

TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Daniel Balch /Opening Prayer by: Ken Coleman

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Shannon Smith

#989 Soon & Very Soon

#453 Love Lifted Me

Scripture Reading by: Parker Balch

#76 How Great Thou Art

Lord's Supper and Contribution

#904 Have You Been to Jesus?

Sermon: "The Triumphal Entry"

Luke 19:36-38

#945 Kneel at the Cross

#851 I'll Fly Away

Closing Prayer by: Phillip Cottle

Welcome by: Daniel Balch

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Shannon Smith

#452 Standing on the Promises

#23 Our God, He Is Alive

Scripture Reading: Cameron Cantu

Prayer by: David Smith

#71 As the Deer

Sermon: "The Means of Renewal"

Jeremiah 6:16

#349 Ten Thousand Angels

#523 I Know the Lord Will Find a Way

Closing Prayer by: Kelly McCain

Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

Wednesday: 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

March 25, 2018

"Stand Firm in...Liberty"

Galatians 5:1

So Why the "Triumphal Entry"?

In doing some reading this week, I stumbled upon a bulletin article by Kyle Sanders, minister of the Chiefland Church of Christ in Chiefland, Florida. It connected our sermon last week to our subject this morning in such a direct way that I felt compelled to simply reprint it here, to sort of fill in the gaps of the larger story we are telling. It has been abridged and edited slightly for style, but the content is his, not mine. BP

The "Triumphal Entry" of Jesus into Jerusalem is included in all four gospel accounts. In each of these, we find Jesus riding into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey, with the crowds shouting "Hosanna" and laying down their cloaks and palm branches in the road in front of Him. In short, they spoke and acted as if the *King of Israel* were entering the city (**John 12:13**).

The reader, however, is left with one essential question: why? Why all the fanfare? Yes, the manner of Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem had been prophesied long before: *Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt (Zechariah 9:9)*. But Jesus fulfilled several prophecies without so much as a batted eye from the general public. Luke's gospel tells us that, *the whole multitude of His disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen (Luke 19:37)*. But Jesus had performed numerous miracles without this sort of commotion in the past.

John's account provides the answer. There was one sign that was greater than all the rest, that was undeniable and proclaimed widely among the people: the raising of Lazarus. John spends a great deal of time in **John 11** convincing us of the certainty of Lazarus' death. He had been in the tomb for 4 days and had started to stink; his sisters were grief-stricken; even Jesus wept at his tomb. Again and again, John hammers home that Lazarus is dead. We know how the story goes from here – Lazarus is raised from the dead – but it's what follows that is very compelling.

If **John 11** is spent trying to convince us of Lazarus' death, **John 12** does the complete opposite: Lazarus is alive. In fact, the Jewish leadership *made plans to put Lazarus to death* precisely because his raising had caused many people to believe in Jesus (**John 12:10; cf. 11:45**).

Family News & Notes

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Privilege to Serve
Sunday, Mar. 25th

Our Sick

Dana Wiggins is taking chemo treatments.
Doris Trahan is taking radiation treatments.
Frances Petree is in Fall Creek Rehab, room 602 in Humble.

Continued Prayers

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, James Scott, Gary Nielsen, Harold Cryer, Gerald Lucy, Steve Ward, Teresa McKewen, Jackie David, Patricia Padon, Frank & Tina Garcia, Ronnie Davis, Bill Lunceford, Phillip Cottle, Eric Davis, J. P. Williams, Stacie Copeland, Wayne Howser, Jo Ella McKewen

Shut Ins

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Pauline Taylor, Winona Angelle, Pat Henley, Myrtle Sheffield, Ronnie Rubit, Ouida Cauthorn, Joe Leonard

Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa,
Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

Plastic Bags

The Food Bank is in need of plastic grocery bags. A barrel is in the foyer.

Upcoming Activities

Elders, Minister home visits Monday, March 26th at 5:30 pm.

We are having a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, April 3rd at 9:00 am.

Family Egg Hunt for all ages, Saturday, March 31st at 11:00 am on the church grounds. There will be hot dogs, chips and drinks. For more information see Susan McCain.

Please Add

Please add Dr. Ronald & Ollie Davis to your directory. Their address is: 26 Enchanted Lane, Dayton, TX 77535, phone# 936-258-4560.

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Ken Coleman	Daniel Balch	Bryant Perkins
Bob Parker	Danny Balch	
Bobby Rader	Shannon Smith	
Don Taylor	Phillip Strickhausen	
Robert Ward		

Communion Preparation: Judy Jones
Nursery Attendants: Pat Hobbs
Children's Bible Hour: Daisy Cary
Teen Helpers: Addie David

Communion Preparation for Sunday, Apr. 1st: Marsha LaFour
Nursery Attendants for Sunday, Apr. 1st: Lynette Ward, Debra Faneros
Children's Bible Hour for Sunday, Apr. 1st: Susan McCain

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Thus, Jesus' raising of Lazarus from the dead is largely responsible for the celebration of His arrival in Jerusalem. *The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. (John 12:17-18).* And no greater cause to celebrate could be imagined even today: Jesus raises the dead back to life! If this does not give us cause to celebrate and motivation to spread the good news about Jesus Christ, we need to revisit the gospel accounts and rediscover who Jesus is!

Jesus entered Jerusalem like a conquering king, having just demonstrated His superiority over physical death in the raising of Lazarus from the dead. But He had one thing more to accomplish, one final act that would leave all other events in human history shivering and awestruck in the vast cold shadow of its magnificence: he would conquer Death itself, as the prophets foretold. *And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. (Isaiah 25:7-8)*

"Stand Firm in...Liberty"

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