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| 1Mark 11:1-25 Sermon Outline 10/08/23 The Lowly King of the Temple INTRO: Familiar passage -Easter passage/Resurrection  -Palm Sunday “Triumphal Entry” in Bibles as caption While true, not what we typically associate with Think of word “triumph”  -Military connotations  -bloody overthrow -or bloodless coupes  -History has both occurrencesMAIN POINT: But Jesus does neither. He came to be king of their “hearts”  | 2He came to save people from their sins He came to save “YOU” from your sins And we will see that today BODY: Last week of Lord’s life Triumphal entry = Monday Jesus’ death only 4 days later on Friday Jesus and disciples continue on their journey to Jerusalem and at Bethphage and Bethany, near Mount of Olives Jesus tells disciples to bring back a donkey (explain it) “The Lord has need of it” = Jesus has every right to take and use it as Lord of creation Jesus is sovereign over people’s responses to Him  |
| 3He is orchestrating everything perfectly as OT predicted Verse 7 disciples bring donkey to Jesus and put garments on it Verse 8 People recognize Jesus is Davidic king that has come to save them and spread their garments and leafy branches before them BTW, if you do math, Daniel’s Seventy weeks 69th week lands exactly the week that Christ enters Jerusalem. Remarkable accuracy But they start shouting HOSANNA! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; BLESED IS THE COMING KINGDOM OF OUR FATHER DAVID; HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!” quoting Psalm 118 Same account in John we see Jesus fulfills prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 where Davidic king will one day enter Jerusalem riding on a lowly donkey  | 4Why a donkey and not a horse?  -Couple of reasons: Donkey = royal animal for Israel’s kings King Solomon rode on one Rest of nations = horses Horses = large, intimidating creatures that rode to battle That is why you see God commanding not to rely on horses or nations that rode them because Israel was to be set apart. They were to rely on Yahweh Is. 31:1 *“Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help And rely on horses, And trust in chariots because they are many, And in horsemen because they are very mighty, But they do not regard at the Holy One of Israel, nor seek Yahweh!”* |
| 5Horses tended to make Israel trust in them and not in Yahweh!  -Originally Israel was not to have even a king like  the other nations because Yahweh was to be their  king, but they persisted in it in their desires Donkeys = not for war but agriculture/hard labor Thus donkeys = symbol for peace but horses = symbol for war Is it any wonder why God would chose a donkey for His kings to ride on and not horses? Of course, after Davidic dynasty split into Israel and Judah, they started to become like the other nations It’s pretty remarkable you get significant theology out of horses and donkeys right? But the people are ecstatic and shouting that Jesus has come to deliver them!  | 6the moment is here…and Jesus enters the temple…and then what does He do?!...Looks around…and does nothing…He leaves back to Bethany because it’s getting late! Anticlimactic Jesus’ actions signifies that presence of God is not in the temple but in Himself. He is veiled and unrecognized to those who do not hear and do not see. Matthew, Luke, and John leave out detail that Jesus leaves the temple but Mark leaves in this awkward detail He’s trying to tell you that crowds misunderstood Jesus’ identity once again and missed fact that He came to suffer and die for their sins and not conquer His enemies Not only as Son of God, but as Son of Man  |
| 7People are no doubt disappointed  -Jesus didn’t deliver them from Roman oppression They wanted political military conqueror Again they didn’t realize that the Messiah would have to come twice to earth. One for salvation from sins, then the second to establish earthly reign Didn’t realize that Jesus came to bring peace first. That is the whole reason He rode on a donkey!!!But there will be a day where He will come riding on a horse for war! Revelation 19 = He will come as the One who is known as Faithful and True He will come to judge the earth and give His people rest eternally from her enemies But until then, Jesus is giving peace from sin  | 8Verse 12 (Tuesday) Jesus leaves Bethany again and heads toward Jerusalem It’s been a while since we have seen a Markan sandwich again, but here it is Remember what the sandwich signifies (explain) Maybe missing out on breakfast Jesus is hungry and goes to fig tree He sees leaves, but no fruit Mark: “It was not the season for figs” 1 month later ripe figs should be there But Jesus was also right. He wasn’t being irrationally angry here Hos. 9 and Isa. 28 there should have been unripe figs along with the leaves that could be eaten He gets angry and curses it and it dies  |
| 9The fig tree was deceptive, it was phony! But Jesus uses this to create a graphic lesson for His disciples Jesus does a miracle…not of life…but of death Matthew: It “instantly” withered/diedVerses 15-18 (read) Jesus comes into the temple again but this time there is all sorts of commotion It is a business market full of bleaping sheep, animals, clucking, and the loud voices of those bargaining deals Temple of God has been corrupted into market of greed and extortion Chief priests were using religion to their advantage to fill their greedy pockets  | 10This was the Court of the Gentiles Foreigners from all over the world came to Jerusalem to worship in the temple, to worship Yahweh We see the purpose of the temple for Gentiles back in 1 Kings 8 when King Solomon dedicates the temple to the Lord *“Also concerning the foreigner who is not of Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your name’s sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your mighty hand, and of Your outstretched arm); when he comes and prays toward this house, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, to fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name.”* But there was corruption all over because even if a foreigner brought a perfect, unblemished lamb, those in the temple can reject it and force them to buy their own lamb |
