

SHARE THE BIBLE LESSON

WEEK 18

Jesus enters Jerusalem

Luke 19:28–44



DAY 1

Jesus planned to enter as King • Luke 19:28–34

READ

Luke 19:28–34

EXPLAIN

The truth of Luke 19:28–34

Jesus planned the timing of His entrance. He had recently traveled south from Galilee (Mark 10:1), but He still waited for just the right time. After confronting the rich young ruler (Matt 19:16–26), healing two blind men (20:29–34), and raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11), Jesus stayed away from the murderous Pharisees and eager crowds (11:53–56). But now He made Himself known in Bethany (12:9), just in time to be the final Passover Lamb (1 Cor 5:7). His entrance into Jerusalem fits the timing of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan 9:26), and it came on the day when families brought Passover lambs into their homes (Exod 12:3). Jesus also planned the details of His entrance. He sent two disciples to get a donkey, and everything happened exactly as Jesus said. But why a donkey? By choosing a donkey colt that had never been ridden, Jesus was publically identifying Himself as the *Messiah, the promised King who would bring Israel prosperity and peace from its enemies* (Gen 49:10–12; Zech 9:9–17).

ASK

1. Why did Jesus publically claim to be the promised king?
He did this so that He would be rejected and killed at just the right time.
2. What did Jesus ride on?
A donkey colt.
3. Why did Jesus choose to ride a donkey colt?
To show that He was the Messiah Zechariah prophesied about (Zech 9:9).
4. Why was His entrance at just the right time?
It was the time prophesied by Daniel (Dan 9:26), and it was the day the Passover lambs came into families’ homes (Exod 12:3).

DISCUSS

1. Was Jesus’ rejection and death a surprise or an accident (Acts 2:23; 4:27–28)?
2. Why was Jesus the final Passover Lamb (Exod 12:1–14; 1 Cor 5:7; Rom 6:10; Heb 9:24–28)?

DAY 2

Jesus entered as King • Luke 19:35–38

READ

Luke 19:28–44

EXPLAIN

The truth of Luke 19:35–38

Jesus entered Jerusalem like a king. As He rode from Bethany, He crested the ridge called the Mount of Olives. Looking straight ahead across the Kidron Valley, Jesus and His followers would have seen the temple mount with its gleaming white limestone, and perched on top, Herod's magnificent temple, flashing gold in the sun. On the other side, people on the temple mount in Jerusalem for the Passover would have heard the shouts of praise and looked across to see the crowd streaming down the ridge. As the crowd of followers flowed down the Mount of Olives, another crowd poured out of Jerusalem's eastern gate to meet them (John 12:12). They brought palm branches, a symbol to honor a victorious king (12:13). They welcomed Him as their Messiah (Ps 118:26). They called Him "King" and recited Psalm 118, the last song sung at Passover, for they believed the time of their redemption had come. They cried out, "**Hosanna!**" which means "give salvation now" (John 12:13). They welcomed Jesus "in the name of the Lord," as a king coming with God's full authority. They said "Peace in heaven," for they believed God was about to give rest to Jerusalem.

ASK

1. Why were there so many people to celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem? *Perhaps over 2 million were in Jerusalem for Passover.*
2. What did Jesus' followers call Him? *King.*
3. Besides calling Him King, how else did the crowds welcome Jesus as the Messiah? *They showed honor and submission by laying their robes on the road under Him. They quoted Psalm 118:26 about the Messiah. They said "Hosanna," celebrating salvation. And they brought palm branches, a sign of honor for a victorious king.*

DISCUSS

1. What are some things people do today to welcome a king or an important person?
2. What does it look like for you to honor Jesus as your king?

DAY 3

Jesus was rejected as King • Luke 19:39–40

READ

Luke 19:28–44

EXPLAIN

The truth of Luke 19:39–40

This celebration was exactly what the Pharisees had been afraid of after Jesus caused such a stir over Lazarus (John 11:45, 48). If the people made Jesus their king against Rome, Rome might take control and leave the religious leaders powerless. So they had planned to kill Jesus (11:53, 57), but now that they had found Him, they could not kill Him because of the

cheering crowds. All they could do was beg Jesus to stop them. But Jesus refused, for two reasons. First, His disciples were right to honor Him, for He really was the Messiah, as even nature knows (Isa 55:12). Second, Jesus was prodding the Pharisees to kill Him. When Jesus said, "The very stones would cry out," He recalled Habakkuk's condemnation of Babylon. Babylon had built their houses from the spoil of people they had brutally conquered, so "the stone [cried] out from the wall" as a witness against them (Hab 2:11). Likewise, the stones of Jerusalem would cry out against the Jews as a witness that they had unjustly killed their King.

