

Behold, your King is coming to you!

Matthew 21:1-11

Palm Sunday 2016

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I. Introduction

A. Palm Sunday in the Gospels (cf. Mk 11:1ff; Lk 19:28ff; Jn 12:12ff)

B. Symbolic Actions

1. Joshua's Covenant at Shechem (Josh 24:1ff cf. Gen 35:1ff)
2. WWI Armistice at Compiegne – Nov 11, 1918
3. Sacraments of the New Covenant

II. Zechariah's Promise

A. Who was the prophet?

The prophets Zechariah and _____ were contemporaries who ministered in Judah after our fathers returned from exile in Babylon.

B. What had Zechariah declared?

1. A Question about Fasting (Zech 7:1ff cf. 8:18-19; Jer 52)

During the exile, our fathers established a series of fasts linked to significant events in the downfall of Jerusalem:

- 10th Month – _____ besieged by Nebuchadnezzar
- 4th Month – City _____ broken down and king captured
- 5th Month – _____ sacked
- 7th Month – Gedaliah the Governor assassinated

These fasts continued even after the return and so the delegation asked Zechariah if they could now cease the fasts since they had returned to the land.

2. A Promise of Salvation (Zech 8-9)

Notice that God's promise is that He would act to save Jerusalem, He would act to save His people. Israel may very well have failed – but He would not. He would restore the glory of His people.

- Peace (8:4-6)
- Return from True Exile (8:7-8)
 Exhortations (8:9-17)
- Fasting to Feasting (8:18-19)
- Revival Among the Nations (8:20-22)
- Let us go with you! (8:23-24)

God would act to save His people and the consequences would be peace, reconciliation with God, feasting, and spiritual revival not just in Israel but also throughout the nations. So with this promise ringing in their ears come the words that the Gospel writers quote.

- What is the character of the Coming King?
- What shall He do?
- Where?
- So what should Israel do?

C. How does this help us understand the Triumphal Entry?

1. The Triumphal Entry (cf. Jn 12:16)

2. The Sufferings of Christ and the Glories to Follow (1 Pet 1:10-11)

III. Conclusion