

Series: Mark
(Palm Sunday)

Title: The King and a Donkey
Text: Mark 11:1-11

Would you take your Bibles, please, and turn with me to the Gospel of Mark, the Gospel of Mark chapter 11. Today is Palm Sunday. And we come to the wonderful story of Jesus entering into Jerusalem with the shout: Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. I am sure that you know the story of the Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. But, maybe you do not know some of the little unspoken details. So, today, we are going to look at some of those minor details. Our topic: The King and a donkey.

The Gospel of Mark chapter 11 beginning at Vs. 1. Would you please stand for the reading of God's wonderful Word?

(Read Vs. 1-11)

(Prayer)

(1B) I would like to look at the selection of this colt.... This is kind of a fascinating little part of the Easter story. It is often passed over by most ~~people~~ as not too important. But there are some neat things about this donkey that most of us have never seen. The selection of the colt.

(1C) First of all, there were two animals. Not one, but two. Matthew chapter 21 verse 2 makes that very clear. And in the O.T. prophecy found in Zechariah 9:9 it says that there would be two. And it says that the Lord Jesus would not ride on the mother. It says that he would ride on the little colt on which no one had ever sat.

Now, if you notice that carefully, even Mark refers to the fact ~~that~~, in Vs 2, That no one ever sat on this little colt.

Matthew 21, ^{verse 2 says -} ~~which I would like you to turn to, Matthew 21 verse 2.~~ Notice ~~what it~~ says, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with ^{her} ~~her~~"

It was a donkey and a colt. A mother and a child.

You know, I was really thrilled with this one little thing. It is a small thing. But it tells me a lot about my Lord. I think it is kind-off neat that our Lord brought the mother along and did not separate that colt from the mother. I think that is ^{great} wonderful.

Plus, there was a practical point...WHY?... The colt has never had any burden placed on it yet. To separate a colt from its mother without having been trained and programmed would really cause the mother to be upset. So, the Lord Jesus brings the mother along. And in any picture that you see of Jesus coming into Jerusalem should have two animals. The Lord Jesus isn't riding on the donkey as I saw in one picture. He is riding on the colt, not its mother. And you see, the colt by going along with its mother, who already knew how to carry loads could learn by just walking with its mother. Have full assurance and full confidence/ ~~as~~ as the Lord rode on that colt

But, the real point is that Jesus was fulfilling prophecy. There were two animals there. And Jesus did not separate the ^{child} ~~colt~~ from its mother. And Oh, how that is just like Jesus. The attention to little details of our Lord is really wonderful.

(2c) ^{up to} The second thing ~~is that~~ the two disciples that were chosen ^{Gospel}.

I have a theory about those two disciples. According to ~~Mark 11~~, the Lord Jesus sent two disciples to get a colt. And in Mark¹¹, the only gospel out of all of them that records the story. Mark is the only⁰² that tells us the details of what happened when they got there.....

Now, watch this....Mark chapter 11 verse 3.....(READ Mark 11:3-6)
You see, Mark tells us actually what happened. Going step by step to make sure we understand that it happened just like Christ said.

YOU SAY, SO WHAT?.....Well, Mark wrote ~~Mark~~...You say,, "brillient....
So what?.....Well, where did Mark get his information? ~~from~~.....

Mark was not one of the 12 disciples. ^{So} ~~So~~ where did he get his information?.....Most Bible teachers believe that Mark got his info from Peter....Bedause according to one of the Letters of Peter Mark, was with Peter. And it was Peter who knew Christ so well. And ^{Peter} told Mark about the life of Christ. I have no other explanation when I say that one of those two disciples was Peter.....

YOU SAY, SO WHAT!!!!!!! Well, do you remember who ~~Peter~~ is? ..Just put the whole thing together....

I think it is beautiful that the Lord Choose Peter as one of those disciples. And I don't think there is any other explanation as to how Mark recorded that information unless Peter told him just what took place...

Now, if that is so, then I find this very interesting. It was Peter who pulled in 153 fish in a net. And we learn from fishermen today that anyone who can pull in 153 fish at one time must be huge and strong.

