

John 12:12-16

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!" Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

Yesterdays, we celebrated what we call “Palm Sunday” and we do so because it was the day that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and if you went to church yesterday, then I’m sure you probably heard a message about this.

But one aspect I want us to focus on today is verse 16, which says:

† *His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.*

Also of the same account in Matthew, where Matthew gives a more detailed description.

† *Matthew 21:6-11 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!" And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?" So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee."*

What I find interesting about this is that they had no idea who Jesus was, yet they “*cried out, saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!'*” Even some of these same people who were crying out these things, would by the end of the week be crying out; “*But they shouted, saying, 'Crucify Him, crucify Him!'*” **Luke 23:21**

But if you think about it, how many were in church yesterday because it was Palm Sunday, and they felt that they had to be there? They sang the songs and listened to the teaching, yet they still walked away not knowing Jesus. Or even other Sundays, how many hear about Jesus “*The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem*” yet have no idea who He is. Why, because they have no relationship with Him, other than maybe an hour and a half on Sunday. But they probably have the same relationship, if not better, with their favorite TV sitcom, and they know the actors and the players and they can’t

wait for next week to see what's going to happen next. What's even sadder is that some people have these, 30 minute to an hour relation with a TV sitcom and the actors, to the point that they know a lot more about him or her and what's going on in the sitcom, then they do about Jesus and the bible.

There are even some Christians that have that same type of relationship with an actor or actress or musician, and they know more about him or her then they do about Jesus. They will sing their songs, or faithfully watch their TV shows or movies, even though they know the sinful lifestyle that the actors or musicians live, yet they actually worship him or her, and I can say that because they know more about them then they know about Jesus. So Palm Sunday roles around and afterwards Easter, then at the end of the year, Christmas, and they know the holidays, and what they mean, but they really don't know the one who is to be worshipped, Jesus; Therefore, Jesus comes into the church and people sing the songs to Him, yet they do not know Him.

- † *At GOD's coming we face hard reality, not fantasy— a black cloud with no silver lining. "I can't stand your religious meetings. I'm fed up with your conferences and conventions. I want nothing to do with your religion projects, your pretentious slogans and goals. I'm sick of your fund-raising schemes, your public relations and image making. I've had all I can take of your noisy ego-music. When was the last time you sang to me? Amos 5:20-23 (MSG)*

- † *The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings. Jeremiah 17:9-10*

- † *And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13*