

The Triumphal Entry

Luke 19:29-46

by Don Falkos

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As they approached Jerusalem, Jesus told two of his disciples, "Go to the next village. As soon as you enter it, you'll find a young donkey no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it to me. If anyone asks what you're doing, say, 'The Lord needs it.' "

The two went off and found everything just the way Jesus said it would be. While they were untying the donkey, its owner asked, "What are you doing? Why are you untying my donkey?"

They said, "The Lord needs it." And the owner let them go.

They brought the donkey to Jesus and threw their cloaks on its back for him to sit on. As Jesus rode along, the people spread their cloaks on the road in front of him. The whole crowd of disciples started praising God because of all the miracles they had seen:

Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven!
Glory in the highest!

Some Pharisees in the crowd chastised Jesus, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!"

But Jesus replied, "If they remain silent, the very stones around you will start shouting."

Jesus rode down the Mount of Olives. Jerusalem was spread out in front of him, and he wept over it. "The time is coming when your enemies will surround you, hemming you in on every side. They will hurl you to the ground and kill your people. They won't leave one stone standing on top of another. And all because you failed to recognize that God had come to save you."

When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, he went into the Temple and threw out all the people who were selling things. He told them, "The scriptures say, 'My house is a house of prayer', but you have turned it into a 'den of thieves.' "