YOU SAY, SO WHAT?.....Do you remember in the garden when Peter pulled out hss sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant? Really he was trying to cut off his head but he missed and got the guys ear...

Think of Peter. He is Messianic all the way. ~~Let's~~ go get them, Lord. I think it is fantastic that the Lord sends Peter into that village to get a dumb little donkey.....Don't you understand?.....

You tell me, ^{anybody} ~~everybody~~, according to Revelation 19, How is the Lord going to come in the futu~~r~~e? WHAT IS HE GOING TO RIDE ON, ANYONE?.....

A WHITE HORSE!! Everybody knows that when a King comes he comes riding on a white horse.

Can you imagine Peter ~~with~~ with his messianic knowledge, let's go get type, going and getting this little colt? Can you imagine this?

He probably said to the other disciples. "What are we getting this colt for? Is Jesus going to ride this? Oh, the embarrassment of it all.".. "Can't we find a big white horse somewhere?"

I can just see Peter as Jesus gets on that colt. He is probably hiding behind the house in embarrassment.

Now, maybe you don't see those things. But I believe that is the only ~~way~~ way that Mark could have gotten his information. He is the only one who records these details. Of course the Lord could have spoken directly to Mark. I know that. But it was probably Peter who went to get that colt.

And these little details are so important. Because Jesus first coming into Jerusalem is so unlike his second coming. The first coming, Jesus came on a colt. A little colt. But the second coming will be the white horse. First coming, ^{humility} crying. The second coming all will be ^{power and glory} rejoicing. What a contrast.

(3C) Another thing that is neat, here, is that the Lord's omniscience is clearly revealed.

If there was ever a time when his manhood was emphasized is his suffering and death. And people could look at him and say: "^{That} ~~that~~ is a man. He is suffering. He is dying."

If there was ever time when he ^{was} ~~was~~ God was manifest, it was after the resurrection. He appeared as the God-man. But all along the way, we see his characteristics and attributes of God. The Lord Jesus was divine omniscience who knew all things. And we have a good example of this in this Easter story. Jesus told his two disciples to go into Bethpage and the colt would be tied in such an such a place. It will be tied up. You will say this and the owners will give you their permission.

And Mark records that when the disciples went into the village it happened just like Jesus said it would happen.

The Lord's omniscience was clearly revealed in this story.

(2C) ^{Third} There is a ~~fourth~~ things here in selection of this colt and that is: the reason for taking this colt. I think this is a beautiful example for all of us... WHY?... ^{Disciples} the owners of the colt, give to ~~the~~^{these} disciples this colt. According to the Bible, the disciples were ask when they started to untie the colt: "What are you doing unting the colt?"

Well, they told them just what the Lord told them to tell them. According to Vs 3, they were told to say "The Lord has need of it." And according to the Bible they gave them their permission. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

It could mean that the people who owned the colt were friends of Jesus. Or, because Bethpage is located next to Bethany they might have heard of the Resurrection of Lazarus and were believers. I don't know. The Bible doesn't tell us. ^{BT} Here is another of those unnamed hero's of the Bible. All I know is that they certainly are an example to you and to me.

I ask you a question concerning your possessions, Christian. If someone came along and said to you, "The Lord has need of your car". Would you be willing to say, "Lord, you've got it."

Everything we have belongs to him, anyway. What a neat thing. I don't know ^{who} they were. Some day in heaven we will probable find out. But all they heard was that the Lord has need of it. And that is all they needed. And they gave their colt. *Would we have done the same?*

^{and Faith} (4C) This is ~~also~~ a fulfillment of prophecy. Take your Bibles and turn to Zechariah chapter 9 verse 9. And there are three lines of thought, here, that I want you to see from the Word of God about how this was a fulfilment of ~~the~~ prophecy in selecting that colt. Zechariah 9 verse 9.....

(Read Zech 9:9)

Why did Jesus come on a donkey? Because it was a sign of his hmmility. Why was he humble? Because he came to save. It was because of salvation that he came in this humble way.

For example, in Philipians 2 verse 6 to 8 it tells us that Christ being in the form of God did not think it robbery to be equal with God, he didn't think it something to be grasped at, but he emptied himself and took

the form of a bond servant, and being made in the likeness of men. The Bible says he ^{humbled} ~~humiliated~~ himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even the death on a cross.

