



“The King is Coming to you”

Matthew 21: 1-11 *Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.”*

All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

“Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ”So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ Hosanna in the highest!” And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, “Who is this?” So the multitudes said, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.”



1 . Historical Perspective

Matthew mentions a donkey and a colt, while the other Gospels mention only the colt. This was the same event, but Matthew focuses on the prophecy in Zachariah where a donkey and a colt are mentioned.

He shows how Jesus’ actions fulfilled the prophet’s words, thus giving another indication that Jesus was indeed the Messiah.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey's colt, he affirmed his messianic royalty as well as his humility. We see in this chapter how Jesus' glory is recognized on earth.

Jesus boldly rode as the King of peace, and the crowd gladly joined him. **But these same people would bow to political pressure and desert him in just a few days.** Today we celebrate this event on Palm Sunday. **This day should remind us to guard against superficial acclaim for Christ.**

Question: Sometimes, we may ask ourselves why did Jesus choose the lowly donkey instead of getting a magnificent horse to ride on?

1. **The first one is a fulfillment of the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9: - Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is humble, riding on a donkey - riding on a donkey's colt.** His entry refers to a triumphant entry while riding a lowly animal a symbol of peace. When horses are mentioned in the Bible they are almost always in relation to kings and war, while donkeys are mentioned in relation to common people. The donkey's purpose was in agriculture as well as trade.
2. Second, in the ancient Biblical perspective, seeing a leader riding on a horse was a sign of war and coming on a donkey was a symbol of peace.
3. **Third, Jesus used the donkey to connect with the common people.** Life was also not easy for a Jew living under Roman rule in the 1st century - more so for the poor. But Jesus embraced the poor and sick people during his time here on earth. His choice of a donkey instead of a horse was God's way of saying that he came as a king who will serve and save the oppressed.



. What we should know

Jesus used the donkey to connect with the common people.

On verse 9, people are shouting **Hosanna**. **Hosanna means “Save now.”** It was more than a cry of acclamation. Essentially, it was a plea from an oppressed people to their Savior for deliverance. Later it came to be a standard shout of praise.

- Jesus embraced the poor and sick people during his time here on earth.
- This is a King who came to serve and save the oppressed
- Christ is coming to deliver the abused ones (Physical, sexual, or emotional abuse) - there is hope as the King is coming to you today,
- Christ is coming to deliver those who have experience discrimination because of the colour of their skin
- Jesus Christ is coming to deliver those who have experience discrimination because of their gender
- Christ is coming to deliver those who have experienced a loss of a family member
- The King is coming to you today, shout “Hosanna” Save us now oh Lord”

Matthew 11: 28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Psalms 23: 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah 49:13 Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

John 16: 22 So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and **no one will take your joy from you.**