

Matthew 21:1-11

3 Confirmations Of Jesus' Kingship



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Background/Context

- Author: Former tax collector, Matthew (also called Levi)
- Audience: Primarily Jewish audience (written 50-60 AD)
- Occasion: This event is recorded in all 4 Gospels and details the beginning of the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry before the Crucifixion
- Key Focus: Jesus enters Jerusalem (during Passover) on a donkey in fulfillment of Scripture, publicly declaring He is the Messiah and King of kings

Absolute Accuracy Of His Word

- (vv. 1-6) All through this event strong emphasis on the perfect accuracy of God's instructions and word
- 2 Disciples (possibly Peter and John) given instructions for preparing for Passover; go into town and bring donkey and her baby
- Disciples find Jesus' words exactly like He said, down to smallest detail
- Matthew shows Jesus fulfilled Zechariah 9:9; this just one of many, many prophecies Jesus fulfilled perfectly

- John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth; Your word is truth.”
- Ps. 12:6, “The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.”



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Acceptance Of Others' Worship

- (vv. 7-9) When Jesus entered Jerusalem on the colt, the people knew what He was declaring
- Crowd immediately began to celebrate and worship!
- Spread clothes on road, cut branches and waved them, shouted out loudly (Psalm 118:25-26)
- Hosanna – “Save now”; the people saw Jesus as their Savior
- Jesus heard the peoples' worship: He accepted it, agreed with it, and didn't stop it

- Matt. 14:33, “Then those who were in the boat came and **WORSHIPPED** Him, saying, ‘Truly You are the Son of God.’”
- Matt. 8:2, “And behold, a leper came and **WORSHIPPED** Him, saying, ‘Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.’”
- “He (Jesus) is either Lord, liar, or a lunatic; we have no other options....”



Different Assessments Of His Worth

- (vv. 10-11) Jerusalem crowded (possibly 2 to 2 ½ million people) during Passover
- Whole city, “moved” – “same word as earthquakes in NT”
- Crowds shouted, “Praise Him, Praise Him” and in just a few days changed and shouted, “Crucify Him, Crucify Him”
- The crowds were looking for Warrior King who would deliver them from Rome; Jesus came to die on the Cross to provide salvation from sin and death
- Jesus came on a donkey, not a war horse; this time He was the Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53): the next time He will reign and rule

- Philippians 2:8-11, “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- Revelation 19:16, “And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”



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