

Palm Sunday: Shout and Sing, Here Comes the King! Crane Kipp

Scripture

"And the disciples went and brought the donkey and her colt and put on them their coats and they set Him on the colt. And a very great crowd spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them in the way. And the multitudes that went before and that followed cried saying, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

Matthew 21:7-9

Devotion

Do you like parades? Did you have a Palm Sunday parade at your house yesterday morning? You know the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem for that Passover celebration happened nearly 2000 years ago. He rode a donkey's colt into Jerusalem fulfilling Zechariah's prophecy so many years before. Jewish kings entered the city in peace riding on a donkey and rode out of the city to war riding on a war horse or in a chariot. The people hurried to see Him, singing "Hosanna! Hosanna!" They threw down their coats and cut down palm branches to lay on the road to make a long carpet for Him to ride into the city. They called Him "Son of David", their greatest king, and "He who comes in the name of the Lord!" It was a wonderful celebration! I'll bet the children really liked that parade party.

The people in Jerusalem who praised Jesus really didn't understand who He was and why He came. They thought He would be a mighty warrior king who would save Israel from the Romans and drive them out of the land. Jesus definitely came to save the people of Israel, but not from the Romans. He came to save Israel from themselves and from their sins. The people of Israel, just like many people today, didn't like hearing about their sins. They thought they were pretty good people already. They were God's chosen people, weren't they? God had told them so in their Bible!

We need to celebrate Jesus just as much as those people in Jerusalem did! We know that Jesus is God's only Son who came to teach us how to live and how to love God. He also came to give Himself as a sacrifice for our sins! Now that is really something to celebrate in the biggest way we know how! We need to follow Him and praise Him whenever we get the chance, which is every day.

So, Jesus came to Jerusalem not as a triumphant king but rather as the Passover Lamb for the people of God to be crucified as the final sacrifice to God to cleanse all of His people from their sins, once for all!





Questions

3-5-yr-olds

Does your family praise God at home? Do you sing?

1st-3rd graders

What is it about Jesus that most makes you want to shout and celebrate?

4th-6th graders

Since Jesus is coming back one day, how can you stay close to God and be prepared for Jesus' return if it were to be tonight or tomorrow?

Prayer

Dear Lord, help us rejoice and sing to honor Jesus and to tell Him how much we love Him and thank Him for loving us so much.

Suggested Hymns

Ho Ho Ho Hosanna Fairest Lord Jesus #170 One Day He's Coming #327

