

Palm Sunday ~ Sunday, April 13, 2025

“The Coming King”

Zechariah 9:9-17 & Matthew 21:11

“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. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” (Matt 21:1-3)

However trivial this errand may have seemed, it was full of _____ and theological significance, and Matthew quotes Zechariah 9:9, to demonstrate that Jesus had come to be the King,

“This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ‘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.’” (Matthew 21:4-5)

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” (Zechariah 9:9)

It was by getting on a donkey and riding into Jerusalem that Jesus announced He was coming as Israel’s _____ King.

#1. Jesus is the _____ King.

The Jews knew the _____, and many people in the crowd would have remembered the words of Zechariah and _____ what Jesus was doing.

“Hosanna to the Son of David!” (Matthew 21:9)

By using this title, they were acclaiming Jesus to be their rightful _____, in the line of David.

“The sceptre will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his. He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch.” (Genesis 49:10-11)

What’s only hinted at in Genesis was made _____ in the Gospel: Jesus, the Son of David, from the tribe of Judah, rode into Jerusalem as Israel’s rightful king.

If Jesus is the King, then it stand to reason that all His loyal subjects must _____ His Kingship. The Jews did this by calling Him the Son of David, and by spreading their cloaks before Him, an ancient custom where people threw down their garments, making a carpet for a royal _____. We recognize Jesus’

sovereignty by laying our _____ before Him, throwing down our wills in absolute _____, and asking Jesus to _____ everything we think, say, and do. And then, by _____ Him as our rightful king.

#2. Jesus is the _____ King.

“righteous and having salvation is he...” (Zechariah 9:9 ESV)

Hebrew = “He is righteous and saved.” (Zechariah 9:9)

Strangely enough, according to Zechariah’s prophecy, the King Himself will be _____.

We need to recognize that the coming king doesn’t need to be saved from His _____. Zechariah himself says that the rightful king is _____.

“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” (1Peter 2:2)

Although the Bible often uses the word ‘save’ to refer to _____ from sin, it also uses the term in a more general way to refer to any kind of _____.

“He saved them from the hand of the foe.” (Psalm 106:10)

“...will deliver the needy who cry out...and save the needy from death.” (Ps 72:12-13)

God’s rightful king would be delivered and _____.

“See, your king is coming to you, his cause won, his victory gained.” (Zech 9:9 REB)

Matthew undoubtedly knew the whole prophecy, yet he said nothing about the rightful king being _____. The reason is that Jesus didn’t _____ His victory on Palm Sunday.

Jesus would be wrongfully convicted and brutally executed, and He wouldn’t win His victory until _____ Sunday, when God saved Him by _____ Him from the dead.

The fact that God saved Jesus means that He can also _____ us. Now that Jesus Himself has been delivered from death, He has the power to _____ us from death. The One who is “righteous and saved” is able to be our _____.

And the way to enter into this victory is to _____ on Jesus for salvation, just like the crowds did when He rode into Jerusalem.

Even though they didn't yet _____ His crucifixion or resurrection, they welcomed Him as their victorious Saviour, taking palm branches and shouting "Hosanna!"

Palm branches were an ancient symbol of _____ and the word 'Hosanna,' which means "_____,", isn't so much a word of praise as it is a _____.

"O Lord, save us." (Psalm 118:25)

They were looking for some kind of _____ deliverance, but that's not the kind of victory that Jesus came to win. He came to give His life as an _____ for sin. The salvation He offers is _____ from sin, death, and the eternal wrath of God.

To ask for His salvation is to confess that we're guilty _____ who deserve to be condemned for our sins. "Hosanna!" is partly a cry of victory; it recognizes that Jesus has the _____ to save. But it's also a cry of _____, the prayer of a sinner who needs a Saviour.

#3. Jesus is the _____ King.

In ancient times, when a king rode into a city, it was usually with a show of great _____ and wealth.

The rightful, victorious king, is also the gentle king, who comes to greet His subjects, not with pomp and circumstance, but with _____ and gentleness.

This gentleness is symbolized by his mode of _____. At the very least, one would expect Jesus to ride a horse. But instead of coming on a mighty war horse or a proud stallion, He rides a _____ beast of burden.

Another indication of His gentleness is the _____ Jesus has with His subjects. He treats them as members of his own _____. The Bible often uses this kind of _____ language to describe God's love for His people.

"This is what the Lord says: Israel is my first-born son." (Exodus 4:22)

And now, because of Jesus' finished work on the cross, all those who trust in Him have been _____ into God's family, as His sons and daughters, and are joint _____ with Christ

Despite what the world might say, Jesus' gentleness isn't a sign of _____. Zechariah 9:1-8, describe how God will _____ Israel's ancient enemies. And verse 10 promises that the gentle king who rides the donkey will conquer mighty

armies, with all their horses.

heathen =

His promise was that one day the gospel of _____ would be preached to all the kingdoms of this world. When Jesus came riding into Jerusalem, He didn't come to be the King of the Jews only, but to be the _____ King.

The message that Christ the King proclaims to the nations is peace; what the Hebrews call "_____,", which isn't simply the absence of warfare, but also the presence of _____. Shalom is God's fullest blessing of harmony and _____.

Here, then, is an extraordinary combination of _____ and gentleness. Perhaps the best word to describe it is '_____', which =

Jesus is the meekest of kings. He's a _____ and awesome ruler, strong and fierce enough to crush all His enemies. Yet, at the same time, _____, loving, and peaceful to everyone who _____ in Him.

One way Jesus displayed this unprecedented combination of omnipotence and gentleness was by performing _____ of healing.

"Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing." (Isa 35:5-6)

These are the very miracles Jesus performed to _____ that He was the Messiah.

With the same regal grace, Jesus helps everyone who comes to Him in _____. His kingship doesn't treat people roughly or _____. Instead, He rules with a gentle strength that brings healing and _____.

Gentleness is one of the marks of the Christian life and a _____ of the Spirit. And as followers of Jesus, our lives should be living _____ of the meekness and gentleness of Christ.

"Let your gentleness be evident to all." (Philippians 4:5)



How will you welcome Jesus into your heart anew this Holy Week?