

“Looking at Palm Sunday Through the Eyes of Faith”

The framework of Holy Week and within the context of the celebration of the Passover

- Looking back to their forefather’s deliverance from Egypt
- Looking forward to a great and final deliverance through the coming Messiah King

Looking at Holy Week/Palm Sunday with affirmation and celebration, that is with believing faith

- Escapism
- Sentimentalism
- Skepticism

LOOKING AT PALM SUNDAY WITH BELIEVING FAITH

I. The Identity of Jesus

- *“It takes the whole Bible to make a whole Christian.”* Putting ALL the puzzle pieces together.
- *And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?”* (Matthew 21:10)
- The KING takes the initiative, directing the proceedings, giving specific instruction, and fulfilling prophecy.
- THE donkey (Genesis 49:9-11; Zechariah. 9:9-10)
- The King and His Kingdom are universal, eternal, and peaceful, not national, territorial, and violent
- Throwing their cloaks on the beast of burden (i.e. Jehu and 2 Kings 9)
- The enthronement of Jesus: Matthew, Mark, and John: *“And Jesus set on it.”* Luke: *“And they set Jesus on it...”*
- More pieces of the puzzle include the cloaks on the road, the palm branches, and the pilgrims’ chants from the Songs of Ascent: *“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!”*

C. S. Lewis: *You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse.* (Mere Christianity, 55-56)

II. The honesty of John

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. (John 12:16)

When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. (Luke 24: 31-32)

III. The necessity of Grace

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

“Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” (Luke 18:16-17)