

Palm Sunday — Lent #7  
Church by the Sea ~ Madeira Beach, FL  
March 24, 2024                      Dr. Jeffry Iskra

John 12:12a The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city.

1. Everybody was on the Jesus BANDWAGON

John 12:12b-15 A large crowd of Passover visitors <sup>13</sup> took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted, "Praise God! (Hosanna!) Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hail to the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: <sup>15</sup> "Don't be afraid, people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey's colt."

2. Jesus always brings TRUTH to our misunderstandings

Vs. 23 Jesus replied, Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory.

Vs. 32-33 And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate how he was going to die.

3. All of us have a tendency to make God in our IMAGE

Vs. 34 The crowd responded, "We understood from Scripture that the Messiah would live forever. How can you say the Son of Man will die? Just who is this Son of Man, anyway?"

When God doesn't fulfill our EXPECTATIONS

Vs. 37 Even though he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him.

4. Many Jewish leaders were BELIEVING

Vs. 42-43 Yet despite that, even many of the rulers believed in him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *it*, so that they would not be expelled from the synagogue. <sup>43</sup> For they loved the praise of men more than praise from God.

5. Jesus' final APPEAL

Vs. 44 Jesus shouted to the crowds, If you trust me, you are trusting not only me, but also God who sent me.

Vs. 46, 48 I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark. <sup>48</sup> But all who reject me and my message will be judged on the day of judgment by the truth I have spoken.