**Mark 11:1-11 — The Triumphal Entry**

January 12, 2020

Background

And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles.” Mark 10:32–33 (ESV)

How big was the crowd following Jesus?

How did the last week of Jesus’ life unfold?

Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. John 12:1 (ESV)

When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. John 12:9–11 (ESV)

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him,… John 12:12–13 (ESV)

1. Jesus entered Jerusalem the way God planned.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it.” Mark 11:1–2 (ESV)

If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’ ” Mark 11:3 (ESV)

And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. Mark 11:4–6 (ESV)

1. Jesus entered Jerusalem to the praises of the people.

And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Mark 11:7–8 (ESV)

If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” 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.’ ” Matthew 21:3–5 (ESV)

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. Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

1 Kings 1:32-48 - When Solomon was crowned king, he entered Jerusalem riding David’s mule to music and rejoicing, just like Jesus.

When Jehu came out to the servants of his master, they said to him, “Is all well? Why did this mad fellow come to you?” And he said to them, “You know the fellow and his talk.” And they said, “That is not true; tell us now.” And he said, “Thus and so he spoke to me, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord, I anoint you king over Israel.’ ” Then in haste every man of them took his garment and put it under him on the bare steps, and they blew the trumpet and proclaimed, “Jehu is king.” 2 Kings 9:11–13 (ESV)

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” John 12:13 (ESV)

How many people celebrated Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem?

As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”   
Luke 19:37–38 (ESV)

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!” And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.” Matthew 21:9–11 (ESV)

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. John 11:57 (ESV)

What were people saying about Jesus?

And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”   
Mark 11:9–10 (ESV)

Hosanna - Save Now

1. When Jesus arrived at the temple, the praises of the people disappeared.

And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. Mark 11:11 (ESV)

1. Am I a fan or a follower of Jesus?
2. When I became a Christian, did I make a decision to believe in Christ or did I make a commitment to follow Christ?
3. Am I satisfied with knowledge about Jesus or am I seeking intimacy with Jesus?
4. Is Jesus one of many loves in my life or the one true love of my life?

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:25–26 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. Read Mark 11:1-11. Jesus’ knowledge of where to find the colt, what people would say when the disciples took the colt, plus the Old Testament prophecies about this day show us nothing happened in the final week of Jesus’ life that was beyond God’s knowledge and control. How does knowing that change the way you feel about your life when it feels like it is spinning out of control?
2. Mark closes with the massive crowd evaporating when Jesus arrived at the temple, so Jesus returned with just the twelve to Bethany for the night. What does this tell us about the heart of the people in the crowd? What can we learn from this?
3. Pastor Kurt gave three diagnostic questions to help us see if we are fans or followers of Jesus. Discuss those tests in your life. What other tests does the Bible gives to help us see if we are fans or followers of Jesus?
4. What part of the sermon ministered most to you? What part of the sermon convicted you? What part of the sermon do you need to share with someone in your life? What part of the sermon do you most need to apply to your own life?