

# Jesus Enters Jerusalem (John 12:12-19)

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## Scripture Text:

12. On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
13. took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel."
14. Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written,
15. "fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."
16. These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.
17. So the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him.
18. For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign.
19. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him." (John 12:12-19 NASB)

## Outline:

- I. An Expression of Adoration, Praise and Joy Towards Jesus by the People (vv.12-13)
- II. Jesus Fulfills Old Testament Messianic Scripture (vv.14-16)
- III. The Testimony of the People Regarding Jesus Continues (vv.17-18)
- IV. The Despondent Pharisees Realize the Futility of Their Plans (v.19)

## Worksheet:

- I. An Expression of Adoration, Praise and Joy Towards Jesus by the People (vv.12-13)
  - a. "On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast..." (v.12a)
    - i. Jesus goes to Bethany \_\_\_\_\_ days before the \_\_\_\_\_. (v.1)
    - ii. Jesus enters Bethany on which day of the week? \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii. Does Jesus travel anywhere from Friday 6pm to Saturday 6pm (the Sabbath/Passover)? \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iv. Why or Why not? *[discussion]*  
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    - v. What day is "the next day" when "the large crowd" came to the feast?  
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- vi. What day does Jesus enter the East Gate of the city of Jerusalem?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (the Triumphal Entry)
- b. "when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,..." (v.12b)
  - i. The miracle (sign) of Jesus raising \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead had spread and many more people came to see Jesus who was coming to Jerusalem.
  - ii. This detail of Jesus' "triumphal entry" into the city of Jerusalem in John is one of only a few occurrences that are found in all \_\_\_\_\_ gospels.
- c. "took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him..." (v.13a)
  - i. The people of Jerusalem used \_\_\_\_\_ palms, which are still plenteous today in Jerusalem.
  - ii. The people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus as their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - iii. "The waving of palm branches had become a symbol of the fervent hope that the Messiah had come." (MacArthur, 2006)
    - 1. "Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone." (John 6:14-15 NASB)
    - 2. What miracle (sign) had Jesus just performed right before the people had intended to try to make Him king the first time? (John 6:1-14)

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- d. "...and began to shout, "Hosanna! blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel." (v.13b)
  - i. The term "hosanna" is a transliteration of a Hebrew word that means "give salvation now." What salvation were they hoping for?
  - ii. **Hosanna**: exclamation (especially in biblical, Judaic, and Christian use) used to express adoration, praise, or joy.
  - iii. "This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. O Lord , do save, we beseech You; O Lord , we beseech You, do send prosperity! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord ; We have blessed you from the house of the Lord." (Psalms 118:24-26 NASB)
  - iv. The people were familiar with this passage of scripture because each morning the Hallel (Psalms 113-118) was sung by the temple choir during the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths), and was associated with the Feast of Dedication (John 10:22) and especially the Passover. (MacArthur, 2006)
  - v. "He who comes in the name of the Lord" and "King of Israel" are both \_\_\_\_\_ titles given to a descendant of David.

II. Jesus Fulfills Old Testament Messianic Scripture (vv.14-16)

- a. "Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written," (v.14)
- i. "When they had approached Jerusalem and had come 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 there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: " say to the daughter of Zion , ' behold your king is coming to you , gentle , and mounted on a donkey , even on a colt , the foal of a beast of burden .'" The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats. Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord ; Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:1-9; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38 NASB)
  - ii. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with **salvation**, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; And the bow of war will be cut off. And He will speak peace to the nations; And His dominion will be from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth. (Zechariah 9:9-10 NASB)
  - iii. The Synoptic Gospels give more details about Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem. These gospel accounts let us know that Jesus deliberately orchestrated these events presenting Himself as the fulfillment of Messianic prophecy spoken of in Zachariah 9:9-10.
  - iv. Was this just a "self-fulfilling" prophecy of Jesus or would it require "true power" that only God possesses to bring it to pass? *[discussion]* (cf. Matt 17:27)
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- v. The words, "fear not" are not found in Zachariah 9:9-10, but were added from Isaiah 40:9 – "Get yourself up on a high mountain, O Zion, bearer of good news, Lift up your voice mightily, O Jerusalem, bearer of good news; Lift it up, **do not fear**. Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" (Isaiah 40:9 NASB)
- b. "fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." (v.15)
- i. The "daughter of Zion" is mentioned several times in the Old Testament, usually in prophecy and once in poetry. "Zion" meant Jerusalem and,