| 11They would charge an exorbitant amount for it. It was a scam. They would profit Furthermore, if they happened to have the wrong currency, they would have to go to “money changers” The Jews thought that foreign currency was idolatrous because it typically had the face of the emperor of that nation on it So foreigner had to exchange their currency for Jewish or Tyrian currency for an ungodly price as wellThey were nothing but scoundrels, eyes filled with greedThey would force these foreigners to give them no choice but to empty their pockets It is like movies right? Food costs more than movie ticket itself You can’t bring in your own food and drink so forced to buy popcorn and soda will be $20  | 12Monopoly on food! But in this case it was much much worse for they were under the guise of religion! You know I find it ironic that Jewish tax collectors working for the Roman empire were the most hated by their own Jews, but yet these Jews would turn around and do the same thing to Gentiles!It was a scam, nothing but a hoodwink enterprise Knowing all of this our Lord lets them have it!He start flipping tables, pulling out the cushions underneath where people were sitting, flipping chairs! Even forms John 2:15 cord of whips and starts whipping these guys out of the temple! Jesus meek and mild…  |
| 13I mean imagine that scene There was potentially thousands of people all running about and Jesus creates such a commotion that it draws attention of chief priests and scribes. Fulfilled Ps. 69:9 “Zeal has consumed me for your house” On top of that, Jesus taught quoting Is. 56:7 (read) and Jer. 7:11 Jesus was infuriated not only because religious leaders turned sacred space into a dirty robber’s den but because they were literally preventing Gentiles from worshipping Yahweh They were literally preventing people from being saved! It was a Gospel issue! The temple was a big deal, and Gentiles didn’t have a temple in their homeland!! | 14All the way back in Gen. 12 salvation of Gentiles were included all along in plan of salvation Israel was to be a light to the nations to draw the nations in to worship Yahweh But over time they became opposite of what they were to be Attitude = elitist, exclusive, partial, and even “racist”!Remember Jonah? He hated Assyrians and didn’t want Assyrians to be saved book of Jonah is all about compassion of GodIn fact, when Nineveh repented and turned to the Lord Jonah thought God did evil and he became angry!  |
| 15Jonah 4:2-4 “And he prayed to Yahweh and said, *“Ah! O Yahweh, was not this my word to myself while I was still in my own land? Therefore I went ahead to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning evil. So now, O Yahweh, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life.”*You know what Jonah said? He said I would rather die than see these people saved from their sins Talk about racism, this is true racism! If the Black Lives Matter movement or these woke churches truly want to point out racism, this is the place to do it. Jonah was truly racist Is it any wonder that they wanted to destroy Jesus and crowds were stunned?!  | 16Verse 19 Jesus and disciples leave city and head back to their temporary home End of temple incident, back to figs: In morning disciples see fig tree withered (they didn’t notice fig tree withered in night) and Peter sees it and remembers what Jesus said “Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed withered!” Read Verses 22-25: “Have faith in God!” Jesus turns to subject of prayer Prayer might be a little odd, is it related?It is when we connect that in light of temple and fig tree Jesus cursed fig tree because it promised fruit with its leaves but no fruit  |
| 17But fig tree represented temple that appeared religious on outside but no fruit whatsoever The temple looked clean on the outside but inside were full of dead men’s bones Full of spiritual death That’s why Matthew 23 Jesus said “Woe is you, woe is you, woe is you!” Temple was indicative of Israel’s spiritual health Court of Gentiles = “bazar of Annas” because Annas the high priest was the organizer Temple important to understand Started all the way back in Genesis 22 where Abraham was asked to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah King David eventually purchased Mount Moriah from Ornan in 1 Chron. 21 which eventually led to building first temple  | 18But as you know Israel sinned and apostatized and God sent Babylon to destroy it and captivity After captivity they return back to land and rebuild it a second time  -Not as glorious as first time A couple hundred years pass and Antiochus desecrates and profanes temple. Israel is still rebellious Then Herod comes along and builds third temple (but it’s an overhaul of current temple) present day: Jesus alludes to destruction of temple by Romans in 70 AD Ch. 13 Jesus will explicitly foretell destruction of temple And this is where prayer part comes in:  |
