

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

*Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11;
Luke 19:28-48; John 12:12-19*



BIBLE VERSE COMMITTING TO MEMORY

Luke 19:40

I tell you, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.



January 8, 2012



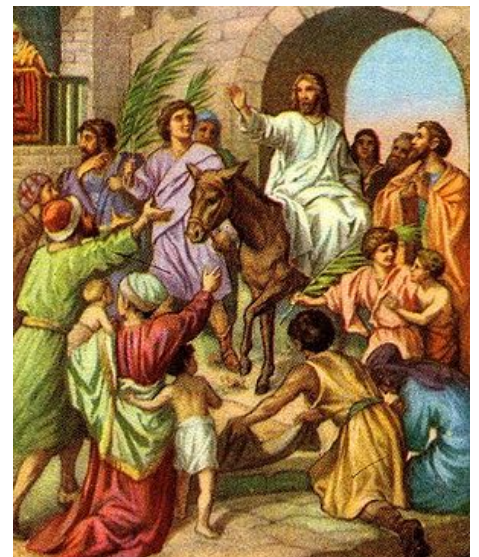
STORY LESSON BIBLE STORY

When 21st century readers interact with this story they think:

“Cool! Jesus rides on a donkey.
They think he is God, great!
Into Jerusalem Jesus goes.
The Pharisees get mad, shame on them.
Go Jesus!!”

What we modern readers do not realize is that riding into Jerusalem on a donkey while people laid their cloaks along the road and waved palm branches, was a KINGLY procession, or inauguration.

What this was saying was Jesus is a King. This flew in the face of King Herod, Caesar of the Roman Empire, and the “ruling” Pharisees and Sadducees. Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on a donkey was communicating: “**I am The King... The Messiah... The Anointed One... The Christ.**”

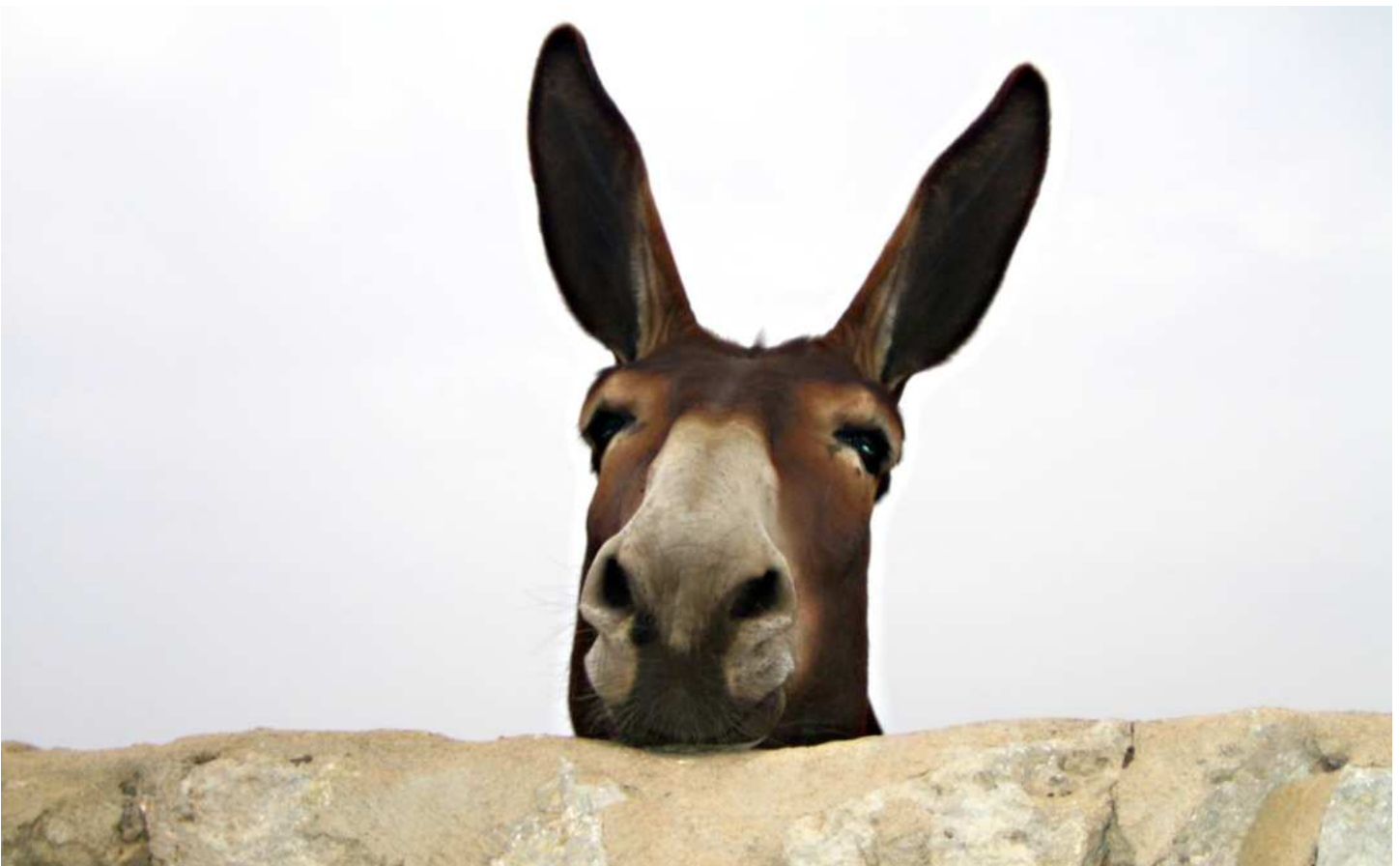


This is why the Pharisees told Jesus to rebuke his followers for what they were saying: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" (Luke 19:38). Jesus told the Pharisees that if his followers did not continue to praise, then the rocks would cry out in praise!

When Jesus was approaching Jerusalem, he wept over the city because he was sad for it. If only it had accomplished what God had intended it to accomplish. And Jesus also knew the anguish that he was eventually going to endure in that very city on behalf of the people of Israel, thus the world.

When he arrived in the Temple he was angry and drove out the moneychangers and those selling goods because: "my house will be a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of robbers" (Luke 19:46).

Jesus taught at the Temple and everyone but the chief priests and teachers of the law hung on every word.





LIFE APPLICATION

MAKING IT REAL

Who's Your KING?

Jesus is a King, but he is not the ONLY king. There are many other kings in this world. Kings like: money, fame, things, selfishness, revenge, etc. Eventually the people who waved palm branches when Jesus rode on a donkey into Jerusalem were the same people who later shouted: "Crucify him! Crucify him!" At one point Jesus was their king, but he did not stay their king. They chose a different king to rule their hearts.

The question for each of us every single day of our lives is this: Who is the KING of my heart?



QUESTIONS

REMEMBERING

- 1. What was Jesus riding on?** A donkey
- 2. What city was Jesus riding into?** Jerusalem
- 3. What were the people waving around?** Palm branches
- 4. What were the people laying down on the ground?** Their cloaks
- 5. What does riding into Jerusalem on a donkey mean?** It was a KINGLY procession
- 6. What did Jesus do in the Temple?** He threw out the money-changers and those selling goods
- 7. What did Jesus do in the Temple after cleansing it of those trying to make money off of God's people?** He taught



COLORING SHEET

ON THE NEXT PAGE



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