DAY 3 CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

ASK 

1. Why couldn't the religious leaders kill Jesus as planned?
They were afraid of the cheering crowds who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem.
2. So what did the religious leaders ask Jesus to do?
Make His followers stop calling Him king.
3. Why did Jesus refuse?
His disciples were right to honor Him, for He really was the Messiah. Second, Jesus was prodding the Pharisees to kill Him.
4. What did Jesus say would cry out if His disciples were silent?
The stones.

DISCUSS 

1. Why were the religious leaders afraid Jesus becoming king?
2. Why do people today not want Jesus to be their king?

DAY 4*Jesus declared judgment as King • Luke 19:41–44***READ** 

Luke 19:28–44

EXPLAIN **The truth of Luke 19:41–44**

While the crowd celebrated, Jesus wept. They would reject Jesus because they missed the requirement for real peace: soft hearts (Ps 95:7–8), confession of sin (Ps 32:6), repentance (Ezek 18:31–32), seeking the Lord (Isa 55:6), and obedience (Isa 48:18). They did not realize that this was the “time of your **visitation**” (Luke 19:44). They did not realize that Zechariah’s prophecy was about the LORD Himself appearing (Zech 9:14). So instead of salvation (Zech 9:16), God’s presence would bring severe judgment. About forty years later, in AD 70, Jesus’ prediction came true. The Romans built siege walls around Jerusalem, then they broke in and crushed the city and its people. The siege was horrible, with starvation leading even to cannibalism. The slaughter that followed was even worse. To prevent Jerusalem from rebelling again, the Romans tumbled the temple stones into the valleys surrounding the temple mount, and any walls left standing were finally leveled after one last rebellion sixty-five years later. As Jesus said, when the crowd stopped praising Him, the stones cried out in judgment.

ASK 

1. What did Jesus do while the crowd rejoiced?
Jesus wept.
2. Why did Jesus weep?
Jesus knew that the Jews, and especially Jerusalem, were about to suffer greatly.
3. Why were the Jews going to have pain instead of peace?
The leaders rejected Him, and even the crowds did not know what would bring peace: soft hearts, confession of sin, repentance, seeking God, and obedience.
4. Did Jesus’ prediction come true?
Yes. About forty years later, the Romans built siege walls around Jerusalem, then they broke in and crushed the city and its people.

DISCUSS 

1. Have you ever seen someone crying while everyone else is celebrating? What caused their sorrow?
2. What will happen to all those who do not take Jesus as their king (Rev 20:15)?

DAY 5

They will look upon Him whom they pierced • Zechariah 12:10

READ

Zechariah 12:1-14

EXPLAIN

The truth of Zechariah 12:10

Jesus wept for Jerusalem because His love is faithful. One day Israel will repent and welcome their Messiah (Matt 23:39; Luke 21:24). When they finally find peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ (Rom 5:1), all Israel will be saved (11:26). Yet even that salvation will come through heart-wrenching grief, when Israel realizes what they have done to their Messiah (Zech 12:10) and how many millions of their people have perished as a result. In that day, God will save Israel by pouring out His Spirit, whom Zechariah identifies as “a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy.” God’s Spirit will produce within the people a godly sorrow when they look upon the One they have pierced: Jesus. They will recognize that Jesus—the One whom they rejected and crucified (Isa 53:5)—was truly their Messiah. They will confess that they crucified their King. They will acknowledge that they murdered their God. And this deep sorrow will lead to their repentance as they look to Jesus for salvation. God is gracious, but the longer you wait before taking Jesus as King, the more sorrow you will cause.

ASK

1. Why did Jesus weep for Israel?
Because His love is faithful.
2. Will Israel one day repent and welcome their Messiah?
Yes. In the future, all Israel will be saved.
3. Why will Israel’s salvation come through great sorrow?
They will realize what they have done to their Messiah.
4. How will Israel be saved?
They will look to Jesus, the One whom they pierced, trusting Him for salvation.

DISCUSS

1. Jesus wept for those who were rejecting Him (Luke 19:41). How do you feel about your enemies?
2. How long will Israel’s rejection last (Rom 11:25-27)?

NEXT WEEK

Jesus teaches the parable of landowner

Mark 12:1-12

