

**THE GOSPEL STORY**  
**Lessons Learned from a Donkey Ride**  
**John 12:12-19**

**Three Lessons Learned from a Donkey Ride:**

**Lesson 1: Jesus is more attractive than religion (John 12:12-13)**

- Religion always emphasizes the outward, Jesus always emphasizes the heart.
- Religion is about what you can't do, Jesus is about what you can do.
- Religion puts up barriers, Jesus tears down barriers.
- Religion says, "work your way," Jesus says, "I am the Way."

**Lesson 2: Scripture is more reliable than opinion (John 12:14-16)**

- Opinion said:
  - Jesus was not from God (John 9:16)
  - Jesus was a prophet (John 4:19)
  - Jesus was demon-possessed (John 10:20)
- Scripture says:
  - Jesus is the King (John 12:13-14; Psalm 118:26; Zechariah 9:9)
- Why did Jesus come into Jerusalem riding on a donkey?
  - The donkey affirmed His identity as their King (John 12:15).
  - The donkey ride indicated that the King comes to bring peace.

**Luke 19:41-44**

**Lesson 3: Following Jesus is more important than observing Jesus (John 12:16-19)**

- John records the responses of four groups of people:
  - The disciples (v.16)
  - The eye witnesses to Lazarus being raised from the dead (v.17)
  - Those that heard from the eye witnesses (v.18)
  - The religious leaders (v.19)