

Context

- 1] Jesus comes to Jerusalem for the last time
- 2] Two blind men 'see' that Jesus is Lord, 'Son of David'
- 3] He approaches Jerusalem - Mount of Olives = a stone's throw across the Kidron valley.
- 4] Passover time – William Barclay reports 'a roman 30 years later estimated that 250,000 lambs were slaughtered. 1 lamb for a minimum of ten people. Therefore over 3 million Jews crowded into Jerusalem at that time. (All adult Jews within 20 miles, by the Law, had to attend Passover.)'

KV *say to the daughter of Zion, see your King comes riding on a donkey?*

MP *Jesus presents Himself to lives and hearts as The King.*

The setting (1-5)

1] Approach Jerusalem (1a)

2] 2 disciples (1b)

Nb Two – blind men (Mt 20:30), needed as witnesses (18:16)

3] colt, and a donkey (2)

*donkey with her colt (only two mentioned in Matthew. Literal Hebrew parallelism (Zech 9:9?) *God knows. He is in control**

The Lord owns / commands everything

4] Tell them 'the Lord has need of them' (3)

Cf The Lord God (3:3; 4:7, (9:38)

5] Prophet (4,5)

Spoken to fulfil

Riding on a donkey, a colt the foal.

Jesus presents Himself as the King to fulfil all prophecy

Listen to your OT prophecy

The approach (6-11)

1] Disciples did as instructed (6)

Do as Jesus instructs you

2] Cloaks on them (both?) (7)

visualise message by prophet—Abijah (1Ki 11:29-32), Jeremiah/false prophet (27:1-6; 28:10,11)

3] crowd (8)

a) cut branches

b) crowd around – 'worshipped'?

Nb focus on Jesus not on the announcement?

Cf crowd spread cloaks when Jehu made King (2 Kings 9:13)

4] The shouts (9)

a) Hosanna = save (us), we pray

nb Jesus' name = 'The Lord save's (1:21) {same word 'yasha – to save}

Jesus is the Saviour; He saves to the uttermost (Heb 7:25)

b) Son of David (1:20; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30; 22:42)

b) the Lord's name (Ps 118:26)

c) Hosanna in the highest

cf glory in the highest (Luke 2:14; 19:38)

Proclaim that Jesus the Saviour is at hand

5] Whole city stirred (cf 2:3)

The key question about Jesus, 'Who is this?

6] The prophet (11)

Nb preparatory (1:22; 2:5,15,17; 3:3; 4:14; 8:17; 12:17,39; 21:4) OR King (John 6:14)

The Temple (12-14)

1] such authority

Cf wind and the waves (Matt. 8:27)

*Jesus is irresistible

2] House of prayer / robbers

Cf My house will be called a house of prayer (Is 56:7) Den of robbers (Jer. 7:11)

God always acts consistently with His Word.

The Temple tax = ½ shekel (2 days wages) charge of changing money to Tyrian currency required in Temple = (½ days) A pair of doves - cost outside = 1 days wage. Inside = 20 days wages. Any import inspected by priest and usually found to be 'blemished'

Nb 'One greater than the Temple is here' (12:6)

3] Lame and blind healed (14)

Cf (11:5; 15:30,31)

Nb the blind and lame not able to enter temple (2Sam 5:8)

God's will is to heal all who come to Him

The reaction (15-17)

1] the children

God orders that the least may praise Him

2] the chief Priests and the teachers of the Law

(2:4; 16:21; 20:18)

The grace of God towards others is hard for an earthly man to take

3] Jesus

a) Children ordained praise (*Ps 8:2*)

Pais' (Gk) Children (2:16; 17:18) or servant (8:6,8,13; 12:18; 14:2)

Listen to the weakest when they praise God

b) Went out to Bethany (17)

Conclusion:

1] Jesus is in total control

2] The simplest and least can understand and receive peace with God through Jesus our Lord

3] Receive, welcome and praise Him.