

Celebrating the King John 12:12-19

12 The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!" 14 Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: 15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt." 16 His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. 17 Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. 18 For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign. 19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"

We don't care much for kings here in America. We much would rather elect corrupt politicians to go to Washington and see just how badly they can mess things up.

But kings were the usual way of governing for centuries. And a true monarchy is the most efficient method of governance. The problem is never the method of governing but the people in charge. In a republic we elect other to represent us and we try to choose the best leaders that contend for the job. Maybe we should start electing people who don't want the job.

Heaven will not be a democracy or a republic, although either would do since only saints will be the population. Jesus will be the supreme sovereign over all. And God's will will be done on earth as it is done in heaven, immediately and without question or resistance.

So let us get past our prejudices against kings and get on with the passage.

- I. These people were looking for a different king.
 - A. They already had a king.
 1. Herod had been their king and now Rome claim that.
 2. Cesar was their king but they didn't much like it.
 - B. They wanted a king of their own.
 1. A Jewish king.
 2. A Davidic king.
 - a. Throughout the Old testament there were hundreds of prophecies concerning David being their future king.
 - b. Zech 9:9 9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. NKJV

- c. Psalm 2 1 ¶ Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. 5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: 6 "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion."
- d. 7 ¶ "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'"
 - e. Isa 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

C. We all have a king.

- 1. Jesus said that we either serve the world or God.
- 2. He said we either serve money or God.
- 3. So it is, there is always something or God.

D. But we need a different king.

- 1. Jesus was presenting Himself as their king
 - a. They seem to gladly accept Him.
 - b. They throw out the branches and place their robes along the way to make a royal path for the king.
 - c. But was it real?
 - d. Were they just caught up in the moment?
 - e. Or was it that Jesus wanted to be king of their lives not king of their nation.
 - f. Jesus once referred to the kingdom of God being within them.
 - g. Luke 17:21 For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." NKJV

- h. The smallest kingdom is the heart of any person.
 - i. And who reigns in your heart today.
 - j. Yourself, or worse yet some evil desire or longing.
 - k. It seems that they wanted Jesus as King, but did they?
 - 2. But one week later they will have Him nailed to the cross.
- II. The disciples did not understand until after His resurrection what all this meant. V-16
- III. The Pharisees are powerless to do anything.
 - A. God will always overcome evil for the purpose of good where ever His people are concerned.
 - B. They would prevail but not now
 - 1. Now was not their hour.
 - 2. Although it would come, it could only come with God's permission.
 - 3. They would have turned this rejoicing into despair but God would not allow it.
 - C. Whatever is in your life that hinders you, that brings you down. Remember God is Lord over even that.

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