



“The Triumphal Entry Of Jesus”

John 12:12-19

Introduction

As we continue our study of the book of John we are now at the “Triumphal Entry of Jesus” as He is entering Jerusalem.

John 1-11 records the three years of the ministry of Jesus.

John 12-21 records the last week of the life of Jesus.

The last time we were together we looked at **John 12:1-11** and we discovered “Six Attributes of Biblical Community Among Believers”

Six Attributes of Biblical Community Among Believers:

- 1. Purpose**
- 2. Service**
- 3. Fellowship**
- 4. Worship**
- 5. Accountability**
- 6. Peace**

Biblical Community among believers is a place where we laugh out loud, we cry, we share our stories, we share our burdens, we share our blessings, we pray, we grow together in faith, courage, unity and commitment to Christ.

In this passage of Scripture, this small gathering of people was the last moment of rest and relaxation for Jesus before He was betrayed, falsely accused, arrested, tried in a sham trial, beaten, mocked and ultimately crucified.

Life can be very difficult. Meaningful times of biblical community with other believers give us comfort in the midst of all the chaos.

We do not need the whole world to know our name, but when a small group of people in biblical community know us, care for us, talk with us and share life together— life is much better!

Scripture

The next day, when the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,

¹³ 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!”

¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written:

¹⁵ Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ This is also why the crowd met him, because they heard he had done this sign.

¹⁹ Then the Pharisees said to one another, “You see? You’ve accomplished nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!” CSB

Quote Of The Day

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing

nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. —C.S. Lewis

Today as we examine **John 12:12-19** we will discover three powerful insights regarding the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus reveals:

The Confirmation of Jesus the Messiah

The Celebration of Jesus the Messiah

The Condemnation of Jesus the Messiah

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus reveals:

The Confirmation of Jesus the Messiah vv.14-15

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written: ¹⁵ Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt. CSB

Mark 19:28-34 When he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples ³⁰ and said, "Go into the village ahead of you. As you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say this: 'The Lord needs it.' " ³² So those who were sent left and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ "The Lord needs it," they said. ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their clothes on the colt, they helped Jesus get on it. CSB

To confirm means to give evidence to the truth, to state with assurance that a fact is indeed established and true.

Jesus confirmed He was the Messiah through His Words

Recognize and Remember His Words

Through the power of His Word Jesus speaks to us as we live our lives.

“The more familiar we are with the Word of God the more we can recognize His voice that speaks to us!”

Psalm 119:97-105 “How I love your instruction! It is my meditation all day long. ⁹⁸Your command makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. ⁹⁹I have more insight than all my teachers because your decrees are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰I understand more than the elders because I obey your precepts. ¹⁰¹I have kept my feet from every evil path to follow your word. ¹⁰²I have not turned from your judgments, for you yourself have instructed me. ¹⁰³How sweet your word is to my taste—sweeter than honey in my mouth. ¹⁰⁴I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every false way. ¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. CSB

When facing Temptation remember His Words

James 4:7-8 “. . . submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.” CSB

When facing Adversity Remember His Words

James 1:2-4 “Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.” CSB

When we are Broken Hearted Remember His Words

Psalm 34:18 “The Lord is near the brokenhearted; he saves those crushed in spirit.” CSB

When we are Fearful and Anxious Remember His Words

Joshua 1:9 “Haven’t I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” CSB

Jesus confirmed He was the Messiah through His Works

Remember what He has done

Jesus had previously raised Lazarus from the dead and the crowd recognized Him as the Messiah. They also testified to His miraculous power to raise Lazarus from the dead.

Jesus confirms He is the Messiah through His presence and power at work in our life.

Can you recall how Jesus has confirmed His presence and power in your life?

Jesus has confirmed His presence in my life many times throughout my life.

Jesus confirmed His call on my life to preach His Word— Bethel Baptist Church.

How I met Angela and asked her on our first date

How Anapauo Group Ministries got started

We gain confidence in our life when we remember what Jesus has done to confirm His presence in our life.

Recognize what He is doing

Jesus confirmed He was the Messiah by sending two of his disciples into town to acquire a donkey for His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem.

Every thing that took place to acquire the donkey happened just like Jesus said it would.

Do we recognize His divine presence in the daily rhythm of our life?

Do we recognize His purpose in our life?

Do we recognize His blessings?

Do we recognize His divine timing?

Do we recognize His opportunities in our life?

When we recognize what Jesus is doing in our life we have confirmation that He is the Messiah— the One sent from God!

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus reveals the Confirmation of Jesus the Messiah.

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus reveals:

The Celebration of Jesus the Messiah vv.12-13 16-17

John 12:12-13 The next day, when the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³they 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!”** CSB

John 12:16-17 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. ¹⁷Meanwhile, the crowd, which had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify. CSB

The Lord is honored when we praise Him.

Psalm 150 is a great song of praise!

