

Introduction:

Text: John 12:12-19

1. Jesus Is More Desirable than Religious Rituals

- Jesus identified Himself to the masses. Mark 12 says that “the common people heard him gladly”.
- Jesus sympathizes with our humanity.
- Jesus was answering their deepest needs.

2. Jesus Is More Reliable and Trustworthy than the Political and Religious Leaders

- It's a direct contrast to the leadership of political and religious leaders at that time
- It shows His identity as a Messiah that is lowly, gentle, and peaceful.
- It shows the reliability of the prophecy of the Scriptures.

3. Following Jesus Is More Important than Inspecting

(Who are the people following Jesus?)

- His disciples who followed Him even if they did not understand everything that Jesus said. They obeyed Him and followed Him.
- The eyewitnesses of Lazarus' resurrection who followed Him and bore witness of what He has done in the life of Lazarus.
- We have people who heard from the eyewitnesses of Lazarus' resurrection, they came to meet and wanted to see Jesus face to face.
- Religious leaders who have chosen to reject Jesus' claim and continued to seek to destroy Jesus.

Conclusion:

Read: John 12:12-19

1. The crowd shouted “Hosanna” or “Save Now” to Jesus, hoping He was their expected Messianic Liberator from Roman rule, but just a few days later, they shouted “Crucify him” (Matt. 27:23). Why did the hope of the crowd turn into hate?
 - a. The crowd failed to understand that Jesus was to come first as the Suffering Messiah (Isaiah 53) before coming as the Delivering Messiah.
 - b. Discuss: Wrong expectation from Jesus could lead to disappointment and rejection of Jesus.
 - c. Apply: Think how this could apply to us in our different expectations from Jesus.
2. Because of Jesus' feeding of the Five Thousand (John 6:1-15) and His raising of Lazarus back to life (John 11:1-44), the people thought Jesus was going to inaugurate His kingdom on earth that would miraculously take care of their physical needs for health and healing. But their timing was wrong because this is going to happen in Christ's Millennial Kingdom on earth after His Second Coming.
 - a. The Point: Jesus multiplied the bread to illustrate His claim to be the bread of life, and He raised Lazarus back to life to illustrate that He was the resurrection and the life.
 - b. Caution: Beware of today's popular “kingdom now” preaching that gives people false hope because of wrong timing of their kingdom theological application.
3. Jesus' Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem turned into a disappointing event even for Jesus' disciples, but it turned into a victorious celebration after His resurrection.
4. Whatever pain we might go through, remember that the cross is the prelude to the crown for God's people.

PRAY