**Holy Week March 24, 2024**

**Matthew 21:1-11 – How do I worship?**

Psalms of Ascent

* A collection of 15 of the Psalms
  + Psalm 120 – 134 form the group
  + Written after the release from exile in Babylon in anticipation of returning to Jerusalem / Israel to be united together in **worship**
* The crowd in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would be filled up with worship on the journey

Need for a donkey & colt Matthew 21:1-5

* “The Lord has need of them”
  + As **stewards** of God’s provisions, He asks us to use what we have for Him
    - Time / calendar, spiritual (grace) gifts, finances, personality

Symbol of Peace

* Triumphant generals and kings would ride great horses when returning home after victorious battle
  + Jesus comes in humility & peace as King of kings

The Worship Matthew 21:6-11

* Spreading coats and using palm branches were symbols of ***majesty*** and ***adoration***
  + It was used as a way to welcome the Lord Jesus
* “Hosanna” means “**save us**”
* “Son of David” – as the people worshipped on the journey to Jerusalem, they were looking forward to the fulfillment of God’s promise to David of the Messiah
* The people were praising God using   
  Psalm 118:25-26 as the called out to Jesus

**How do you worship?**

Preparation for worship

* The Jews Saturated their souls with the **Word of God** in their minds as they journeyed and sang, which made the people ready for worship
  + How do you prepare yourself to worship?

The Act of Worship

* Involves both **mind** and **body**

Romans 12:1–2   
1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your **bodies** a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your **spiritual service of worship**. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, so that you may prove what the **will of God** is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

* **Anticipatory**
  + Expecting God to meet us as we worship
  + Looking forward to what He will yet do
  + Excited at the opportunity to meet Him
* **Authentic**
  + The genuine and sincere expression of adoration from the spirit
  + It’s how we meet God now
  + It’s what we will do forever in His Kingdom
  + The primary activity in heaven is WORSHIP

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