"HOSANNA to the Son of David"

(A Palm Sunday Message)
Matthew 20:29 - 21:1-17
3-24-2024

INTRODUCTION:

***Jesus Christ--*"the Son of David"*--is clearly the Messiah!**

Four indications that show Jesus Christ--*"the Son of David"*--to be the Messiah:

I. The COMPASSION He Showed (20:29-34)

II. The PROPHECY He Fulfilled (21:1-11)

III. The SPIRITUAL ZEAL He Possessed (21:12-14)

IV. The PRAISE He Received (21:15-17)

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One characteristic of the Last Days is that false Christ's shall appear (pseudo Messiahs) (Mt. 24:24).

Even in our day, many follow someone they view as the Messiah.

***Jesus Christ--*"the Son of David"*--is clearly the Messiah!**

Four indications that show Jesus Christ--*"the Son of David"*--to be the Messiah:

I. The COMPASSION He Showed (20:29-34)

V. 29

"From Jericho" - They had left "old Jericho" and approached "new Jericho" (archaeologists discovered two Jerichos).

V. 30

"Two blind men" - Mark 10:46-52 and Luke 18:35-43 only specify one of the two. Although there were two blind men seeking their sight, Mark and Luke describe one of the men named Bartimaeus, who was apparently the more aggressive, more outspoken of the two.

"When they heard that Jesus passed by" - Since they couldn't see, they depended on their acute sense of hearing. When they heard who it was, they in desperation and in deep faith cried out for Jesus to show mercy on them.

Although they were blind physically, they saw with great faith spiritually. They knew who Jesus was prior to His coming and perhaps sat there waiting along the road side hoping that one day He would pass that way.

These two blind men had faith that Jesus was the Messiah. Proof:

1) They addressed Him as ***"Lord"*** (Master, Ruler, God) -- A title of deity and authority. The expression "*O Lord*" shows the depth of their desperation and faith.

2) They called Him the ***"Son of David"*** which was a messianic title showing Jesus to be the fulfiller of the Davidic Covenant (II Sam. 7; cp. Is. 55:3).

> Is. 9:6-7 -*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."*
>
> Ps. 89:34-36 -*"My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me."*
>
> Ps. 72:12 -*"For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper."*

3) They knew that Jesus had the power and authority to have **mercy** on them (only the Lord could show them the kind of mercy they wanted) (Ps. 136)

4) They **refused** to be **silenced** in their cry of faith (v. 31 - the multitude who followed Christ did not have the faith in Him that these men had)

5) They knew that Jesus could do the **impossible** for them - to open their eyes which had been blind from birth).

V. 32

"Jesus stood still" - He stopped what He was doing to respond to these outcasts of society.

Every sincere petition gains the ear and attention of our sovereign Lord Jesus (never did Jesus ignore the petition of anyone, no matter how great their need).

"What will ye" - Jesus knew their need and what they wanted, but wanted them to verbalize it so the crowd would see this specific answer to a specific request (God is glorified by answering specific prayers).

V. 33

"Jesus had <u>compassion</u> on them" - He was filled with tenderness in His heart for the need of these men. His insides were moved at their plight.

The hymn writer said it best - "His heart is touched with my grief". . . "He cares for me."

V. 34

A hallmark of Jesus' ministry was the compassion he had on others.

He had compassion toward the sick (Mt. 14:14); hungry (Mt. 15:32); demon-possessed (Mk. 5:19); shepherdless Israel (Mk. 6:34), etc.

"Touched their eyes" - Christ's compassion was frequently followed by a "touch."

[EX: His compassion moved Him to touch a leper (Mk. 1:41); His compassion moved Him to touch the casket of a dead teen whom he raised (Lk. 7:13-15)]

Jesus proved He was the Messiah by being the <u>Compassionate Deliverer</u> Isaiah prophesied about in Is. 61:1 (Lk. 4:18 - *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."*)

"<u>Immediately</u> their eyes received sight" - An evidence of Christ's <u>power</u> and an evidence of a <u>bonafied miracle</u> (no process or delay)

We, like our Lord, need to have compassion on people (Jude 22) (our hearts need to go out to people in need).

Ask God right now to remove the callousness and hardness from your heart.

