



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE // PART 17 (Ch. 19)

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Damascus Road Community Church April 4-5, 2020

SERMON NOTES:

While the people were listening to these things, Jesus proceeded to tell a parable, because He was near to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately.
~ Luke 19:11 (NET)

Jesus is not the Messiah king His people expected. He is not the ruler who glories in his power, avoiding labor and suffering while reaping the rewards of others’ work.

But when the tenants saw him, they said to one another,
‘This is the heir; let’s kill him so the inheritance will be ours!’
So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.
~ Luke 20:14-15 (NET)

Rather Jesus is the son of the generous and patient vineyard owner, who is killed by rebellious tenants when He appeals to them to fulfill their covenant obligation.

He sent two of the disciples, telling them, “Go to the village ahead of you. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied there that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say, ‘The Lord needs it.’...Then they brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and had Jesus get on it. As He rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As He approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of His disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen: ***“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”***

~ Luke 19:29-38 (NET)

Jesus comes in humility rather than splendor.

His entry does not imitate Caesar, but rather is characteristic of the humble servant king in Isaiah 53 and Zechariah 9.

Jesus’ entry to Jerusalem encompasses both celebration and mourning.

He accepts the acclaim of His people but also weeps in anticipation of the suffering that is to come.

Jesus is the King who suffers with and for His people, rather than standing harshly aloof.

As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it and said, “If you, even you, ***had only known*** on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.”

~ Luke 19:41-42 (NIV)

Jesus’ weeping over Jerusalem gives us permission to feel our current situation. It gives us permission to identify with our hurting community.

As a matter of fact, if we aren’t hurting with others, it might be speaking about our lack of compassion for others, or the fact that we have turned our eyes only towards us and our need.

For to weep and hurt for others is to be like Jesus.

Where, we ask, is God in the tragedy?

The Christian will say, He's right there! He's right here with me.
Right there with you! He's Immanuel: God with us.

This is one of the things that sets Christianity apart from any other religion. Christianity teaches that God suffered. He entered the world and suffered. He's not aloof to it or a stranger to it. He suffered. He wept. He took it upon Himself. He cares enough to identify Himself with your pain!

Because God in Jesus took flesh, He knows how you feel.

Jesus comes to you, riding on a donkey, lowly and humble. That means He is accessible, approachable. He endured the cross for the joy of you coming to know Him.

Because Jesus knows how you feel, it means that He can strengthen you no matter what you're going through. It means that He's with you in your highest, most joyous moments. And He is with you when you are in the gutter.

Our life has both highs and lows, just like the story of the entry to Jerusalem. We both **celebrate** the knowledge that our king has come and He reigns, while also mourning the **shadow** of death because we still live in the shadows of the kingdoms of the world.

We live each day secure in the love of the servant king who celebrates with us in the highs and weeps with us in the lows.

And we look forward to the resurrection we **KNOW** is coming,
because He already rose.

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE PAGE

Each small group is different.
Feel free to adjust and use what best fits your group.

WARM UP:

- Share whether or not you have ridden a donkey or a horse, and how that experience was for you?
- How has Jesus surprised you? What have you learned in your walk with Him that was different from your understanding or expectations before you became a Christian?

ENGAGE:

- What was most impactful to you from this weekend's service?
- Read through Luke 19. Did you notice anything new in anything you read that you had not seen before?

APPLY:

- What do you have to celebrate right now? Where can you see God's provision and new life breaking into your life??
- What are you mourning this week?
- Spend some time each day focusing on the events of Holy Week and the coming resurrection.

PRAY:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to walk with you this week in both comfort for mourning and also to point you toward joy and hope. Ask for His guidance to know when to make space for mourning and when to consciously turn toward celebration and thanksgiving. Ask for His help in learning to balance these two realities.

GOING DEEPER:

- Suggested resource – *Luke for Everyone* by N.T. Wright
- *Luke*, F. Scott Spencer, Eerdmans, 2019