

“Passover, Palms & Passion - PART 1”

Intro:

- Lenten Series: “The Story of God, The Story of Us” - will be looking at key moments throughout Scripture, beginning to end, that show that it’s all ONE Story with a ‘scarlet cord’ of love running throughout it. Talked so far about:
 - Creation (Tree)
 - The Fall (Ladder)
 - The First Passover/Exodus (Door with Frame)
 - Exile (Isaiah 53 - ‘suffering servant’); Bible silent for 400 years
 - 2 weeks ago: The Birth of Jesus
 - Last Week: Life, Ministry & Teaching of Jesus
 - Today: Palm Sunday & the Last Supper that Jesus shares with the 12

Tension: Scarlet cord - start to see it all coming together - events of Holy Week, connections to where we have been; Jesus pays price for sin of man, old and new covenant coming together...scarlet cord...Both Palm Sunday & Last Supper tied in with Passover.

Matthew 21:1-5

- Further evidence the Bible is ONE story
- Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophecies found in our Old Testament
- In Matthew, there are 57 direct Scripture references to Torah (comprises the first 5 books of our Old Testament), various writings and the prophets, and in Matthew’s Gospel writing, illuminates the fact that Jesus ‘fulfills Torah’ - everything Jesus does - his parables, healings, actions, saying, birth, betrayal - all fulfill Torah writings and prophecy
 - Often read “This happened in order to fulfill x, y, z...”
 - Verse 4 says Jesus riding on donkey/colt is to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet, and in this case, it was the prophet Zechariah (chapter 9, verse 9)
 - A lot of Zechariah celebrates God’s defeat of Israel’s enemies, and the establishment of God’s Reign, which is underway in the Person of Jesus,
 - Scholars say that the fact the Messiah would ride in on a donkey - an everyday working beast - was a source of amusement for Gentiles, and Gentiles would mock the Jews
 - But fact that Messiah would not be riding in on a ‘mighty steed’ but on a donkey was synonymous with humility, which is a celebrated virtue of the KOG
 - SAY MORE ABOUT HUMILITY HERE?

Matthew 21:6-8

- V. 6= obedience
- While we know riding a donkey represents humility, why was there a donkey AND a colt?= Sling?
- Very large crowd
 - Shouting praises= beware (last week)
- Significance of Palms
 - In Leviticus, “palm fronds”(fern-like branches) were associated with rejoicing. Along with rejoicing, the palm branch has also been associated with victory. During the Triumphal Entry of Jesus, while He rode toward the city, a “great crowd that had come for the Feast(Passover). In Revelation, the redeemed are “standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. ...wearing white robes and...holding palm branches in their hands.”(Revelation 7:9)
 - Message: “Others cut branches from the trees and threw them down as a welcome mat.” -Palms = ‘branches of liberation!’
- In strewing their cloaks on the road, the people were giving Jesus the royal treatment

Matthew 21:9-11

- PASSION! When the people shouted "Hosanna!" they were hailing Christ as King. That word actually means "save now," and though in their own minds they waited for an earthly king, God had a different way in mind of bringing true salvation to all who would trust in Him.
- Man looked for someone to fight their battles in the present day world. Yet God had the ultimate plan of sending His Son to fight the final battle over death.
- In their praise of Jesus, the Jewish crowds were quoting [Psalm 118:25-26](#), an acknowledged prophecy of the Christ.
 - The allusion to a Messianic psalm drew resentment from the religious leaders present: "Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples!'" ([Luke 19:39](#)). However, Jesus saw no need to rebuke those who told the truth. He replied, "I tell you . . . if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out" ([Luke 19:40](#)).
- The WHOLE city was stirred
 - 'Shaken'; 'Agitated' - physically and mentally
 - In turmoil; 'Unnerved' - Who is this guy??-At the time of this Passover celebration, Jesus is *disruptive*; Jesus is still disruptive
- This is Jesus, the 'prophet' - we know He is much more than that!

"Passover, Palms & Passion - PART 2"

Matthew 26:17-19

- 'Certain man'
 - Specific man or just an unknown man?
- Jesus= messiah, Passover at YOUR house= wow (Zacchaeus)
- Other gospels= already prepared (Holy Spirit directed)
- Obedience

Matthew 26:20-25

- 'Intimacy of that time together; special night'; last meal - chose to spend it with them
- Jesus just hanging out with friends
- Judas, sad, evil, one of the 12, etc.
- In Matthew the title 'Rabbi / Teacher' was only used by 'outsiders'; Judas now becomes an 'outsider'; the title 'Lord' was used by 'insiders' / Disciples
- This was a potential turning point as Jesus confronts Judas, but Judas doesn't take the opportunity to confess his actions and restore his relationship with Jesus...do we?

Matthew 26:26

- Jesus' body would be broken like the bread, so that we can receive continued spiritual sustenance
- "Blessing" it= we do it every week"

Matthew 26:27-28

- Jesus' blood, represented by the wine, would be the eternal payment for our sin
 - Passover Lamb
- All who look to Jesus are forgiven through His blood shed on the Cross
- "New Covenant", continuation of Lord's desire to save and be in relationship = Scarlet cord
- Forgiveness of Sins

Matthew 26:29-30

- Singing!!!, response
- Quick overview of what happens next - not sure how much you want to include?: Gethsemane - Prayed in Anguish - Arrested (primary charge = blasphemy) - 'tried' - people given a chance to release Jesus, chose to release a Barabas instead - sentenced to be Crucified - whipped, beaten, spat on, clothes divided up...Simon of Cyrene helps to carry cross...Crucified...earthquake / Veil torn...John, see now your mother, Mary...breathed his last...speared to ensure dead...buried in tomb of a Pharisee...