Although Christ's crucifixion was just a little over a week away, Jesus was "never too preoccupied to be compassionate, never in too much of a hurry to heal the afflicted, never in too much agony Himself to be insensitive to the agony of others" (MacArthur, p. 248).

II. The PROPHECY He Fulfilled (21:1-11)

V. 2

"Straightway ye shall find" - Christ's omniscience is evidenced.

"If any man say ought" - If anyone says anything or has any objection, the words "The Lord has need of them" would carry such power and authority that the person would gladly and willingly comply. (EX: If someone came up to my car and said, "The Lord has need of it" - I'd say, "I'm calling the police!" However the Lord so moved on the hearts of the owners that they willingly relinquished the two animals to the will of God - Luke 19:33; Mark 11:4-6).

V. 4

Up to this point Jesus deliberately avoided public scenes. Now He purposely plans a public demonstration to fulfill Scripture (Wiersbe, p. 76).

[At Passover, some 2 million Jews would father at Jerusalem! Here was their chance to embrace their Messiah!]

"All this was done that it might be fulfilled" -

Zech. 9:9 - *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, they King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass."*

Is. 62:11 - *"Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him."*

The Lord Jesus fulfilled prophetic Scriptures which no other so-called Messiah could Is Jesus Christ the Messiah? Does He fulfil the O.T. promises of the anticipated anointed deliverer of Israel?

Here are some of the O.T. prophecies and their fulfillment in the incarnate person of Jesus Christ:

Prophecy of the Messiah	Prophecy	Fulfillment
Messiah would come at an appointed time	Dan. 9:25-26	Mark 1:15
Messiah would be born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matt.2:1-6
Messiah would be born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matt.1:18-25
Messiah would die for the sins of the world	Is.52:13-53:12	Luke 22:37 Acts 8:28-35
Messiah would be hated	Ps.69:4 Is.49:7	Jn.15:24,25
Messiah would be rejected	Psalm 118:22	Mt.21:42
Messiah would be betrayed	Psalm 41:9	Jn.13:18-21
Messiah would be forsaken	Zech.13:7	Mk.14:27
Messiah would be sold	Zech.11:12	Mt.26:15
Messiah would be smitten	Micah 5:1	Mt.27:30
Messiah would be spit upon	Is.50:6	Mk.14:65
Messiah would be nailed	Psalm 22:16	Jn.20:25
Messiah would be forsaken	Psalm 22:1	Mt.27:46
Messiah would be mocked	Psalm 22:7,8	Mt.27:39-44
Messiah would be pierced	Zech.12:10	Jn.19:34,37
Messiah would be raised from the dead	Psalm 16:10	Acts 2:22-27
Messiah would come (again) in judgement	Zech.12-14	Rev.19

V. 5

"We usually do not associate the lowly donkey with kingship, but this was the royal animal of Jewish monarchs (I Ki. 2:32ff)" (Wiersbe, p. 76).

“In the ancient Middle Eastern world, leaders rode horses if they rode to war, but donkeys if they came in peace. First Kings 1:33 mentions Solomon riding a donkey on the day he was recognized as the new king of Israel. Other instances of leaders riding donkeys are Judges 5:10; 10:4; 12:14; and 2 Samuel 16:2. The mention of a donkey in Zechariah 9:9-10 fits the description of a king who would be “righteous and having salvation, gentle.” Rather than riding to conquer, this king would enter in peace. Isaac, a type of Christ, rides a donkey to be slain by his father Abraham on the altar (Genesis 49:10-12).” -Excerpted from 8 Things Most Christians Don’t Understand about Jesus’ Triumphal Entry by Dr. Roger Barrier.

NOTE: Jesus made His first triumphal entry from the Mount of Olives on a donkey; He will make His next triumphal entry on a white horse! (Rev. 19).

V. 8

Note the honorable approach the people made for Christ. They literally made Him a road using their clothes and palm branches as the pavement.

V. 9

"Hosanna" - Save now!

Now is the time for you to deliver us!

Christ did do something to deliver them that very week! He died on a cross! But this was not the type of deliverance they wanted. "The crowd wanted salvation from the oppression of Rome" (Ryrie note).

V. 10

Christ's presence was so moving, so stirring that it got the attention of the whole city!