¹ Hallelujah! Praise God in his sanctuary. Praise him in his mighty expanse.
² Praise him for his powerful acts; praise him for his abundant greatness.
³ Praise him with the blast of a trumpet; praise him with harp and lyre.
⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and flute.
⁵ Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with clashing cymbals.
⁶ **Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.** Hallelujah! CSB

Two powerful words are repeated in this Psalm:

Hallelujah— “**Halal**” meaning to boast, to praise, to shine, to shout with exuberant joy, to admire, to express words of praise and honor to the KING!

Praise— is the root word of “**Halal**” meaning to praise the Lord!

v.1 Praise God in His sanctuary

v.1 Praise Him in His mighty expanse—

Psalm 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the expanse proclaims the work of his hands.” CSB

Psalm 48:1 Great is the LORD, and most worthy of Praise in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

Great is the LORD-

The term translated “**Great**” comes from the Hebrew word “**Gadol**” which means “Great in any sense of the word!”

God is GREAT!

Leave it to a children’s book to help us see how big our universe is and how Great God is. In his book entitled “Is a Blue Whale the biggest Thing There is?” Author Robert Wells takes us from a size we can grasp to one we can’t.

The largest animal on earth is the blue whale. Just the flippers on its tail are bigger than most animals on earth. But a blue whale isn’t anywhere near as

big as a mountain. If you put one hundred blue whales in a huge jar, you could put millions of whale jars inside a hollowed out Mount Everest. But Mount Everest isn't anywhere near as big as the earth. If you stacked one hundred Mount Everest's on top of one another, it would be just a whisker on the face of the earth. And the earth isn't anywhere near as big as the sun. You could fit one million earths inside of the sun. But the sun which is a medium size star, isn't anywhere near as big as a red super giant star called Antares. Fifty million stars the size of our sun could fit inside Antares. But Antares isn't anywhere near as big as the Milky Way Galaxy. Billions of stars, including super giants like Antares, as well as countless comets and asteroids, make up the Milky Way Galaxy. But the Milky Way Galaxy isn't anywhere near as big as the universe. There are billions of other galaxies in the universe. And yet, filled with billions of galaxies, the universe is almost totally empty. The distances from one galaxy to another are beyond our imagination. And the Creator of this universe is God, who with a Word spoke it all into being, who is present everywhere in this universe and beyond, who upholds it all with his mighty power. **Great is our God and greatly to be praised!** Citation: Robert E. Wells, *Is a Blue Whale the Biggest Thing There Is?* (Morton Grove, Ill.: Albert Whitman & Company, 1993).

The term translated "LORD" is the Hebrew word Jehovah which means: the self-existent, self-sustaining creator of everything.

Most worthy of praise-

The phrase "**most worthy**" comes from the Hebrew word "**me'-od**" which means: exceedingly, very, greatly and highly.

God is Great and His people should rave about Him, we should make it clear, we should boast and celebrate His Holy name!

The phrase "in the city of our God, his holy mountain" is a direct reference to God's people where God dwells.

A clear meaning of **Psalm 48:1** could read this way: The Living God is awesome and deserves honor and recognition from His people in His place of worship.

Praise to Jehovah is a natural response of every believer who experiences the presence and power of God at work in their life!

When we recognize God at work in our life it is right for His people to praise His name.

When God's people come together and worship it is right for His people to praise and exalt His name!

PRAISING GOD REQUIRES ACTION!

In the Broadway play *My Fair Lady*, Eliza is courted by a man named Freddy. Freddy writes her love letters every day. But Eliza's response to all of these written promises is to cry out in frustration: "Words! Words! I'm so sick of words! Don't talk of stars burning above! If you're in love, show me! Don't talk of love lasting through time. Make no undying vow. If you love me, show me now!"

In the same way, Christians need to show their love and gratitude to God with actions, not just words. Citation: [Chris Bennett, from the sermon "You Get What You Give," PreachingToday.com](#)

Luke 19:39-40 Some of the Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the stones would cry out." CSB

God is great and worthy to be praised!

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus reveals:

The Condemnation of Jesus the Messiah v.19

Then the Pharisees said to one another, "You see? You've accomplished nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!" CSB

Luke 19:39 Some of the Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." CSB

The word translated “**rebuke**” comes from the Greek word “**Epitimao**” meaning to condemn, to express strong disapproval, to criticize to punish.

There are two ways people reject Jesus:

Passive Rejection

A person who passively rejects Jesus is a person who believes Jesus is **Good for my life** but He is **NOT the Master of my life.**

Some of the same people who were praising Jesus as He entered Jerusalem were also the ones screaming out loud to crucify Him.

Jesus knows that people can be fickle— weak minded, easily swayed, not consistent and difficult to lead.

Jesus said in **John 2:23-25** “While he was in Jerusalem during the Passover Festival, **many believed in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.** ²⁴ **Jesus, however, would not entrust himself to them, since he knew them all** ²⁵ **and because he did not need anyone to testify about man; for he himself knew what was in man.** CSB

Jesus said in **Mathew 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?’ ²³ Then I will announce to them, ‘I never knew you. **Depart from me, you lawbreakers!**’ CSB

It is quite possible to be religious and not be righteous.

It is quite possible to believe Jesus is Good for my life but He is NOT the Master of my life.

