

# Honor Your King – Jesus the Christ

April 9, 2017 – Matthew 21:6-11 – PALM SUNDAY

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*“The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. 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!” -When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, Who is this? The crowds answered, This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”*

Perhaps you have seen in some movie the gentleman putting his coat down over the water puddle so that the lady can walk and not get her shoes as wet or dirty. It is a way to show kindness to the lady.

Who would put their coat down in the path of a donkey as it was riding into town on a dirt road or down the streets of Jerusalem? What if the donkey used the bathroom as it walked over your coat?

As the crowd in this text put their coats and palm branches in the path of the donkey on which Jesus is riding, they are showing honor and respect to the Lord Jesus.

This was not a practice that the people of Jerusalem came up with just on this particular day. It was already mentioned in **Leviticus 23:40** during the time of Moses (1,500 B.C.) that during the Feast of Tabernacles, {One of the Three annual pilgrimage festivals which the Lord had given His people.}

The Lord directed Moses to say to the People

**Lev. 23:40 – On the first day (of the Feast of Tabernacles) you are to take choice fruit from the trees, and palm fronds, leafy branches and poplars, and rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days.”**

We also see this practice of placing coats before someone to show honor in the account of Jehu (840 B.C.) after being anointed as King of Israel (Northern tribes)

**II Kings 9:13 – The fellow officers of Jehu hurried and took their cloaks and spread them under him on the bare steps. Then they blew the trumpet and shouted, JEHU IS king!**

The Crowds on the road into Jerusalem also honored and praised Jesus with the familiar words of our Text:

**Vs. 9 – “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”**

Hosanna meaning – Save We / I pray from the Hebrew: {- an heySwh – from the root word - eSy - to deliver – BDB pg. 446} In our present day, we do not throw our cloaks down in the road to honor Jesus, but we can still honor Him. We can Honor Jesus, Who is True God and True Man with our actions as well as our voices.

We honor Jesus with our Actions by obeying **the 10 Commandments** of our Lord. Putting God First in all that we do and say – Not taking God’s Name in Vain with loose talk – We honor Jesus by regularly bringing ourselves and our family to Public Worship service as we demonstrate that God is Important in our Life. (We preach a Sermon by getting out of bed on Sunday Morning and sitting in the Pews)

We honor Jesus - By Honoring our parents and all those in authority – by letting go of anger and hatred in our hearts – by sleeping with no one except our spouse – by not stealing – by not Speaking evil and negative about others – {Remember the old saying, “If you can’t say something Good don’t say anything at all.”

We honor Jesus by – being content with food and clothing and a house and a home.

We all know that it is hard work, yes impossible to follow God’s Law because of our sinful human nature.

That is why Jesus – The Christ – The Messiah, humbled Himself and set aside His honor and glory so that WE - through HIS humiliation and suffering have Salvation and glory in Heaven.

As the Apostle Paul listed in the Epistle Lesson this Morning:

**Philippians 2:5-8 – “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and become obedient to death – even death on a cross!”**

While the crowds shouted these words of praise, there was another group of people working behind the scenes, scheming and plotting and planning to kill Jesus. (Luke 11:47-53)

The Sanhedrin which included Chief Priests and Pharisees and Elders, and depending upon which scholar you agree with it may have also included Teachers of the law, Sadducees, and Scribes.

Jesus was and is of course God.

So Jesus knew this and yet he continued to ride on to His death.

**Luke 9:51 – “As the time approached for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.”**

Jesus kept on riding to the cross and His death, because there on the cross Jesus made atonement for the sin of the whole world. (1 John 2:1-2)

Jesus died the death that we deserve so that we have the forgiveness of sins and life forever in Heaven where there is no more sin, no more death, no more sorrow, no more pain, and we are restored with our new and glorified bodies.

And so we shout from the roof tops with our Words and Actions.

**Vs. 9 – “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”**

AMEN