| 19Though disciples will be without templeThough temple has been corrupted Though no longer be place of worship and atonement The disciples will have full access to worship and God’s presence through prayer God’s presence will no longer be limited to a building or something physical but in Christ through prayerJn. 2:19 Christ referred to His own body that will be torn down and three days later risen up againAlso preparing disciples for when He will no longer be physically with them In fact prayer will be so powerful that verse 23 (read) Now don’t mistake this verse to mean it is a license to ask whatever your sinful heart desires whether for riches, wealth, and prosperity as so many heretics do on TV | 20That’s why we have other Scriptures like James telling you you don’t receive because you ask with wrong motives to spend it on your pleasures Or like 1 John where if you ask anything according to “His will” not “your” will, God will hear you.God knows your needs. He knows you need food, clothing, a place to live, etc.He has promised to provide But it’s all according to His will, not your will, His timing, not your timing His way, not your wayHis purpose, not your purpose His wisdom, not your wisdom It’s appropriate to ask God to heal someone. If that’s God will to heal that person, He will heal that person But sometimes, answer is no. -It’s no because He has something far better planned that you don’t see at moment   |
| 21Jesus is clearly using a figure of speech = hyperbole to stress point We use that language all the time today right? “I’m so hungry, I could eat this table”Literally eat the table? No Acts 17:6 *“these men who have turned the whole world upside down”* Literally earth flipped on it’s axis? Figure of speech saying these Jesus freaks have caused an uproar, a controversy and have unsettled our way of life and religion Similarly: Prayer is so powerful it can accomplish seemingly impossible if God does it | 22Not because anything special in person but because God is doing it, power is in God!Not saying God can’t move mountains in sea, God can do that if he wishes! So yes hypothetically ex: Man who is on journey is blocked by mountain If it’s God’s will, no matter how absurd or impossible it seems, God will do anything Jer. 32:27 *“Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is there anything too difficult for Me?”*In fact Jesus adds complimentary verse 24 We are to pray in such a way that we have already received whatever we are asking God for  |
| 23Eph. 1:3 *“blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”*We can’t fathom that statement, it is profound! Christian you have everything you need through prayerPs. 84:11 *“No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly”*Trust that God has already provided everything for you in Christ He will meet your needsMaybe you are in need of a car You pray: “God please provide me a V8 Maserati with 500 HP that can go from 0-60 in 2.3 seconds… Well God could provide you a Maserati | 24But He’s likely going to give you a good ole reliable Toyota Corolla It might have not been what you wanted, but it is what you needed. Your need for a car maybe legitimate, but your need for a Maserati is probably not legitimate, if not illegitimate We come to last verse in verse 25 (read) In order to be effective in God’s kingdom you need to know that you need to forgive if you have anything against a brother This isn’t talking about salvation but having a clear relationship with God I love how pastor MacArthur puts it “you are never more like God than when you forgive” God’s forgiveness is at the heart of the gospel  |
| 25We loved God because God what? First loved us? 1 John 4:19 We forgive because God forgave us first If you have not forgiven anyone,If your life is marked by unforgiveness, holding grudges, being bitter about what people have done to you, holding people’s sins against them, then it is questionable whether you have truly received the forgiveness of God yourself!That is why Jesus says this jarring statement “so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions” That’s why Mark 9:50 “have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.” A true disciple forgives others  | 261 Corin. 13: love “remembers no wrongs” Jesus entered Jerusalem as King to be sure, but not king people expected. He came to die for His people He came to do away with temple not only for its fruitless hypocrisy but because the veil to the holy of holies will torn in two A new age will dawn when you won’t have to travel to Jerusalem to go for worship and atonement No longer will you need a high priest to confess your sins to because you have a great high priest who is interceding for you daily!In the last days, the temple will be rebuilt and be present in the Millennium, not for atonement for sins, but a reminder for sinsbecause death and sin is still present, although almost gone  |
| 27And there will be no physical temple in eternal state because Rev. 21:22 “I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple” If you are here today and you die not having repented of your sins and…you will meet Jesus not on donkey of peace but on a horse of war Jesus will come one day as Jude 1 says with *“many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”*But if you are living and breathing right now, Jesus is coming to you lowly and riding on a donkey He came to deliver you not from an oppressive corrupt government but from your sins!  | 28Coming to Him is free, it is at no cost because He payed that cost for you There is no barrier you have to stand behind because He has torn that veil downListen to Ephesians 2:13-22*“But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups one and broke down the dividing wall of the partition by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might create the two into one new man, making peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, having in Himself put to death the enmity. And He came and preached the good news of peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.*  |
| 29*So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,**in whom the whole building, being joined together, is growing into a holy sanctuary in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.”*Come to the lowly King of your temple and worship Him Let’s pray  | 30 |