

142. Palm Sunday (Luke 19:29-48)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You are our King of Glory. You are strong and able to save us. But You made Yourself humble, took our sins on Yourself, and forgave us. We thank and praise You for Your saving work. Help us always honor You, praise You, and follow You as our King. We pray in Your name, amen.

Luke 19:29-34. Jesus went up to Jerusalem. When He came near the Mount of Olives and the towns named Bethphage and Bethany, Jesus sent two disciples ahead. Jesus told them, “Go to the next town. When you enter it, you will see a colt (young donkey) tied up there. No one rode that colt before. Untie it and bring it here. If someone asks you, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ tell them ‘The Lord needs it.’” The two disciples went ahead, entered the town, and found the colt the same as Jesus said. They untied it and the owners asked, “Why are you untying the colt?” The disciples answered, “The Lord needs it.”

- When they came close to Jerusalem, what did Jesus tell two disciples to do?
- Why did Jesus want to ride a colt, a young donkey? Why not a horse? (Read Zechariah 9:9-10)

Luke 19:35-40. The disciples brought the colt to Jesus. They put their coats on it and Jesus sat on it. Jesus went down the road and people put their coats on the road in front of Jesus. Jesus came to the top of the Mount of Olives and started going down to Jerusalem. All the many disciples began praising God with joy and shouts, because they saw all the miracles Jesus did. They said, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace and glory in heaven!” Some Pharisees were in the crowd. They told Jesus, “Teacher, tell Your disciples to stop!” Jesus answered, “I tell you, if the disciples are quiet, the stones will shout.”

- What did people do with their coats? Why did people cut palm branches and wave them? (John 12 mentions the palm branches.) What did that mean?
- Why did the people praise God?

- What did the people name Jesus? Did the Pharisees like that? What did the Pharisees tell Jesus? What did Jesus answer?

Luke 19:41-44. When Jesus came close to Jerusalem and saw the city, He cried and said, “I wish you knew today what can give you peace. But now that is hidden and you can’t see it. The days will happen when your enemies will surround you. They will throw you and your children on the ground. They will destroy these buildings and not leave one stone on another stone. Why? Because you did not recognize when God is coming to you.”

- What could give peace to the people in Jerusalem? Why couldn’t they see it?
- What did Jesus say will happen to Jerusalem? Why will it happen?
- Think about what Jesus said will happen to Jerusalem (it did happen in 70 A.D.) Some people are stubborn and don’t recognize God. What will happen to them?

Luke 19:45-48. Jesus entered the temple. People were around the temple selling things. Jesus began throwing them out. Jesus said, “God’s word says, ‘My house will be a house for prayer.’ But you made the temple become a meeting place for robbers.” Every day, Jesus taught in the temple. The Jewish chief priests, law teachers, and leaders looked for a way to kill Jesus. But they couldn’t find a way to kill Jesus, because all the people wanted to listen to Him.

- What were people doing in the temple? What did Jesus do with those people?
- What should be our focus in church? What is the best reason to have money in church?
- The Jewish leaders didn’t like Jesus before. Now what did they think about Jesus?