

Remnant Life Church  
March 15, 2015

**Encounters on The Way to the Cross -  
A Large Crowd  
Luke 19:28-44**

Review –

- First encounter – Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)
- Second encounter – Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
- Third encounter – A large crowd (Luke 19:28-44)

Blunders

- DVD's of actors laughing during tapings of the shows
- Bloopers in the movies that don't belong
  - Raiders of the Lost Ark – blue tee shirt and jeans in background
  - Pirates of the Caribbean – crew member in cowboy hat in background
  - Gladiator – O2 tank in the overturned chariot
- These types of mistakes harm no one but there are those that can carry great, even eternal consequences

The people who were in Jerusalem that Sunday morning must have thought they were witnessing some type of a blooper

Background:

- Everyone in Israel knew that Messiah would come to be the King of Israel and liberate God's people
    - The OT writings of the Torah and the prophets foretold it
    - From the Garden of Eden through to that time they had been watching
  - The Passover time has come and the spiritual pilgrims would have been in heightened expectation having heard all about Jesus
  - His reputation had been growing
    - The most widely talked about of these being the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:45-46)
    - This not only was known by the people but by the religious leaders as well
    - They were so concerned that they had been plotting on how to kill Jesus
  - This is the great clash that is about to come to a head – the anticipation of a king by the people; the desire to kill Jesus by the religious leaders
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- Why did the people shout, wave palm branches and lay their coats on the ground?
  - They thought they were welcoming their savior, a liberator
  - And they were right but not in the way they believed.

## How can we welcome the King this morning?

### 1. With Obedience - (1:28-35a)

- a. Much of what happens in these last days of Jesus takes place near or on the Mount of Olives
  - i. It is prophesied to be the place where the Messiah would appear (**Zach 14:4**)
  - ii. During his last week it would appear that Jesus spent at least a few nights there
  - iii. It is where He gave the Olivet Discourse (Sermon on the Mount)
  - iv. The place of great agony as He looked over Jerusalem
  - v. The place where He ascended into heaven (**Acts 1:12**)
  - vi. From here Jesus sends the 2 disciples into the city (**v 30-31**)
- b. Jesus was accomplishing 2 very specific things in sending the disciples to bring back the colt that had nothing to do with riding -
  - i. According a custom of the day called angaria a dignitary or man of authority could make use of other's property for personal use (the governor says he needs your car)
    1. Jesus was quietly demonstrating who He truly was; His authority
  - ii. He was fulfilling the prophecy of **Zech 9:9** written almost 500 years earlier - *Rejoice greatly, Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey*
- c. The disciples obeyed Jesus but what was going through their minds
  - i. **Chapter 9** – feeding of the 5000; the transfiguration; healing of a possessed little boy
  - ii. The disciples, having seen all of this, began to argue about who among them would be the greatest
  - iii. They might have been wondering how their conquering king was going to be seen by riding in on a donkey

### 2. With Gifts – Jesus received 3 gifts that day

- a. The colt
  - i. The owner let them go
  - ii. The riding of the colt was a reminder of another king who rode a similar animal
    1. **I Kings 1** – Solomon was placed on David's mule, the priests anointed him, they sounded the trumpets and all the people shouted
    2. The religious leaders would not have missed the connection
- b. The cloaks of the people
  - i. The disciples laid them on the colt's back (**v 35**)
  - ii. The people then laid their cloaks in the road (**v 36**)
  - iii. This would have been the same as a red carpet today
  - iv. **II Kings 9:13** – the people put their cloaks on the bare steps for King Jehu to walk on
  - v. The people recognized royalty



- vi. The religious leaders would not have missed the connection
- c. The palm branches
  - i. **Matt. 21:8** gives more detail
  - ii. The people cut them from the trees and spread them on the ground
    - 1. Common welcome to a returning conquering, victorious king from battle
    - 2. Waving them was a sign of joy and victory
    - 3. Often placed on graves as a symbol of eternal life
    - 4. The palms, growing in the desert, would have indicated water
  - iii. The message of the palms was Jesus, the victorious king, giver of the spring of eternal life
  - iv. What do we give to God of our lives?
    - 1. We cannot buy our way into heaven
    - 2. Will you give your life to Him?
    - 3. Will you give ALL your life to Him?

### 3. With Praise

- a. The crowd of disciples (**v 37**)
  - i. More than just the 12
  - ii. The crowd begins quoting **Ps 118 (v 38)**
  - iii. This Psalm was sung aloud during the Passover meal and was a song of praise for the coming Messiah
- b. The Pharisees would not have missed the significance
  - i. They wanted Jesus to tell them to stop (**v 39**)
  - ii. **Matt 21:9** says the people also cried Hosanna
    - 1. "Save now"
    - 2. Expectation, rejoicing, anticipation
- c. Jesus said there would be a rock concert if the people did not cry out (**v 40**)
  - i. In a way fulfilled at the time of Jesus' death and the tearing of the veil
  - ii. **Matt 27:51** – "...the earth shook and the rocks split..."
- d. How can we know who Jesus is, His love, His power and not give Him praise?
  - i. Praise means to glorify, exalt, give thanks
  - ii. Do we praise Him or complain to Him?

### 4. With Faith

- a. The mood abruptly changes in a single verse (**v 41**)
  - i. From celebrating to lamenting
  - ii. Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem for their hard hearts
    - 1. The same word used in **Mark 5:38** of parents crying over the death of their young daughter
    - 2. Not a solitary tear but racking sobs
- b. Jesus had offered salvation but they rejected it (hidden from their eyes) (**v 42**)
- c. He then tells them the consequence of their stubbornness (**v 43**)
  - i. Roman General Titus surrounded the city in 70 AD
  - ii. They built embankments around the city so no one could escape
  - iii. For 143 consecutive days they attacked the city

- iv. 600,000 men, women, and children were slaughtered
- v. The city, the temple, every building was burned and reduced to rubble (v 44)
- vi. God gave them over to the consequence of their sins (v 44)
- d. Only faith in God through Jesus Christ could have saved them
- e. Only faith in God through Jesus Christ can save us today

- Chapter 16 – the story of the beggar Lazarus and the rich man
  - His cry was to warn his family of the consequences
- Who will you warn?
- The greatest mistake in someone's life has nothing to do with a movie blunder – they can go reshoot the scene and make it right
  - When we die there is no more time
  - Is your life right before God this morning?
  - Who do you need to help from making the biggest mistake of their lives by rejecting Jesus?