

Palm Sunday

Jesus' Triumphal Entry

2023

Zechariah prophesied Jesus' triumphal entry as the King of Israel. It was not as a conquering hero, but as a humble man.

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, **thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.**

Daniel prophesied when Jesus would present Himself as King of Israel. The countdown started when the people from the kingdom of Judah (the southern kingdom) were sent back to Jerusalem to rebuild the city, the temple and the wall after their 70-year captivity in Babylon. "Weeks" in this verse refers to a seven year, and not seven day, period.

Daniel 9:25

Know therefore and understand, **that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two**

weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

There are Old Testament examples in Israel of leaders who presented themselves in peace, riding on asses.

The following passage refers to Deborah, the only woman ever to be a judge in Israel, and her husband Barak. After conquering the Canaanites (referred to as “delivered from the noise of archers,”) there is peace, (referred to as “places of drawing water where they rehearse the righteous acts of the Lord.”) They led captivity captive, paraded the conquered people, and now, she and her husband come in peace to reign.

Judges 5:9-13

My heart is toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the LORD. **Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way.** They that are delivered from the noise of archers in **the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the**

LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of his villages in Israel: then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates. Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and **lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.** Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: **the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.**

Jair, another judge in Israel, had his 30 sons, each ride an ass colt into 30 cities over which he was judge. It appears that he wanted to convey his peaceful reign as a judge.

Judges 10:3-5

And after him arose **Jair**, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years. **And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havothjair unto this day,** which are in the land of Gilead. And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.

Another judge, Abdon, had 40 sons and 30 nephews and they rode on 70 ass colts!

Judges 12:13-14

And after him **Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel. And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts:** and he judged Israel eight years.

King David had his son Solomon ride David's own mule to show him as the new ruler. Solomon would be a type of David's son Jesus coming on an ass to rule.

1 Kings 1:32-35

And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king. The king also said unto them, **Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon:** And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet **anoint him there king over Israel: and blow ye with the trumpet, and say, God save king Solomon.** Then ye shall come up after him, that he may come and sit upon my throne; for he shall be king in my stead: and I

have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.

Jesus' coming as David's son to be King of Israel was prophesied many times.

Isaiah 9:6-7

For **unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.** Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, **upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.** The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Psalm 118:22-26

The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. **This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.** Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.

Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.

Peter reminded faithful Israel of the covenant that God made with King David.

Acts 2:29-32

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of **the patriarch David**, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, **that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;** He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Jesus constantly told the Jews that the promised kingdom, which He would rule as the Son of David, was at hand.

Matthew 3:2

And saying, Repent ye: **for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: **for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 9:35

And **Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom,** and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Jesus told His disciples to tell everyone that the Kingdom had come.

Matthew 10:7

And as ye go, preach, saying, **The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 12:28

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, **then the kingdom of God is come unto you.**

The people who followed Jesus throughout His earthly ministry were ready when He presented Himself as King.

Luke 19:29-44

And it came to pass, when he was come nigh to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount called the mount of Olives, **he sent two of his disciples, Saying, Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat:** loose him, and bring him hither. And if any man ask you, Why do ye loose him? thus shall ye say unto him, Because the Lord hath need of him. And they that were sent went their way, and found even as he had said unto them. And as they were loosing the colt, the owners thereof said unto them, Why loose ye the colt? And they said, The Lord hath need of him. **And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon. And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way.** And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, **the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had**

seen; Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

Did you ever wonder why this celebration—of Jesus coming into His kingdom—seemed to come to an abrupt halt in every gospel account? Luke’s account tells us why.

Instead of acknowledging Him as King, the Pharisees told Jesus to rebuke His disciples for celebrating Him as the rightful King of Israel. Jesus told them that what He was doing was so powerful that if His disciples did not acknowledge Him as the long-awaited perfect ruler, the creation would do it.

Luke 19:39-40

And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

After He was rejected by the Jewish leadership, instead of proceeding with setting up His

Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth, Jesus went where He had a view of the city of Jerusalem and wept over it. The Jewish leaders had rejected their Messiah and the Kingdom. Jesus prophesied that Jerusalem and the temple would, once again, be destroyed. Jesus' prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem.

Luke 19:41-44

And when he was come near, **he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day,** the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For **the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another;** because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

In Matthew, Jesus is recorded as placing the blame with the scribes and Pharisees. They took

the Kingdom of Heaven (on the earth) from Israel and would not be going in, either.

Matthew 23:13

But woe unto you, **scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.**

Later in the same chapter, Jesus compares Israel to chicks that He, as a mother hen, would love to gather to Himself. However, He would honor their rejection and not return until they acknowledge Him as their Messiah and King and call for Him to return.

Matthew 23:37-39

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, **how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!** Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, **Ye shall not see me henceforth,**

till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

This is also found in the Old Testament. Hosea prophesied that Jesus would return to His place (at the right hand of His Father in Heaven) until the Jews repent and call on Him to return.

Hosea 5:14-15

For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him. **I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.**

God will punish Israel for seven years for disobeying His Law—just as He told them He would—when He gave the Law to Moses to give to Israel. During this tribulation, Israel as a nation, will acknowledge their offence and call on Jesus Christ to return.

Leviticus 26:18

And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

Jesus will come back—when Israel calls on Him—as a conqueror, to do battle with Satan and all the forces of evil that followed after him.

Revelation 19:11-16

And I saw heaven opened, and **behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.** His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. **And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations:** and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he

hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

This time, as a conquering King, Jesus will be riding a horse.

Revelation 19:19

And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.