

Behold: His Triumphal Entry

Matthew 21

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Jay Haugh

Jesus died to save sinners and give His righteous life to those who look to Him.

Behold Jesus's masterful intentionality.

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples. (Matthew 21:1)

³Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the house, when the man went in, and a cloud filled the inner court. ⁴And the glory of the Lord went up from the cherub to the threshold of the house, and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the Lord. (Ezekiel 10:3-4)

¹⁸Then the glory of the Lord went out from the threshold of the house. (Ezekiel 10:18)

²³And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the east side of the city. (Ezekiel 11:23)

Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing east. ²And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east. (Ezekiel 43:1-2)

²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵"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 21:2-5)

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. (Zechariah 9:9)

This King is victorious, yet meek.

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. (Zechariah 9:10)

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. (Matthew 21:6-7)

Jesus intentionally shows His divine authority.

Jesus is in complete control and He has complete authority over all creation.

⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. (Matthew 21:8)

⁹And 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!" (Matthew 21:9)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! (Psalm 118:26)

⁴¹And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it,⁴²saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes."⁴³For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side⁴⁴and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation." (Luke 19:41-44)

Jesus weeps because they want the wrong kind of deliverer.

Big Idea: Behold, Jesus is our long-awaited, lowly King who longs and loves to give life.

STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS:

- What attributes do you think your unbelieving friends, neighbors or co-workers would use to describe Jesus?
- What attributes do you see in Jesus in Matthew 21? In your opinion, which attributes of Christ mentioned in this chapter seem to be lacking in the church's picture of Christ today? What is the danger of having a distorted view of Christ's character?
- In what sense is this section of Matthew "the beginning of the end"?
- List the ways in which Jesus' authority is displayed in this chapter.
- Respond to the following statement: "The Jesus of the New Testament is different from the angry God of the Old Testament."
- Was it inconsistent with His compassion for Jesus to cleanse the temple the way He did? Why not?
- How will Christ's first and second comings be different?
- How does this message or passage bring comfort, conviction or correction in your life?
- How should this passage or message reshape your thoughts, attitudes, emotions, motivations, words and actions?