V. 11

The multitude never really did comprehend who Jesus was. They thought Him to be a mere "prophet." On this occasion they hailed him *"the Son of David,"* but when He did not fulfill their expectations, this fickle mob later cried out, *"Crucify Him, crucify Him!"* (Lk. 23:21).

Their Messiah had come! But they never realized it. (SEE: Mt. 23:37-39).

III. The SPIRITUAL ZEAL He Possessed (21:12-14)

V. 12

This is the second time Jesus cleansed the temple -- When He started His public ministry (Jn. 2:13-16), and now as He finishes His public ministry.

The temple which was to be a place of blessing had become a cursed place.

"Before the thousands of worshippers, the bewildered merchants, and the priests who happened to be present, Jesus made a shambles of the bazaar and declared the shame of those who profited from it. The whole arena was in confusion and disarray, with animals running loose, doves flying around, and money of all kinds rolling across the courtyard (leaving the merchants powerless and speechless)" (MacArthur, p. 269).

"Cast out. . . overthrew" - such actions paint our Lord as a revolutionary; as extremely serious and upset about the wickedness that went on in His house, the Temple.

Jesus was meek, but He was not weak! He was not a passive Messiah who overlooked the wickedness of His chosen nation.

Many would erroneously interpret Christ's actions as unloving. However, no one can love God without hating sin! *"Ye that love the LORD, hate evil"* (Ps. 97:10)

After the first cleansing of the Temple by Jesus (merely 3-1/2 years prior), the disciples knew why Jesus responded so vehemently (Jn. 2:17). They saw Psalm 69:9 vividly fulfilled, which says, *"For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me."*

V. 13

"My house shall be called the house of prayer" - (Is. 56:7; Jer. 7:11) the Temple was not for merchandising and ripping people off.

"You have made it a den of thieves" - Many would come to the money-changers to exchange their currency for Hebrew shekels so that they could give to God's house, only to be cheated by false balances and swindlers.

"What had begun as a service and convenience for visitors from other lands soon turned into a lucrative business" (Wiersbe, p. 77).

If the Lord responded this way over the defilement of a building, I'm sure he is deeply upset by a lot which goes on in the name of Christianity today!

--the materialism of religions
--the exploitation of the cults
--the chaotic confusion of the Charismatics
--the liberalism that is invading mainline Evangelicalism
--Women preachers
--Schisms and divisions over doctrinal deviations
--the cultic tendencies of some who claim to be fundamentalists

V. 12

Is such harsh, strict, zealous behavior characteristic of the Messiah? Absolutely!
Note: Psalm 2

V. 14

To show the perfect balance in Christ between His righteous indignation and His compassion, He, after wrecking the thieves den turns right to healing the blind and lame that came to Him.

IV. The PRAISE He Received (21:15-17)

V. 15

"The wonderful things" - not a positive response. The word "wonderful" means awesome, amazing, incredible, terrifying.

"The children" - very young children who were repeating perhaps what they had heard their parents shouting earlier.

"They were sore displeased" - they were indignant, incensed, hotly mad

(It's amazing how many unsaved people react when Jesus Christ is praised)

Earlier that day (perhaps just a few hours before), as Jesus descended from the Mount of Olives on a donkey, the people had said: *"...Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."* (Luke 19:38-40).

V. 16

Expecting Jesus to rebuke them and stone their chants of praise, the priests and scribes say, "Do you hear what they are saying? (implied, "Stop them!")

Christ's praise may not come from the lips of the wise, *"learned,"* the pseudo intellectuals, etc. But He receives His best praise from the lips of humble, sincere children and those of child-like faith.

It's amazing to see the truths that come out of the lips of children (truths many adults are too cowardly to utter). (EX: the time Katie (age 5 or 6) told Mohammed Yousry, an agnostic, that he was going to go to Hell, if he did not get saved).

V. 17

"And he left them" - Because of their rejection, the Messiah rejected them, and left them desolate of any hope for their eternal destiny (SEE: Mt. 23:37-39).

"Bethany" - was the residence of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus - people who recognized Jesus as Messiah and glorified Him as such.

NO one who has ever lived has had more hymns, songs, and choruses sung to Him and about Him than Jesus Christ!

He is the Messiah! And He is entitled to every bit of praise He is given and more! (SEE: Rev. 5:9-14).
Don't be ashamed to praise the Lord Jesus!