

Our Easter Celebrations: "THE EXALTATION"

We want to exalt Jesus for the right reasons.

(John 12:12-19) The next day, when the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet Him. They kept shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord - the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written: "Fear no more, Daughter Zion; look! Your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first. However, when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. Meanwhile the crowd, which had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify. This is also why the crowd met Him, because they heard He had done this sign. Then the Pharisees said to one another, "You see? You've accomplished nothing. Look - the world has gone after Him!"

1. His Critics Exalt Jesus

- A. They exalted Him by making Him their number one priority for persecution.
 - a. John 11:53
 - b. John 11:56-57
 - c. John 12:1
 - d. John 12:10-11
 - e. John 12:19
- B. Today His critics are those who persecute anyone who follows Jesus.

2. The Crowd Exalts Jesus

- A. This crowd of Jews exalted Jesus.

(Luke 19:37-40) The whole crowd... began to praise God JOYFULLY with a loud voice...: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees from the crowd told Him, "Teacher, rebuke (them)." He answered, "I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the stones would cry out!"

- B. Jesus was not who they thought He was.
- C. The crowd of culture often exalts Jesus.
- D. Jesus is not who they think He is.

3. The "Crew" Exalts Jesus

- A. Jesus' disciples exalted Him as Messiah.

(16) they remembered that these things had been written about Him.

- B. Centuries before He was born, prophets wrote about Him.

(Zechariah 9:9) Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout in triumph, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your King is coming to you; He is righteous and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

- C. The disciples remembered the prophecies.
 - a. Psalm 41:9, John 13:26 & 30.
 - b. Zechariah 11:12, Matthew 26:15 & 16.
 - c. Zechariah 13:7, Matthew 14:46 & 50.