

Sermon Notes

THE ROYAL PROCLAMATION [MESSAGE DELIVERED ON PALM SUNDAY ~ APRIL 5, 2020]

by Pastor Joan Boethel

I want to say hello to all our church family and all visitors who happen to be watching this morning...We are so glad that you can be with us!

Today we are celebrating Palm Sunday, a day when churches are generally overflowing and “Hosannas” ringing out around the world!

- It is our hope that you joined us this morning during our worship service and that you will continue to receive and be blessed as the Word of God comes forth.
- We always pray that God will walk the aisles of our church during our services and bless and heal the people, so I pray right now that God will manifest His Presence and power for you today in a special way, right there in your home! In Jesus’ Name!

As we begin to focus our attention on that very special Palm Sunday that is recorded in the gospels, I think of when John the Baptist declared....“Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!”

- What we call Palm Sunday was an event that took place at the beginning of the final week of Jesus’ life.
- Jesus was the most wanted man in Israel, with the Jews plotting to kill Him.
- But He intentionally made a bold display of Himself on this particular day, riding into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey.

God had instituted the sacrificial system in the days of Moses, and by this time in history there had been millions of lambs sacrificed in Israel! But no one understood that Jesus was THE Lamb of God that would take away the sin of the world!

- The historian Josephus tells us that on this day, thousands of lambs were brought into Jerusalem.
- But in the midst of the multitude of those lambs, every eye was on THE one true Lamb of God!

- God planned this day so that, with thousands of lambs being brought into Jerusalem for the Passover, Jesus, the Lamb of God, would also enter Jerusalem in a manner that would perfectly fulfill the scriptures.
- A great multitude of Jews had made the pilgrimage from all parts of the known world into the city, and when they heard that Jesus was coming, they cut palm branches and laid their garments on the road for Him to pass over.

THIS WAS NOT AN ORDINARY PASSOVER!

- The events on this day didn't just happen by accident!
- With the perfect mind of God, Jesus orchestrated this event~~TO DRAW ALL ATTENTION TO HIMSELF!
- He purposefully entered Jerusalem AFTER THE MANNER OF A ROYAL PROCESSION ...AS FOR THE CORONATION OF A KING!
- He was declaring Himself to be THE KING OF GLORY...
- And He was demonstrating for the thousands of pilgrims whose eyes were fixed on Him THAT HIS KINGDOM WAS NOW ON THIS EARTH!

GOD HAD GIVEN SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THIS DAY back in Exodus, Chp. 12 when Israel was about to be delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians...

We read in **Exodus 12:3** KJV...

“Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘In the tenth day of this month [Nisan] they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house.’”

- They were to select a perfect lamb on the 10th day of the month of Nisan, a lamb without blemish.
- Then on the 14th day of Nisan, it would be slain, and the blood would be applied to each house, and the flesh of the lamb would be consumed.

WHEN THE BLOOD WAS APPLIED AND THE FLESH OF THE LAMB CONSUMED, (This was a picture of the Lord's Table, or our communion table today) something very supernatural happened...

- The lamb brought deliverance to God’s people, and Psalm 105:37 says that there was not one feeble or sick person among their tribes!

Go with me now to Matthew Chp. 21, and we will see Jesus, the Lamb of God, entering the city of Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan, the very day that the lambs were to be selected [Timeline revealed in John 12:1, 12]....

Matthew 21:1-10 NKJV

1 Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,
 2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me.
 3 And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."
 4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:
 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'"
 6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them.
 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them.
 8 And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [They anticipated Jesus coming...and we should anticipate His manifest Presence, as well]
 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!"
 10 And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved (shaking, vibrating, and quaking)...[It was a supernatural moving...God pouring out His anointing on this city!]

This great multitude of people had either been touched by Jesus or knew someone who had...and they wanted Him to become the king of Israel and to deliver them from Roman oppression.

So the people waved their palm branches while they cried, “Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!”

This was the fulfillment of **Zechariah 9:9** NKJV, which says,

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey."

Notice that the people's response to Jesus was that they rejoiced greatly!

- What it doesn't say is that they were moderately happy, quietly thankful, or just smiling.
- No, the word "rejoice" makes it clear that there were shouts, shouts, and more shouts of joy!!!
- And the word "greatly" is defined as "a marker of great degree or quantity" [which means to rejoice very, very, very much!]

Matthew 21:10 NKJV goes on to say that while the city was moved, rocking and vibrating with rejoicing, the multitude looked at each other and said, "WHO IS THIS?"

- Although they may have been previously touched by Jesus' earthly ministry, or perhaps had heard the things He had done, they had no perception of Who Jesus really was.
- Jesus was entering Jerusalem in a royal procession, and His royal entry was a royal proclamation that He was indeed King and that His Kingdom was NOW here on this earth!
- Many of those in the multitude were rejoicing for the wrong reason, because Jesus would NOT become king over Israel [In just a few days, many of these people would be shouting, "Crucify Him!"]

BUT THAT EVENT WAS VERY IMPORTANT, NOT JUST FOR THAT DAY, BUT FOR YOU AND ME TODAY...

- Because we have selected Jesus as our Lamb, our King, and our Lord!
- And because, according to Luke 17:21 KJV, His Kingdom is now within us!

