**Proclaim His Entrance (Luke 19:28-40)**

Jesus is coming to your Jerusalem, which is your heart; what is your response? Greetings dear disciples of Jesus as we rejoice today in remembering His entry into Jerusalem as well as His entrance into our lives. Very often, when this event is studied, inadequate time is spent on the expressions coming from His followers and the Pharisees present. People don’t realize that this entrance is a perfect picture of the world’s response to the question of who Jesus is, in addition to the fact that this event is an encouraging call (for us) to join the apostles and enter into our spiritual Jerusalem, which is our spirit, along with Jesus. There, He must be allowed to rule as King over us. Therefore, today, we are going to both be saddened and rejoice. We will be saddened by the Pharisees and their blind stance towards Jesus, and we’ll rejoice with the disciples, whose declaration invites us, in turn, to proclaim Jesus’ entrance to every person. Jesus is coming to your Jerusalem, which is your heart; what is your response? Let us speak, then, about this picture which opens up before us through this passage…

The true spiritual state of the world is that Jesus approaches and expects a response from every soul. Today’s passage is interesting because of how clearly it depicts Jesus’ Messianic entrance into Jerusalem. Jesus, by Divine pre-arrangement is seated on a colt of a donkey which had not been ridden before. In other words, the animal was still “pure”; it could be used for religious purposes. Jesus was presenting His Messiah, in other words, His Anointed Savior-King status by coming into the city sitting on the colt. In the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9, it is described that the King who would enter Jerusalem would come on a colt of a donkey, meek, just, and as a savior. The Lord (Jesus) wanted to express to everyone that He was, in fact, that King. The ordinary people began laying their cloaks on the road in front of Him. This was out of homage and allegiance to Him. The apostles started to proclaim that “The King who came in the name of the Lord was blessed”. If it had been an ordinary pilgrim, they could have still said, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” But Luke remembers this important detail. And just as they were proclaiming peace and God’s glory because of Jesus’ entrance, we see the other side of the picture. Jesus was entering Jerusalem - *which had already rejected Him*. **Here we have pictures of two groups: one was rejoicing; the other rejecting blindly.** The true spiritual state of the world is that Jesus approaches and expects a response from every soul.

Someone once said, “The trouble oftentimes with religious people is that they try to be more spiritual than God himself.”

So, what of us? The two pictures are clear: the disciples could not stay quiet because of their joy; when the Pharisees, who were the leaders of today’s unbelievers, tried to quiet them down, Jesus completed the true picture with his answer. Not even the stones would be able to keep quiet. The truth is that Jesus’ followers and all of nature praises the Lord, while those who reject Jesus condemn themselves with their own deeds and words. The whole of creation, even the stones glorify the Lord, along with the disciples.

If you or I keep quiet, the stones will continue to praise the Lord by their existence and their nature. Jesus established that it was right for the disciples to praise Him as Messiah in answering the Pharisees. Today, you and I are called not simply to be bystanders, but to glorify Jesus in His entrance, not only of Jerusalem, where He would enter to cleanse the physical Temple, but also our spiritual Temple, which are our hearts, and has cleansed us and given us a new life. Today, if you have been cleansed and have accepted the Lord, you and all of creation glorify the Lord together as He continues to bring people to Himself and given them new life.

Therefore, come and let us decide together that even if important people in our lives reject the Lord, whether they be in our workplaces, our neighborhoods, our homes or our circles of influence, that we will not allow only the stones to praise the Lord by themselves; but rather, you, along with all the stones and all of creation together will proclaim the Lord Jesus as Messiah and King and glorify Him.

The true spiritual state of the world is that Jesus approaches and expects a response from every soul. Jesus is coming to your Jerusalem, which is your heart; what is your response?

May God give us the courage not to stay quiet, but rather to always declare the entrance of our King into our lives, no matter who is hearing us. The Lord Bless You All. Amen.