The humility aspect is heading towards death. ^{But} When Jesus comes again, Hay! he is going to set up his kingdom. But the first coming was on a colt. Humility!...The second coming is on a white horse....POWER! GLORY!

And the first coming he came to save. To seek and to save that which was lost. That is the whole point of that prophecy.

The second coming he will come to rule and to reign with the rode of iron..Tremendous contrast....

Now, I would like you to turn over to Number~~s~~ chapter 19. And also put your figner in Deut. 21...First, Numbers chapter 19 and then Deut 21... In these ^{two} ~~to~~ passage we have a type that is being fulfilled by our Lord. According to the Bible Jesus rode on a donkey on which ~~one~~ ^{NO} one had ever sat. And I believe, friends, that that is a fulfillment of a type in the O.T. dealing with the sacrificial animal.

Numbers 19:2 says "This is the statute of the law which the Lord has commanded, saying, 'Speak to the sons of Israel that they bring you an unblemished red heifer inwhich is no defect, and on which a yoke has never been placed.'"

Now why?.....Well, the yoke and the riding of an animal indicates that it had carried a burden. ^{So,} They wanted an animal that had not bore any burden. Because the burden that it was ~~going~~ ^g to bear was the burden of sin.

Now, look over at Deut. 21. Deut. 21. This concerns the fact when a person is killed in Jersualem and nobody knows who did it. You have to go to the elders of the nearest city. And notice what it says. Vs 3."And it shall be that the city which is nearest to the slain man, that is, the elders of that city, shall take a heifer of the herd, which has not been worked and which has not pulled in a yoke:"

And that is the one that they used for the sacrifice. You see, by way of typology Christ is the sacrifice. He is the sacrificial animal. ~~██████████~~

And that animal he choose, the sin bearer himself, rode on it. No one had ever sat on it before.

One other thing. Turn, please, to Isaiah chapter 53. If you would ask someone, today, what is the purpose of a donkey? ^{He} you would answer: to illustrate stubbornness...Possible!!!!

But that is not the purpose of a donkey. ^{The purpose is} ~~They~~ are to bear burdens. And those little donkey can carry, Iam told, 5 times the weight of their little body...Did you know that?....They can carry these enormous loads.

Now, ladies please don't be offended by this statement. But in the O.T. ~~times~~ times there was a tradition, ^{of the} ~~of Rabbis~~ s. And ^{The} ~~these~~ Rabbis taught that there were three things that ought to bear burdens:.....(HA)...A camel... a donkey...and a woman....That was the teaching of the old Rabbis.

Even today, we have examples in certain parts of the world of woman carring huge burdens on their shouldiers and heads....

Well, anyway, we all know that the purpose of the donkey is to bear burdens. And that, in and of itself, is a type of the first coming of Christ. Christ came to bear our burdens.

Look at Isaish 53. It even uses that idea.."bearing burdens...which donkeys did, and refers it to Christ.

Isaiah 53:4...."Surely our griefs He himself bore, And our sorrows He carried,"

^{last phrase} Look down at Vs 11 "As he will bear their iniquities."

Vs 12...next to the last phrase.."Yet He himself, bore the sin of man
2 Peter 2:24 says that he bore our sins in his own body on the tree...

The first comeing was on a donkey. The animal that bears burdens. And that very type remains us that Our Lord Jesus bears our burdens.

Turn over to Psalms 55. ~~Another~~ Another beautiful illustration of this. In Psalms 55: verse 22 it uses this and refers it in a beautiful way to what you and I should do in our relationship to the Lord.

Vs 22..."Cast your burden upon the Lord, and He will sustain you.
Peter said in 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all of your care upon him for he cares for you." He bears our burdens....

Of course the problem is that we go around bearing our own burdens, don't we? Playing the roll of the martyr and all of that. Yet, the Lord invites us to give our burdens to Him. And if we do He will sustain us. Some wonderful truth ~~in all of this about the KING AND A DONKEY.~~

in the story of Jesus entry into Jerusalem.

Let's close with a word of prayer