

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 20th March 2016

PALM SUNDAY

As we Gather

Jesus deliberately chose the time (Passover) the place (Jerusalem) and the way (riding on a colt) to proclaim unmistakably the purpose of His mission.

Reading Scripture **Psalm 118:1-2 + 19-29** **Luke 19:28-40**

Thinking Together

Throughout the ages when prophets found that their words were having no effect on their hearers, they resorted to dramatic action (1 Kings 11:29-31 Jeremiah 13:1-11). Jesus, now in the week before Passover, did exactly the same: His entry into Jerusalem being the only time He permitted a public demonstration on His behalf (Luke 19:37-40).

Jesus was well known by this time and the popular mood of the people was favourable. They had the wrong idea about Jesus as king and saw Him as the king come to free them from Roman domination (Psalm 118:25-27 Luke 19:35-38).

Why did Jesus plan and permit His triumphal entry into Jerusalem? Discuss
See Zechariah 9:9 Matthew 26:3-5 John 1:29 1 Corinthians 5:7

Every other attempt to arrest Him had failed because 'His hour had not yet come' (John 7:30 8:20 13:1 17:1).

This public demonstration was a deliberate claim to be king, and an act of defiance and courage being one last appeal to the Jewish leadership (Psalm 118:22-23 1 Peter 2:7)

Why did the religious leaders reject Jesus? Discuss

The planning and preparation for this day had been carefully done to protect the owner of the colt on which Jesus rode (Luke 19:28-34 John 9:22 John 11:57).

Why did the Pharisees react the way they did to the praises of the crowd? Discuss
Luke 19:36-39

Why did Jesus respond as He did? Discuss (Luke 19:40)

In Closing

The theme of Christ's entry into Jerusalem was peace in heaven (Psalm 118:25 Luke 19:36-38), yet because the king was rejected there could be no peace on earth (Luke 12:49-53).

Following Christ's work on the cross there is 'peace with God' in heaven (Romans 5:1 Colossians 1:19-20 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

Are you reconciled to God?

