

“Our Self-Revealing God” Matthew 21:1-11

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OUR GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO RECEPTIVE HEARTS.

*Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them.
Matthew 21:1-7 (English Standard Version)*

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you . . . gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

*The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
Matthew 1:1 (ESV)*

“. . . Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.” 2 Samuel 7:16 (New International Version)

Classic biblical portraits of the Messiah: Psalm 2:7-12; Psalm 72:1ff, 8-12, 17; Psalm 89:20,22, 25-27; Isaiah 11:1, 4, 10; Isaiah 42:1,6; 49:1-6; Daniel 7:13-24

JESUS EXPECTS A WORSHIPFUL RESPONSE TO HIS PRESENCE.

Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” Matthew 21:8-9 (ESV)

As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.” Luke 19:37-40 (ESV)

Two Expressions of Praise

- Physical expressions of praise.
 - They threw their cloaks onto the road.
 - They waved the branches.
- Vocal expressions of praise.
 - They shouted out a royal hymn.
 - *“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”*

The Power of Physical and Vocal Demonstrations of Praise

- That is how love is expressed!!!

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. Psalm 63:3-4 (ESV)

- Both expressions of praise take some level of humility.

THOSE WHO QUESTION JESUS' IDENTITY, EXPRESS AGITATION IN HIS PRESENCE, NOT PRAISE.

And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"¹¹ And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee." Matthew 21:10-11 (ESV)