**Exemplary Humility**

 *As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,* ***2****saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me.* ***3****If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”*

***4****This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:*

***5****“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”****6****The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them.* ***7****They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on.* ***8****A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.* ***9****The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”****10****When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”****11****The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.” (Matthew 21:1-11, ESV)*

 The Lord Jesus Christ humbly enters our life’s Jerusalem.

 Greetings in the name of the Lord on this beautiful celebration, as we commemorate our Lord’s entrance into Jerusalem and the high point of His life. Jesus entered the city humbly – there’s no doubt about it. That humility, even today, has a spiritual meaning and application for us today. I think of, for example, the Lord’s daily work with us personally. How does the Lord “enter” our lives? What kind of respect (if any) do we show Him as He enters? With these kinds of questions in mind, today we’re going to be talking about the way the Lord enters, participates, and works. Primarily, we’re going to see that even though He was worthy of infinitely more, that the Lord Jesus Christ entered and even enters today humbly into Jerusalem, which was the center for faith expression back then, and representative of our own personal faith “center”, our hearts, today. Let’s talk, then, about that humility.

 The entrance of the Son of God into your life happens every day if you recognize it and allow it to happen. God entered history through the human being Jesus Christ. God entered history as a human being with all the feelings, difficulties, and various challenges that a human being normally has. However, God through Jesus never changed his *modus operandi* - God’s personality always remain the same – driven by love, by absolute justice, by absolute internal unity and authority. Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem was God the Father’s entrance into the heart of His people, as unprepared for it as they were. We know that they were not ready, because even in our passage, they considered Jesus as a prophet. We know that they were unprepared for God’s visitation because when we read beyond our passage, we see that they did not accept his cleansing of the Temple. God entered the heart of the people of Israel on Palm Sunday, and Israel was not ready for it, even though He entered humbly, and that He did “house cleaning” for them – something that they should have done a long time ago.

 If He wanted to and had set it up, Jesus could have, for example, just as Roman generals that were awarded “triumphs” from their Senate, worn a laurel crown, a gold and purple robe, and even perhaps gotten a chariot with four horses, given his connections and healings that he had done for centurions. He could have changed His focus and had an overtly politically correct entrance. The Lord, however, never stepped outside His personality, calling, or humility, even in His cleansing of the Temple.

 Today we need to ask ourselves: in what way has the Lord made an entrance into our lives? Also, do we recognize His knocking on the door of our hearts? If the Lord Jesus was sacrificed on the Cross and our Risen Lord, then how is His relationship with us individually? How does He daily “enter” into our souls, into our “Jerusalem”? Could it be that we have demoted Him down to a mere prophet? Could it be that we get offended at Him when He comes in and topples our business tables and smashes our idols to pieces?

 Today we are called to realize that the Lord desires to make an entrance into our Jerusalem-s, our spiritual lives, every day, just as He did on Palm Sunday. If He is Lord and Savior, are we open to His entrances? Do we recognize Him as Lord over all our life activities, or only for two hours on Sundays? Is Jesus Lord over ALL our life, or only a temporary guest? May the Holy Spirit awaken us to consider these questions… May our Lord be the true Lord and Ruler of our whole life, and may He be free to make an entrance into and among us every day. The entrance of the Son of God happens in your life every day, if you recognize it and allow it to happen. However, that entrance is usually a humble one – it remains up to us as to how we approach Him as He arrives. May the Lord Bless You all. Amen.