

PREPARATION WORTHY OF OUR KING

Mark 11:1-26

Cov Pres

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WHO JESUS IS SHAPES YOUR PREPARING FOR HIS RETURN

Introduction: Let us see our King, Jesus, and respond in the freedom of his grace.

Mark 1:1-11: Jesus' Divine Sonship Calls for a Party Fit for the King

Celebration and praise are always in order in the presence of our Gospel King!

- Psalm 48:1-3, 9-14; Zechariah 9:9-10; Genesis 49:8-12; 1 Kings 1 espec. 33, 38; 2 King 9:12-13
- John 12:13; [1 Maccabees 13:51-52]; 2 Sam 14:4; 7:12-16
- *Son of David:* Mat 1:1; Mat 12:33; 15:22; 20:30, 31; 21:9, 15; 22:42
- Passover feast & festival: God's Exodus deliverance from violence, injustice & oppression.
- Longings for present day deliverance...

Celebration and praise cannot stop when the King arrives.

- Jesus enters Jerusalem and goes to the temple, his throne room: **Malachi 3**
- Jesus has come to die, but prophetic, priestly words will prepare the day

Mark 1:12-26: Jesus' Prophetic/Priestly Love Calls forth Mercy for Neighbor & Nations

A PASSION FOR FAITHFULNESS → *Staying on mission* **Mark 11:12-14, 20-21**

God's Temple/Church is a gathering place for all peoples: *what are we letting get in the way?*
Malachi 3; Isaiah 56:1-8

A PASSION FOR FRUITFULNESS → *Praise must lead to mercy and grace* **Mark 11:15-19**

God's fig tree (*vineyard*—cf., Mark 12) must not merely look like it's bearing fruit.
Jeremiah 8:13; Hosea 9:10, 16, 17; Joel 1:7; Mark 7:6

"Many readers have been alarmed by this action of Jesus. It seems so severe, But it drives us to one of two conclusions: either Jesus was callous and cynical in his use of power, or the question of our spiritual fruitfulness is one of immense seriousness which we ignore at our peril. The Jewish people did ignore it, and within years were exposed to the withering judgment of God. How much we need to learn that, without exception, Jesus means what he says!"

Sinclair Ferguson, *Let's Study Mark*, p185

A PASSION FOR FORGIVENESS → *Have faith in God that when mountains, even holy mountains, are in the way, he will tear them down.* **Mark 11:22-26**

Isaiah 40:4: *Let every valley be lifted up, And every mountain and hill be made low...*

Isaiah 49:11 *I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways will be raised up...*

Conclusion: *Whose party? Whose house? Whose table? Whose guest list?*

The fruit of mercy, forgiveness flowing from the temple/throne of God to bless the nations and gather them...

You were among the nations: *he who is forgiven much, loves much...*

A Psalm for Palm Sunday

King Jesus
why did you choose
a lowly ass
to carry you
to ride in your parade?
Had you no friend
who owned a horse
—a royal mount with spirit
fit for a king to ride?
Why choose an ass
small unassuming
beast of burden
trained to plow
not carry kings.

King Jesus
why did you choose
me
a lowly unimportant person
to bear you
in my world today?
I'm poor and unimportant
trained to work
not carry kings
—let alone the Kings of kings
and yet you've chosen me
to carry you in triumph
in this world's parade.

King Jesus
Keep me small
so all may see
how great you are
keep me humble
so all may say
Blessed is he who cometh in the name
of the Lord
not what a great ass he rides.

-Joe Bayly

<http://www.baylyblog.com/2009/04/a-psalm-for-palm-sunday.html>