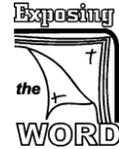




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28- Presentation as King

John 12:12-19

The point we enter the narrative of Jesus life he has stolen away for a short time with His disciples because He is under orders to be arrested. The question was will He come to the feast of Passover. This was one of the events that were compulsory for the Jews along with Pentecost and feast of Tabernacles.

I- Palms on the Road, Hosanna on the Lips:

John 12:12 On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

The city would be inundated with a large number of people due to Passover. It has been estimated that at time there would be between 1 and 3 million pilgrims attend.

One special note that we need to see here is the ones who went to meet Jesus were not the citizens of Jerusalem but were the pilgrims who had traveled into the city for the Passover. Many were doing nothing more than following the crowd to what was a sightseeing event.

Hosanna means *Save now! or Save, we beseech* accord to *Easton Bible Dictionary*. *Fausset Bible Dictionary* defines it as “*Save we pray.*” Others give some variation of this as well. It is based on *Psa 118:25-26 Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.*

In John it says *Blessed is the King of Israel*. If we look at all the places in the

Scripture that this is used it gives us a lot of other facets to this precious diamond. I have included a harmony of the four gospels of the events in this time period as a supplement to this text. This will allow us to see the complete picture.

The International Bible Encyclopedia says:

This Greek transliteration of a Hebrew word occurs 6 times in the Gospels as the cry of the people when our Lord entered Jerusalem.. In Mat 21:9 it is “Hosanna to the son of David!” followed by “Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!”; in Mat 21:15 it is also “Hosanna to the Son of David!”; in Mar 11:9 it is “Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Blessed is the kingdom that cometh, the kingdom of our father David: Hosanna in the highest”; and in Joh 12:13 it is “Hosanna: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.” Thus in all the evangelists it is an acclamation or ascription of praise.

The prophecy of Zechariah is found in *Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.*

What was being proclaimed by these people at this time was that the Messiah was coming. But what was their expectations of the Messiah? It was that He would overthrow Rome and restore the earthly kingdom to power and prominence.

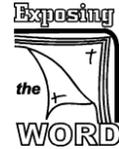
This was based on the verses in *Isa 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a*



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son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

The one thing that they failed to reconcile with the restoration of the kingdom, which will certainly come to pass with Christ as King, was that His first advent would be of a suffering Savior.

This crowd was in a fever pitch to make Him King. He had been aware after He fed the multitude that they wanted to make Him King as evidenced by *John 6:15* *When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.*

II- Prophetic Verification:

A king who was going to lead them into war would have ridden into town on a white horse. Jesus very deliberately made a statement when He arrived into town. He came as the Prince of Peace not a warrior.

We can see from the verse in Zechariah that this was prophesied to take place. Additional background is given to us from the account of Matthew.

Mat 21:1-3 *And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, 2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. 3 And if any man say*

ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.

Now *John 12:14* *And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, 15 Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.*

This is simply one of many hundreds of prophecies that the Messiah fulfilled. Remember Jesus told them in *John 5:39* *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

One of the great verification of Messiah is pictured in this example of a messianic prophecy that was fulfilled. We could look at a multitude of fulfillments that give us great assurance that He was who He claimed.

III- Delayed Understanding:

Have you ever recalled a conversation or an event that took place many times months or even years before and you realize that you just now heard what they said? You may not have caught it but seemed to hear it later in your mind.

All these events were happening fast not only for the crowd but probably even more so for the disciples. They were struggling to understand the full implications of the events. Notice *John 12:16* *These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him.*

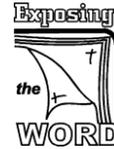
Further evidence of this is seen in *Acts 1:6* *When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto*



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them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

It says that after He was glorified that they then began to understand. After He returned to the Father at the ascension they began to understand.

John had given us a similar delayed understanding concerning Jesus in *Joh 2:22* *When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.* They heard the words after many months of delay again fresh as if it was for the first time.

We are not left in the dark concerning how they remembered these things. Notice two places in the gospel of John that tell us they remembered because of the Holy Spirit bringing it alive in their mind and heart.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

IV- The Testimony:

One of the things that caused the crowd to rise up in this display was the testimonies that were spreading about concerning the resurrection of Lazarus. The people who had been witness to the resurrection event spread the word.

John 12:17 The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record. 18 For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle.

This reminds us that God uses our personal testimony of what we have seen God do in our lives to verify Messiah in others lives.

V- Befuddled Pharisees:

Jesus had shown that He did not possess any fear of the Pharisees when He chose to enter Jerusalem. They were not the ones in control of the events that were unfolding. God was bringing to fruition His eternal plan for the ages. Jesus had defied them on one than one occasion. He now shows up and the crowd reacts to Him in such a way the befuddled the Pharisees.

John 12:19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him.

I think it is quit telling that they blamed each other for their failure to stem the tide of Jesus popularity. The NASB gives us *John 12:19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him."*

The sad note is this same crowd in the next few days will cry out for Him to be crucified.