

## WHO IS YOUR KING?

*The week before Jesus, Pilate, and Barabbas...*

- Jesus enters Jerusalem – Matthew 21:1-11
  - Find a donkey and colt and tell the owner, “*The Lord needs them.*” – Matthew 21:1-3

*Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,<sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.<sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”*

- This was to fulfill prophecy: Greatness isn’t always flashy - Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4-6

*This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,<sup>5</sup> “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’ ”<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.*

- The crowd is pumped - Matthew 21:7-11

*They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them.<sup>8</sup> Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.<sup>9</sup> And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”<sup>10</sup> And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?”<sup>11</sup> And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”*

- Religious leaders want Jesus to shut down the celebration – Luke 19:39-40

*And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.”<sup>40</sup> He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”*

\*Quote about the paucity of their own experience.

- Jesus weeps over Jerusalem – Luke 19:41

*And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it...*

Matthew 23:37–39

*“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!<sup>38</sup> See, your house is left to you desolate.<sup>39</sup> For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”*

- A week later...John 19:1-3, 14-16

*Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him.<sup>2</sup> And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe.<sup>3</sup> They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. . . .<sup>14</sup> Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!”<sup>15</sup> They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”<sup>16</sup> So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.*

Action point: When I hear, “*The Lord needs them,*” how do I respond?