later, Israel as the people of God. "Daughter of Zion," then, does not refer to a specific person. It's a metaphor for Israel and the loving, caring, patient relationship God has with His chosen people. (Got Questions, 2019) (2 Kings 19:21; Isa 1:8, 62:11; Jer 4:31; Micah 4:13; Zech 2:10, 9:9)

- ii. Jesus is declaring Himself to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jews who is "coming". What does this mean? [discussion]
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- c. "These things His disciples did not understand at the first;..." (v.16a)
    - i. Again as John writes down this narrative he gives added commentary in retrospect about the understanding of these events by the disciples.
    - ii. After Jesus' subsequent crucifixion, the disciples were despondent at first and hiding in the upper room in disbelief and shock, until they received word from the women returning from the empty tomb that Sunday morning.
      1. And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me." (Matthew 28:8-10 NASB)
      2. So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. (John 20:19-20 NASB)
      3. Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. (Luke 24:44-48 NASB)
  - d. "...but when Jesus was glorified," (v.16b)
    - i. Jesus showed himself to the disciples in His physical, \_\_\_\_\_ body and then they believed and \_\_\_\_\_ what had been written about Jesus in the scriptures.
    - ii. The disciples understanding of what had transpired was \_\_\_\_\_ until they saw with their own eyes and handles with their own hands Jesus in His physical and glorified body.

iii. After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed." (John 20:26-29 NASB)

- e. "...then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him." (v.16c)
- i. It was not until Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and His physical \_\_\_\_\_ that the disciples understood the full meaning of these events that were transpiring before them.
  - ii. What does, "...that they had done these things to Him" make reference to? *[discussion]* (Psalms 22; Isaiah 52:13-53:12)
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### III. The Testimony of the People Regarding Jesus Continues (vv.17-18)

- a. "... the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him." (v.17)
- i. Jesus had a company of \_\_\_\_\_ who were following Him and eager to \_\_\_\_\_ of what they had seen Jesus do on behalf of Lazarus and his family.
  - ii. This growing crowd made the chief priests and Pharisees all the more eager to see Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ along with \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. "For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign." (v.18)
- i. Some of the people that were part of this growing crowd were not \_\_\_\_\_, but had only heard of what Jesus had done for Lazarus.
  - ii. It seems that more people came from hearing the good news rather than just those who had seen with their own eyes the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus had performed.
  - iii. What does this say about the power of "our testimony" regarding Jesus, who He is and what He has done on our behalf? *[discussion]*
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### IV. The Despondent Pharisees Realize the Futility of Their Plans (v.19)

- a. "...the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good;..." (v.19a)
- i. The Pharisees were beginning to realize that it did not matter what they did, they could not stop Jesus from leading the people away from them

with His teachings and signs, which ultimately pointed to His deity and saving power over sin. (John 20:30-31)

- ii. They were beginning to understand that short of killing Jesus (and Lazarus), they would never be able to stop Jesus from taking away their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ over the people.
  - iii. Later they even considered killing the disciples (Apostles) for teaching the name of Jesus after His resurrection, but a Pharisee named Gamaliel gave them council against such action. (Acts 5:27-42)
  - iv. But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away some people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God." They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ. (Acts 5:33-42 NASB)
- b. "...look, the world has gone after Him." (v.19b)
- i. What is meant by, "the world has gone after Him"? [*discussion*]  
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  - ii. How can we make this statement into a literal statement today?  
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**References:**

Got Questions (2019). What does the Bible mean when it refers to a "Daughter of Zion"?  
digitally retrieved from <https://www.gotquestions.org/daughter-of-Zion.html>

MacArthur, J. (2006). John MacArthur Study Bible. Study notes for John 12:13, p.1575