

Palm Sunday 2018
What Did You See on Palm Sunday?
Luke 19:28-44

Introduction

1. If you want an education on how our justice system works, serve on a jury. Things are not as clear as portrayed on TV due to the conflicting testimonies of multiple eyewitnesses.
2. Today we want to look at the historical event we call Palm Sunday from the perspectives of four groups of eyewitnesses. Spoiler alert: only one of them got it right.

Luke 19:28-44 - *"And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.""*

What did you see?

1. **Jesus' disciples saw the fulfillment of their dreams.** Mt. 20:20-28
 - The disciples saw Jesus as the promised King who came to establish His kingdom and they would reign with Him. They debated who was the most important.
 - Jesus settled the argument by saying the one who serves will be first.

2. The crowd saw Jesus as the deliverer of their nation.

Is. 9:6-7 - *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.”*

- The Jews expected the Messiah to be the king who will deliver Israel from her enemies and free them from the Roman tyranny.
- Once, the crowd tried to force Him to be their king, but He refused. *Jn. 6:15 - “Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.”* NOTE: It is this same crowd that will later cry “crucify him!”

3. The religious leaders saw Jesus as a threat to their power.

Mt. 21:45 - “When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.” Mt. 26:3-5 - “Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

- They were enraged when He was called the Messiah and told Him to rebuke His followers and tell them to stop. He refused to do so. *Vs. 39*
- To eliminate the threat, they plotted to capture and kill Him.

4. The Lord saw the real **needs of the people’s hearts. Vs. 41-44**

- **He wept because they did not see “the things that make for peace.”**
- Their greatest need was to have the peace of God in their hearts.
- This was made possible by their king dying for their sins and rising again to give them new life. *Is. 53:4-10*

Today I will:

- Turn from my selfish sin and trust Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- Thank God for sending Christ to die for me and ask Him to use me for His glory.
- Invite someone to come to the Easter Service to hear the message of hope in Christ.