

- ii. We are about liberating those bound by the forces of darkness.

iii. *The Cross*

Our Liberating King – Palm Sunday

Jerry Cisar — March 25, 2018

Text: Matthew 21:1-17

Introduction:

I. The King is Heralded at Jerusalem ((Matthew 21:1-11)

A. It's the beginning of Passover week.

- i. Each year as the people came to Jerusalem they would recite psalms... including Psalm 118.

ii. Solomon and Adonijah (1 Kings 1:28-37)

B. Hosanna in the Highest

- i. Psalm 118:25-26 "*Lord, grant us success!*"

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.

The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- In what ways does this account call us to examine our allegiances? How might it have called the original audience to examine their own allegiances?
- What are traditional sources that we trust in for liberation (freedom), and rescue from powers of death? What sources does Christ call us to in the account of His entrance into Jerusalem?
- Imagine if Jesus were going to carry out an act today with a similar message in our culture as the riding into Jerusalem communicated in His. What kind of act might accomplish this?
- The people of that day likely expected, that if Jesus were the messiah, he would take over the seat of power. What might we expect Jesus to take over today in answer to our prayers? What does it mean to us when we cry, "Hosanna, Lord save us?"
- How does the cross transform our understanding of how God saves?
- On two occasions, news of Christ's coming as king created a shaking in Jerusalem. How might the announcement of Christ's as king create a shaking in our own lives? (See also Hebrews 12:26-29.)

ii. Jesus is declaring Himself to be the legitimate heir to the throne of David, but He is certainly not putting on a display of power!

iii. *“Will Jesus go take over the palace? Challenge Pilate? Or Herod?”*

iv. Jesus goes straight to the temple.

II. The King Was Heralded in Jerusalem Before (Matthew 2)

A. *“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?”*

i. *“When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.” (Matt. 2:2-3)*

ii. On that first Palm Sunday, the whole city was shaken.

iii. When Christ comes as king into our lives, there is a shaking that occurs (Hebrews 12:26-29).

B. Not only has the king been born, but He has made Himself known, and now He is ready to be revealed in Jerusalem.

III. The King and His Kingdom of Disciples (Matthew 21:12-17)

A. It's tourist season in Jerusalem!

B. How does this king propose to free them from bondage?

i. Prayer

ii. *Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit (Zec 4:6)*

This community the healed blind and lame, the infants and children, is us!

C. What are the marks of these followers which Jesus is gathering to take over the world?

i. Our power is not found in the things the world prizes.