

Today is a very special day! Some call it the 6th (final) Sunday of Lent. Some call it “Passion” Sunday, the first day in Jesus’ week of suffering (*pasxw*). Some call it the beginning of the end of Jesus’ work on earth, the final seven days of His earthly ministry. Some call it the greatest procession/parade for a Person in history. Some call it the triumphal entry of King Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Most call it **Palm Sunday**.

In your Bible, turn to Mark 11:1-10. It was Spring. Jews from all over the Roman world had crowded into Jerusalem. The Passover festival, the week-long feast to remember Israel’s great Exodus from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 12), was about to begin. As you can imagine, finding lodging in the city was hard. So, Jesus and his friends stayed at night in nearby Bethany. This is where Martha, Mary, and Lazarus lived.

Then, Jesus and His disciples drew near to Jerusalem. He sent two of His disciples into the coming village to find a donkey’s colt, on which no one has ever sat. **John 12:14b-15 (ESV)** says, “Just as it is written, ‘Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!’” Jesus didn’t come as a warring king on a horse. He came as a gentle, humble, and peaceable king on a donkey’s colt.

Then, **John 12:12 (ESV)** says, “The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.” As Jesus entered, they spread their garments and palm branches on the

road ahead of Jesus. Mark 11:9b-10 (ESV) says, “They 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!’”

In this procession, Jesus publicly presented Himself to Israel as their Messiah (Christ). He proclaims Himself as their Anointed, long awaited, Prophet, Priest, and King. Matthew 21:10-11 (ESV) says, “When Jesus 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.’” This word literally means “to stir up, shake, or quake”!

This Palm Sunday, I invite you to join me. 1. Choose Jesus. This same “prophet from Nazareth of Galilee” is our Jesus Messiah, too! Choose this day whom you will serve! 2. Celebrate Jesus. Like those so long ago, take out your palm branches and shout, “Hosanna! Praise God! Lord, save us!” 3. Crown Jesus. Jesus may have entered Jerusalem on a donkey’s colt, but He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!

Let’s pray. Lord, when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people shouted “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” Lord, Help us lay down our cloaks and palm branches before Him. Help us shout, “Hosanna! Lord, save us!” Help us receive Him as our Prophet, Priest, and King. Help us call Him Jesus, Christ, God, Son, and Savior. Help us believe in Him, not betray Him, and be bold to proclaim Him.