



April 9, 2017
Celebration · 9:00 am
Elevation · 11:00 am
Pastor Eric Wakeling

Misplaced Expectations John 12:9-19

The Four Accounts of Palm Sunday:

- Mathew 21:1-11
- Mark 11:1-12
- Luke 19:29-48
- John 12:9-19

Who did they expect Jesus to be in this moment?

"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel." John 12:13b

- **The crowds** - They looked to Jesus as an earthly king and deliverer from the Roman occupation

"Hosanna" is the transliteration of a Hebrew phrase that means "give salvation now." Psalm 118:25-26

The Jews of Jesus' day regarded the phrase "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" as referring to Messiah. Originally it referred to pilgrims who went to Jerusalem for the feasts and, perhaps in the first instance, to the Davidic king whose coronation the psalmist wrote the psalm to honor. "Even the King of Israel" is not in Psalm 118. It was the people's identification of Jesus as the Messiah.

Palm branches were a symbol of victory, triumph, kingship and even a symbol of the zealots in their desire to overthrow the Romans. The waving of date palm fronds had become a common practice at national celebrations in Israel. Palm fronds had become a symbol of nationalistic hope. They appear on the coins that the Jewish nationalists produced during the war with the Romans in A.D. 66-70. Used on this occasion, they probably signaled popular belief that Israel's Messiah had appeared.

Apocryphal writings on the palm as a symbol of victory over occupying force:

1. Maccabees 13:51 - On the twenty-third day of the second month, in the one hundred seventy-first year, the Jews entered it with praise and palm branches, and with harps and cymbals and stringed instruments, and with hymns and songs, because a great enemy had been crushed and removed from Israel.
2. Maccabees 10:7 - Therefore, carrying ivy-wreathed wands and beautiful branches and also fronds of palm, they offered hymns of thanksgiving to him who had given success to the purifying of his own holy place.

- **The disciples** - they responded with obedience to Jesus as Messiah, but were confused about why they were doing it
- **The religious leaders** - They rejected Jesus because He was a threat to their power
John 6:15 - "So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone."

What was this moment actually about?

"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour?' But for this purpose I came to this hour." John 12:27

- Conquering King or Suffering Servant?

Who do you expect Jesus to be and what do you expect of Him?

"He (Jesus) said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" Matthew 16:15-16

- Jesus is the King. John 18:33-37
 - How does Jesus' kingship affect our response to Him?
What does Jesus being our King mean for our everyday lives?
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Next Steps:

Reach out and invite someone to join you for these events during Easter Week.

- April 9 - Passion Week through Jewish Eyes 6:00 pm | Fellowship Hall
- April 13 - Passover Seder 6:00 pm | Fellowship Hall Register at calvarylife.org/Passover
- April 14 - Good Friday Communion 7:00 pm | Worship Center
- April 15 - Easter Egg Hunt Outreach 9:00 am | Cabrillo Park
- April 16 - Easter Sunday 6:00 am + 9:00 am + 11:00 am

Learn more about all these events at calvarylife.org/easter

LifeGroup Discussion:

1. Why did the crowd misunderstand Jesus' purpose?
2. How have you had misplaced expectations on Jesus?
What do you think God thinks about your everyday circumstances?
3. Share about something in your life that you could lay down at the feet of Jesus' to surrender fully to His kingship.