

Summary

This sermon focuses on Palm Sunday, specifically from Luke 19, examining Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The pastor explores the significance of Jesus riding a donkey into Jerusalem, the contrasting reactions of the crowds, and Jesus's emotional response to those who rejected him. The sermon emphasizes that Palm Sunday declares Jesus as king and challenges listeners to consider their own response to Jesus's kingship.

Intro Prayer

Lord Jesus, as we gather to discuss your triumphal entry into Jerusalem, open our hearts to understand what it truly means to recognize you as king. Help us to be honest about our fears and pride that might prevent us from fully following you. Guide our discussion and reveal to each person present what you want them to learn today. Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's the most memorable parade or celebration you've ever attended, and what made it special?

Key Verses

1. Luke 19:38
2. Luke 19:40
3. Luke 19:41-42
4. Luke 19:44

Questions

1. Why do you think Jesus chose to ride a donkey into Jerusalem instead of walking as He usually did?
2. The sermon mentions two different crowds with different reactions to Jesus. Which group do you think you would have been in and why?
3. How does fear sometimes prevent us from publicly acknowledging our faith in Jesus?
4. What does Jesus's weeping over Jerusalem reveal about His character?
5. In what ways might pride be preventing you from fully surrendering to Jesus as king?
6. How do you respond to the idea that Jesus is both a weeping judge and a coming king?
7. What 'donkeys' in your life might Jesus be asking you to surrender to Him?
8. How can we balance being bold about our faith while not being pushy with others?

Life Application

This week, identify one area of your life where fear or pride is preventing you from fully following Jesus. Make a specific plan to surrender that area to Him, whether it's being more open about your faith at work, serving others in a new way, or making a public declaration of faith through baptism.

Key Takeaways

1. Palm Sunday declares Jesus as king, demanding a response from everyone
2. Fear and pride are common reasons people reject Jesus's kingship
3. Jesus responds to rejection with both tears and judgment
4. True discipleship requires both seeing Jesus for who He is and choosing to follow Him regardless of cost
5. Creation (like the donkey and rocks) naturally submits to Jesus - we should do the same

Ending Prayer

King Jesus, thank you for coming to offer us peace and salvation. Forgive us for the times we've let fear or pride keep us from fully following you. Help us to be like the donkey - fully surrendered to your will. Give us courage to declare you as king in both our words and actions. May we choose to follow you no matter the cost. In your name we pray, Amen.