

Northern Hills Community Church

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HERE IS OUR KING

April 17, 2011

Matthew 21:1-11

Four Ways to Build Your Faith on Palm Sunday

1. See the intense focus of Jesus' journey

As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. (21:1a)

Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." (John 12:7-8)

2. Examine the accuracy of prophecy

Jesus sent two of them on ahead. "Go into the village over there," he said. "As soon as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will immediately let you take them." This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said, "Tell the people of Israel, 'Look, your King is coming to you. He is humble, riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey's colt.'" The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it. (21:1b-7)

The Preparation of Jesus' Entry Shows...

• His Omniscience

"As soon as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it." (21:2)

• His Authority

"If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will immediately let you take them." (21:3)

• His Deity

Jesus' entire life and ministry were marked by two overriding purposes:

- To do His Heavenly Father's will
- To fulfill the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah's first coming

This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said, "Tell the people of Israel, 'Look, your King is coming to you. He is humble, riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey's colt.'" (21:4-5)

His disciples didn't understand at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered what had happened and realized that these things had been written about him. (John 12:16)

3. Praise Jesus—Acknowledge who He is and what He has done

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!" (21:8-9)

...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11).

4. Clear up the Confusion—know Jesus

The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. "Who is this?" they asked. And the crowds replied, "It's Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." (21:10-11)