In **Matthew 6:10 KJV** Jesus instructed us to declare as our daily prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

- As we release His Kingdom into our world, we will see His will manifest on earth as it is in heaven.
- Matthew actually called the Kingdom of God the Kingdom of heaven, because each time it manifests, heaven comes to earth!

Throughout Jesus' earthly ministry, His message was "THE KINGDOM IS NOW".

- When He taught about the Kingdom, He would say, "it has come upon you," or "it has arrived among you," or "it is at hand."
- He was letting the people know that the Kingdom had arrived, was here and would always be here...ready to be manifest!
- Even during the 40 days after Jesus' resurrection, He appeared to His disciples multiple times, teaching them again and again about the Kingdom of God.

WHY? WHY WAS THIS MESSAGE SUCH AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE THEN~ AND WHY IS IT STILL SUPREMELY IMPORTANT FOR US TODAY?

AND WHY FOR THE LAST 2,000 YEARS HAS THE CHURCH CELEBRATED THIS SPECIAL DAY, REHEARSING IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN?

BECAUSE...are you ready for this?...

BECAUSE JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, IS THE ONLY KING WHO ANOINTS AND APPOINTS ALL HIS SUBJECTS TO RULE AND REIGN WITH HIM!

Revelation 1:5b-6 NKJV says,

5 "...To Him Who loved us and washed us from our sins in His Own Blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen"

In **Revelation 17:14b** NKJV we read, "...He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful." [Notice the capital letters for Jesus and the small letters for His followers. This is understood, as He is incomparable! He is God!]

But then in **Revelation 19:16** NKJV we read, "And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**"

This is AMAZING!! Jesus actually wrote a description of Himself and His followers on His robe and on His thigh, and He wrote them BOTH IN ALL

CAPS!! Surely not, and yet He did!! How could He remotely insinuate, let alone boldly declare, that His followers have the same degree of honor as Himself? How could this be?

We find the answer in **Romans 8:16-17** NKJV...

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
17 and if children, then heirs~heirs of **God** and joint heirs with Christ...

- We are not just heirs; we are joint-heirs with Christ!!!
- How wonderful it would be to inherit even a tiny amount of God's glory and power, but to think that WE SHARE EQUALLY with the One who has inherited everything God is and has is beyond our ability to comprehend!

So let's look again at that Palm Sunday, when every eye was on Jesus!

Again, **Matthew 21:9** NKJV says,

"Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!"

The word "Hosanna" is the Hebrew word "Yashana," a combination of the two words, "yasha" and "na".

- "Yasha" means "to bring salvation, safety, deliverance, help, preservation, and rescue; give us victory!"
- "Na" means "I beseech or pray you."

This is what the multitude was crying... "SAVE US, WE PRAY!"

And this is the cry of hearts in our world in crisis today!

After Jesus rode into Jerusalem proclaiming that He is King and that His Kingdom is now, He went into the temple **AND THE BLIND AND LAME CAME AND HE HEALED THEM!**

- This is what happens in the Kingdom!
- Whenever it is manifest on earth, there is a VISIBLE DEMONSTRATION.
- **1 Corinthians 2:4-5** NKJV, Paul declared,

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- Whenever the Kingdom is manifest, it brings with it everything humanity needs ~ salvation, healing, deliverance, prosperity and purpose!
- It is to be experienced today just as it has been experienced since the day Jesus released it into the earth.
- Every time we make commands in Jesus' Name and release His authority into the earth ~ sin, sickness, demons, poverty, and death have to go!
- We received an inheritance with Christ, AND THAT INHERITANCE IS THAT WE RULE AND REIGN WITH HIM...RIGHT NOW!
- He has given us His Word, His Blood, His Name, and the Holy Spirit ~ so that we are completely equipped to take dominion over every circumstance we are experiencing right now.

THE CHURCH IS NOT IN SURVIVAL MODE!

- The Holy Spirit has empowered us to proclaim the good news with the supernatural evidence of miracles, healings and all the gifts of the Spirit!
- For all who are crying out “Yashana” or “Hosanna,” they will find their rescue, deliverance and salvation in the power of the Lord Jesus!
- The time in which we live demands that we demonstrate the Kingdom of God every opportunity we are given!
- The Kingdom of God (or the Kingdom of heaven) will manifest as the church becomes more convinced of a BIG GOD and less convinced of a big devil!

There is coming a time when we will once again wave palm branches as we celebrate our Lord...

Revelation 7:9-12 NKJV says...

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" [And to us as joint heirs with the Lamb!]

[The Strong's Exhaustive Concordance says "Salvation" means "rescue, deliverance, the state of not being in grave danger and so being safe."]

11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
12 saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH...

"Father, I release the Spirit of dominion over all who are watching this service today, so that they will now receive revelation of their authority to push back the kingdom of darkness and to spread Your Kingdom throughout their area of influence. The Kingdom is here right now ~ right here on the inside of us, and we declare that You are reigning in and through our lives right now! Lord, may your church rise up in the spirit of dominion and use the authority Jesus has given us over our area of influence, releasing the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen and encourage, and to heal and deliver, in Jesus' Name!"

CONCLUSION...

We are so blessed that you could be with us this morning and want you to know that you are in our hearts and prayers. We are praying for you and your family that your every need is met during this time that we are apart. Know that we are here for you, so please call the church office if you have a specific need or would like us to pray with you. The Lord bless you and keep you!