ability to respond yours

4. Jesus is returning

- coming in power for his children, to rule and reign.
- coming to judge and deliver the penalty of sin to those who choose to pay themselves