

“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.’” Matthew 21:5

I. TWO GOALS: JUDGMENT & PROCLAMATION

- Matthew has been showing us the multiple ways in which the kingdom of heaven reverses human judgments (Matt. 19:1-12, 13-15, 16-22, 23-30; 20:1-16, 17-28, 29-34).
- Jesus now enters the holy city, ancient capital of Israel, and announces judgment on its worship (Matt. 21:12-13).
- Jesus comes in fulfillment of prophecy (Mal. 3:1-5).
- Jesus clears the temple of all who profane the name of the Lord by cheating, robbery, and denying the Gentiles their place in God’s plan of redemption.

II. JESUS: ISRAEL’S HUMBLE KING

- The humbled King David traveled this same route on his exile and return to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 15:30).
- Jesus enters Jerusalem to the shouts of its people and the pilgrims there, riding on the foal of a donkey, as Zechariah had prophesied (Zech. 9:9).
- Jesus proclaims his kingship and his messianic mission (Matt. 21:5, 1 Kings 1:33, 38, 44).
- The people chant from Psalm 118. “Lord, save us!” and “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Ps. 118:19-27).
- Many in the crowds do not know what they are doing. “Who is this?” they ask. A question and answer we must all determine for ourselves.

KNOW: The people of Israel have been awaiting their Messiah for over 1,000 years. He has now arrived, bringing judgment and life to the people. Many in the crowds are perplexed, but “Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies [God] has prepared praise.”

DO: Behold your king! Render to Jesus the honor due his name.

Suggested Reading:

Jesus the King: Understanding the Life and Death of the Son of God by Tim Keller

(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

Gentle and Lowly by Dane Ortlund

(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

For Children:

Jesus A to Z by Yvonne Riley

(Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

Next Week's Preaching Text: Matthew 28:1-10

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please Read Matthew 21:1-13

1. This text is known as Jesus' "Triumphal Entry." What is triumphal about it?
2. Why does Jesus go to so much trouble to enter the city of Jerusalem in such a precise way?
3. Why bring both the colt and its mother?
4. What are the people of Jerusalem proclaiming as Jesus enters the city? What do they do to show their exaltation of Jesus?
5. Why was the whole city stirred up by this event? What question are some of the people asking?
6. What is your answer to the question? How will you honor Jesus with your life?