

Worshiped

Mar. 28, 2021

Luke 19:29-40

“To worship is to declare someone’s worthiness to receive adoration and allegiance (Lifeway).” God created humanity to worship Him, which means giving Him the ultimate priority and wholehearted obedience. Abraham was one of the first-mentioned instances of offering worship to God (Genesis 22:5).



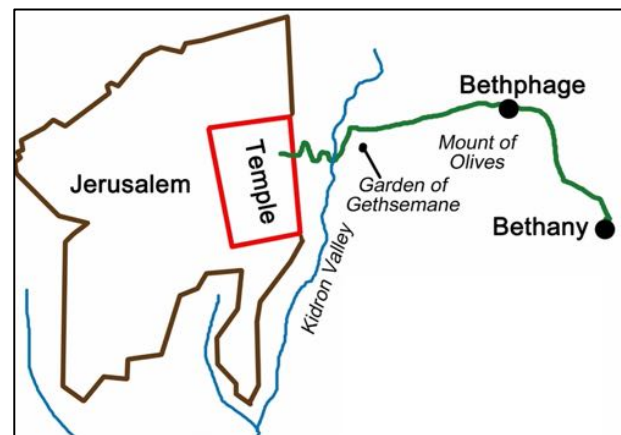
Over the past few weeks, we’ve studied the parables. Now our attention turns toward the final week of Jesus’ life. This lesson focuses on Jesus’ journey to the cross. This is the only time Jesus permits the people to worship Him, fulfilling the prophecy found in Zachariah 9:9. This passage is also known as The Triumphal Entry.

Going up to Jerusalem, Jesus planned every detail regarding His entrance on Palm Sunday. Two disciples were given specific instructions to go ahead to the village. They left, found the colt tied exactly where Jesus said, and answered the question as Jesus directed, “*The Lord has need of it.*” Being led on the colt down the Mount of Olives, the entire crowd “*began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice.*” Jesus was being honored and celebrated as their Messiah and King.

The key aspect of today’s lesson is that Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah — the Son of David and the Son of God. Is He Worthy? He Is! The Only One! [excerpts from *Laura Lee Leathers*]

Obey (Luke 19:29-34)

- Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem is in all Gospels, see Matt. 21:1-13; Mark 11:1-11; and John 12:12-19.
- Luke records Jesus journey with His disciples as he neared Bethpage and Bethany (see map).
 - Bethany, the hometown of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha was about 2 miles from Jerusalem.
 - Other Gospels record Jesus having dinner with Simon the leper in Bethany.
- Jesus sent two of His disciples into the village (most likely Bethpage) with specific instructions:
 - “***Ye shall find a colt, whereon yet never man has sat; loose him and bring him hither.***”
 - “***If any man ask you ... say unto him, because the Lord hath need of him***”
 - Since Jesus had passed through the area before, the owners of the colt likely knew Him.
- The disciples did not question Jesus, “***they that were sent went their way***” and found everything as Jesus said. The word “sent” is the basis for the word “apostle”. We can trust Jesus with confidence. We are called to obey His commands in our daily lives.
- **But why a donkey?** Answer: A king rode a horse in times of war and a donkey in times of peace. Jesus came into Jerusalem in peace. (see Zechariah 9:9)
- When asked, the disciples simply stated what Jesus had told them “***The Lord hath need of him.***” Their explicit obedience testified to their faith in Christ.
 - **Why do believers hesitate to obey the Lord?**
 - **How are obedience and worship related?**



Praise (Luke 19:35-38)

- The disciples did not delay executing their mission.
 - **“Brought him to Jesus”**
- The act of **“casting their garments upon the colt”** provided protection for the rider and the colt.
- The Mount of Olives is about 200 feet higher than Jerusalem and offers a breathtaking view.
 - **“As He went”** - Jesus descent down the mountain toward Jerusalem was accompanied by adoration by His disciples. Not just the twelve, but perhaps hundreds of disciples gathered and spread their garments along the path. Others cut branches from trees and laid them along the road.
- **“the whole multitude of disciples rejoiced and praised God with a loud voice”**
 - For some time, Jesus had cautioned His disciples that the time was not yet come to reveal that He is the Messiah. Now the time had come, and the people rejoiced in loud song.
 - Jesus entered Jerusalem not as a conquering general but as the humble Son of Man who would lay down His life for sinners.
 - He was also declaring Himself to be the promised Son of David who would rule forever.
- **“Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord”**
 - **“Peace in Heaven ... glory in the highest”** – Believers should worship Jesus for His miraculous deeds. He transforms sinners into saints. His blessings do not cease.
 - We too must join the chorus of praise for the One who loves us and gave Himself for us.
- **In what ways do you express praise for the Lord?**



Worthy (Luke 19:39-40)

- Pharisees and other religious leaders no doubt heard the loud praise and worship of Jesus’ disciples. A crowd of this size would not go unnoticed by religious leaders on Passover week.
- Not all but **“some of the Pharisees ... said unto Him, Master, rebuke thy disciples”**
 - These pharisees demanded Jesus to denounce His disciples for praising Him.
 - They demanded Jesus to reject the people’s assertions about Him.
 - **“Master”** - They could not bring themselves to calling him King or Lord or even Rabbi.
- **“I tell you”** - Jesus answered the Pharisees’ challenges bluntly and firmly.
- If these people **“should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.”**
 - Even inanimate objects recognize their creator. People should praise God!
- The key aspect of this verse is that Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah – the Son of God.
 - He was claiming divinity by accepting the praise and worship of His disciples and proved it in His resurrection.
- Jesus is worthy of worship as Lord of all creation.
- Our natural response to salvation should be to worship Jesus.
- **What makes someone worthy of respect?**
- **What makes someone worthy of praise and worship?**

Biblical Truth:

Jesus is worthy of our worship and praise.

“For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.” Romans 11:36

