

united kingdom

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ENTRY

the Kingdom story from creation to revelation

(Luke 19:30-48)

Jesus knows that it is now time for Him to head towards Jerusalem, the capital city. The religious leaders are growing in discontentment about all Jesus is saying, and especially how people are responding to Him and His message about God's kingdom. Jesus is about to enter Jerusalem as a King, and so will begin the fulfilment of many of God's promises and the working out of His ultimate salvation plan.

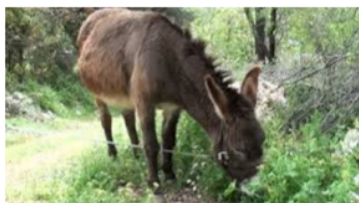
Introduction

Jesus decides it is time for Him to go to Jerusalem. He chooses two of His followers to go ahead of Him and find a donkey He will ride into the city.



“Go to a village ...

"You will see a young donkey. Untie it and bring it here." If anyone asks then say, "The Teacher needs it."



It happened as Jesus said. The followers brought the donkey to Jesus and threw their garments over it for Him to ride on.

As Jesus rode along

Crowds spread their garments on the road ahead of Him, a typical way to welcome a victorious king returning from battle.

... They shouted "May God bring good things to the King who is coming in His name. This King is bringing peace between God and His people!"



Religious leaders said



"Teacher, rebuke your followers." Jesus replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!"

As Jesus came to Jerusalem

He saw the city ahead and began to weep. ...

"How I wish you ... would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from your eyes. Before long your enemies will close in from every side, crush you ... because you did not recognise it when God visited you."



Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the place of worship

He drove out the people who were selling there. ... He said, "My house will be a house of prayer, but you have turned it into a den of thieves."



Jesus taught daily. ...

But the religious leaders began planning how to kill Him. But they could think of nothing because all the people hung on every word Jesus said.



Weekly Meditation and Reflection

Below are some questions and further reading if you would like some extra food for thought on this story. Some may find it helpful to journal the answers, and others may simply want to read and pray through them.

1. As Jesus stood looking over Jerusalem, the depth of His sorrow for the inhabitants of the city was overwhelming. As Jesus sees the situations we find ourselves in – which feel overwhelming – He has compassion and understanding. He is able to comfort us – as He fully knows what true sorrow is. Is there anything that you currently find overwhelming? It could be a personal situation or one that you are aware of. Know that Jesus stands with you as you petition God to move and change the situation. It is good to express the depths of your feelings to God.
2. Jesus wept over Jerusalem because the people had not recognised the time when God came to them. Spend some time asking God to open your eyes to the times He has worked or acted in your life that you may not have recognised.

3. Jesus was passionate about doing His Father's will and protecting His Father's house. Throughout these stories, we have seen Jesus' passion to heal, forgive and open up God's Kingdom to everyone. His sense of purpose led Him straight to Jerusalem, where He knew He was going to die for the sins of many. His sense of purpose led him to weep over His people's blindness to truth. What sense of purpose is driving your life? What makes you weep? What makes you angry? As you think about these things, ask God to reveal more to you about what He has made you to be or do in His Kingdom.

Read the following passages:

- Isaiah 56:6-7
- Psalm 118
- Zechariah 9:9
- Luke 2:34-35 (This seems to begin being fulfilled in this story!)