

The New Testament Church – Palm Sunday  
*The Revelation of the Lamb of God*  
 March 24, 2024 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I Palm Sunday – John 12:9-33; Revelation 5:6, 11-14

- A. The previous sermon last week had a simple theme leading up to Palm Sunday
  - 1. We often miss the cross as the method to having the life of Christ manifest through us!
  - 2. **Embracing the cross is the key to living the Christian life and requires a depth of humility where we no drop all private agendas; but instead let God resurrect us in Christ!**
- B. Jesus and the disciples had been walking up rocky and hilly terrain from Jericho
  - 1. On Sunday, after being in Bethany with Lazarus and the disciples...
  - 2. “Fulness of time” Ga. 4:4, (Da. 9:24-27 - March 5, 444 BC - March 30, 33 AD 483 yrs)
  - 3. Jesus was selected as God the Father’s Lamb on Palm Sunday, fulfilling Passover
    - a. Since the time of the Exodus a lamb was chosen by the father, examined 4 days
    - b. On Passover the lamb would be sacrificed whole, no bones broken
    - c. The lambs were tied to the altar at 9 AM and killed by 3 PM
- C. A crowd begins to form...
  - 1. Some were *with Jesus* – disciples from Bethany – they lay their garments down
  - 2. Some came *to Him* – v. 12-22 - Greeks, pilgrims, visitors – with palms
    - a. They came being drawn by miracles (Lazarus)... didn’t understand the cross
    - b. Palms symbolized victory (Psalm 92); engraved on temple (1<sup>st</sup> Kings 6:29)
    - c. Revelation 7:9 every nation waves palm branches before the Lamb! (victory)
    - d. Shouting “Hosanna” – *hoshiya na* – “help, save us now” – blessed is he (Ps 118:25)
    - e. The children would shout hosanna as He came into the Temple (Luke 19:40)
    - f. The lame, halt, blind – all those rejected, came streaming into the temple (Mt. 21:14)
  - 3. Others came to *oppose Him* – v. 9, 19 - Pharisees wanted to kill Lazarus...
  - 4. Jesus reminds them *again* of why is in Jerusalem – v. 23-33
    - a. The “son of Man” shall be glorified – fulfill His purpose
    - b. But unless a grain of wheat dies, it abides alone – the cross is the key to fulfillment
    - c. The voice of God confirms Jesus’ purpose, and others think it is thunder

II Opposition is the context in which God brings revelation

- A. Examples of how God uses opposition – like a spiritual workout, to sharen our focus...
  - 1. Matthew 10:34 – Jesus brought a sword, not peace, clarifying who was with Him
  - 2. Galatians 5:17 – it is the opposition of the flesh that clarifies the Holy Spirit’s leading
  - 3. Ephesians 6:10-18 – it is the opposition of the devil that clarifies the need for armor
  - 4. Luke 8:6-8 – rocky and thorny soil helps clarify what good soil is that receives seed
- B. The people hailed Jesus as more than a man – miracles – was he the *Messiah*?
  - 1. The hearts of the common people, the neglected, rejected, and poor flocked to Him
  - 2. But an uprising of the people, even a peaceful one, threatened control from the top
- C. Caiaphas, the high priest – a Saduccee – and Rome opposed him *politically*
  - 1. Rome had allowed Jewish “freedom” but only on the condition of being a privilege
  - 2. Jesus and those who revered him, might cause Rome to occupy Palestine totally
  - 3. He had out debated the religious leaders... exposing their hypocrisy...
- D. The darkness on the Cross was another possible revelation – *Aires* – the lamb slain from the foundation of the world! (the disciples, and some religious and civil leaders – believed!)