

For the Week Beginning March 17, 2024

## “The Triumphal Entry”

### ✦ Matthew 21:1-11

<sup>1</sup> As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

<sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> "Say to the Daughter of Zion,  
'See, your king comes to you,  
gentle and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. <sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,  
"Hosanna to the Son of David!"  
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"  
"Hosanna in the highest!"

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

<sup>11</sup> The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Write down 5 significant observations. Raise 2 significant questions and try to answer them.

Observations	Interpretation (Questions)	Applications

#### ✦ Opening Questions:

- What initial thoughts or emotions come to mind as you read Matthew 21:1-11, and why do you think this passage is significant in the Gospel of Matthew?

#### ✦ The Living Word: Read Matthew 21:1-11

- Highlight words or phrases that stand out to you.
- Please narrate using your own words.

#### ✦ The Word:

- What are the key events described in this passage, and which characters are involved? Specifically, how do the people of Jerusalem respond to Jesus' entry, and what does this suggest about their expectations?
- In verses 4-5, Matthew quotes a prophecy from Zechariah 9:9. How does Jesus' manner of entering Jerusalem fulfill this prophecy, and what does this say about His understanding of His messianic role?
- The crowd's reaction includes spreading cloaks and branches on the road and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" What does the term "Hosanna" mean, and why is it significant that they call Him the "Son of David"?
- Consider the various responses to Jesus' entry (from the crowd, the disciples, and the city of Jerusalem). How do these responses differ, and what might these differences tell us about public perception of Jesus at this time?

#### ✦ Living the Word:

- In what ways do we, like the crowd, have expectations of Jesus that might not align with His purposes? How can we adjust our expectations to better align with the role He wants to play in our lives?
- How can this passage motivate you to live out your faith in practical ways that reflect Jesus' example of servanthood?