Sunday School Lesson

April 10, 2022

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11

Instructor: Ralph Gordon
Questions for Us Today

1. If you were to receive instructions from Christ Jesus, how would you respond? What would you do?

2. If you were to witness the earthly arrival of Christ Jesus, how would you respond?
Sunday School Lesson Objectives

1. To understand how Jesus instructed His disciples to prepare for His entry into Jerusalem

2. To understand how Jesus was received upon His entry into Jerusalem
Sunday School Lesson Segments

April 10, 2022

1. Points of Information: Matthew
2. Other Individuals for Today's Lesson
3. Lesson Context
4. Lesson Text
Matthew’s original name was Levi. Although Matthew refers to himself by this name (which most of us know him by), the Gospels according to Mark and Luke refer to him by his original name: Levi. The name “Matthew” means “Gift of Jehovah.”

The Gospel according to Matthew is one of the three Synoptic Gospels – written with similar content, points of view and sequence. The others were written by Mark and Luke.
Before being called to Discipleship by Jesus, Matthew’s occupation was as a tax collector. This line of work was dreaded by the populace for at least a couple of reasons. These servants of the Roman Empire collected taxes for the despised and oppressive government. And, with the government’s permission, the tax collectors were allowed to charge extra monies above the tax amounts for themselves. Hence, these collectors – also known as “publicans” – were regarded as veritable “leeches” upon their own people.
Matthew became one of the original Twelve Disciples when he was called by Christ Jesus. This was recorded by Luke (5:27-28), by Mark (2:14) and by Matthew himself (9:9).

Immediately after he was called to follow Jesus, Matthew invited Our Lord and Savior to his home for a feast along with a number of his (Matthew’s) friends and associates (including other tax collectors). Jesus accepted the invitation and went to Matthew’s home, facing criticism from Pharisees, scribes and others.

To establish the case for Jesus as the Messiah, Matthew began the Gospel (Verses 1:1-17) with a genealogical listing – tracing the lineage of Jesus as the Son of God from the Hebrew patriarch, Abraham.

Luke, another Gospel writer, presents a genealogy of Our Lord and Savior (Luke 3:23-38) in a reverse order, and goes all the way back to Adam, presenting Jesus as the Son of Man, even as Verse 38 ends with these words: “... son of Adam, son of God.”
Points of Information – Matthew

In a fitting closing, the Great Commission from Jesus the Christ is recorded in the final Verses of the Gospel according to Matthew (28:19-20).

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
Other Individuals for Today's Lesson

1. Unnamed disciples who were sent to get the colt upon which Christ Jesus would ride.

2. Unnamed owners of the colt.
Parallel Passages for Today's Lesson

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Context (Part 1)

The Messiah on the Move
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Context (Part 2)

Chapter 19

- Pharisees with their usual attempts to trick Jesus.
- Christ blesses children.
- The approach of the young, rich ruler.
- Lessons from the Master.
Context (Part 3)

Chapter 20

- Parable.
- Prediction.
- Promotion.
- Provision.
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Matthew 21:1-11
Matthew 21:1-2 (NRSV)

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me."
Matthew 21:3

If anyone says anything to you, say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And He will send them immediately.”
Matthew 21:4-5
This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

“Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”
Matthew 21:6-7

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them;

they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and He sat on them.
Matthew 21:8-9

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of Him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest Heaven!”
Matthew 21:10-11

When He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, Who is this?"

The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”
Remember this:

1. Those who praise you today might turn against you tomorrow. Perhaps you don’t need a lot of friends – just a few good ones.

2. No matter what happens, the Lord’s Will shall be done. He loves us and He is faithful! Hallelujah!

3. Let us remain obedient and faithful to the Lord, no matter what. In Him is the triumph for us all. Hallelujah!
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