

PRAISE IS GOD'S ALONE!
Ashes To Easter – Lent 6
Palm Sunday – March 24, 2013

John 12:13 (NIV) *“They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting, ‘Hosanna!’ ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ ‘Blessed is the King of Israel!’ ”*

Luke 19:29-33 (NIV) *“As He approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ ‘Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as He had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ ³⁴ They replied, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ”*

Zechariah 9:9 (NIV) *“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.”*

Luke 19:35-38 (NIV) *“They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ When He (Jesus) came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen. ³⁸ Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”*

Luke 2:14 (NIV) *“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”*

Luke 19:39-44 (NIV) *“Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke Your disciples!’ ⁴⁰ ‘I tell you,’ He replied, ‘if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.’ ⁴¹ As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it. ⁴² Jesus said, ‘If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ The days will come upon you when...*

your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you.’ ”

Matthew 5:44 (NIV) *“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”*

THOUGHTS ON BEING LIKE JESUS...

1. Be HUMBLE in your character.

Philippians 2:7-8 (NCV) *“But He (Jesus) gave up His place with God and made Himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became like a servant. ⁸ And when He was living as a man, He humbled Himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused His death—death on a cross.”*

2. Be of SERVICE to God and others.

Matthew 16:24 (NLT) *“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If any of you wants to be My follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow Me.’ ”*

3. Be STEADFAST in your purpose.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NLT) *“For we speak as messengers approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.”*

4. Be eager to PRAISE God.

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) *“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.”*

Hebrews 13:15 (NIV) *“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that openly profess His name.”*