Matthew 6:24 “No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” CSB

Rebellious Rejection

There are two primary passages of Scripture that teach us about scoffers.

Jude 17-21 Look! The Lord comes with tens of thousands of his holy ones¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly concerning all the ungodly acts that they have done in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things ungodly sinners have said against him.”¹⁶ **These people are discontented grumblers, living according to their desires; their mouths utter arrogant words, flattering people for their own advantage.**¹⁷ **But you, dear friends, remember what was predicted by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.**¹⁸ **They told you, “In the end time there will be scoffers living according to their own ungodly desires.”**¹⁹ **These people create divisions and are worldly, not having the Spirit.**

We are living in the last days and it is imperative that we as believers make ourselves aware of our current situation.

Jude is not the only reference that mentions scoffers in the New Testament.

2 Peter 3:3-7

Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking.

2 I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.

3 **First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.**

4 **They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."**

5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.

6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

We know we are living in the last days because of scoffers!

What is a SCOFFER?

A scoffer is one who mocks (laughs at) God!

Satan uses scoffers to deceive us, to confuse us, to discourage us, and to defeat us.

Knowing the power of scoffers the Apostle Peter describes what a scoffer is.

How do you recognize a scoffer?

Scripture mentions four characteristics of a scoffer.

Scoffers Do Not Take God Seriously.

The word scoffer comes from the Greek word *empaizo* which is a verb (denoting action).

This word literally means to mock, to play like a child, to sport-jest.

Luke 22:63-65

The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. 64 They blindfolded him and demanded, "Prophecy! Who hit you?" 65 And they said many other insulting things to him.

Luke 23:11-12

11 Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. 12 That day Herod and Pilate became friends-before this they had been enemies.

Luke 23:36-39

36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." 38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Scoffers get in the face of God and dare him to do something!

Scoffers Treat God With Contempt.

Another characteristic of scoffers is seen in the Greek word *mukterizo* which means "to mock", "to turn up the nose at, sneer at, treat with contempt,"

Scoffers turn their nose up at God!

To treat someone or something with contempt is to ignore or neglect them.

We often fail to consider the gradual, cumulative effect of sin in our lives. In Saint Louis in 1984, an unemployed cleaning woman noticed a few bees buzzing around the attic of her home. Since there were only a few, she made no effort to deal with them. Over the summer the bees continued to fly in and out the attic vent while the woman remained unconcerned, unaware of the growing city of bees. The whole attic became a hive, and the ceiling of the second- floor bedroom finally caved in under the weight of hundreds of pounds of honey and thousands of angry bees. While the woman escaped serious injury, she was unable to repair the damage of her accumulated neglect.

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

You may not see God but do not ignore Him.

You may not hear God but do not ignore Him.

You may not feel God but do not ignore Him.

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

In 1715 King Louis XIV of France died after a reign of 72 years. He had called himself "the Great," and was the monarch who made the famous statement, "I am the state!" His court was the most magnificent in Europe, and his funeral was equally spectacular. As his body was lying in state in a golden coffin, orders were given that the cathedral should be very dimly lit with only a special candle set above his coffin, to dramatize his greatness. At the memorial, thousands waited in hushed silence. Then Bishop Massillon began to speak; slowly reaching down, he snuffed out the candle and said, "Only God is great."

Today in the Word, April, 1989, p. 24.

Transition: Scoffers do not take God seriously, scoffers treat God with contempt,

Scoffers Ridicule The Word of God.

A third characteristic of scoffers is seen in the Greek word *chleuazo* which means to jeer, to scoff, or to sneer.

This word literally means- expressing scorn or contempt.

Acts 17:32 "When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject."

The Athenian Philosophers jeered at the apostle's testimony concerning the resurrection of the dead.

Jesus said this about the Word of God:

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

The Apostle Paul said this about the Word of God:

2 Timothy 3:13-17 While evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Apostle Peter had this to say about the Word of God:

2 Peter 1:20-21 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Scoffers ridicule the Word of God by ignoring the truth within!

Pollster George Gallup Jr. has long referred to America as a "nation of biblical illiterates." Only four in 10 Americans know that Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. A majority of citizens cannot name the four Gospels of the New Testament. Only three in 10 teenagers know why Easter is celebrated. Two-thirds of Americans believe there are few, if any, absolute principles to direct human behavior. A new poll by the Barna Research Group suggests that religious illiteracy has increased. For example, three out of four Americans (and nearly half of "born-again" Christians) believe the Bible teaches that "God helps those who help themselves." George Barna argues that self-reliance is not only not scriptural, but that it contradicts revelation. Only God determines a person's destiny, the pollster notes. To believe otherwise "exposes our false theological cornerstone — that we are the center of things, that it is up to us to determine our destiny, and that God is merely our assistant ..."

A similar number of born-again Christians deny the existence of the Holy Spirit and Satan. One in five denies Jesus' physical resurrection and believes he was a sinner.

Earlier surveys of mainline Protestants revealed that barely half of Lutherans, Methodists, and Presbyterians believe in the devil, **but 56 percent of Lutherans and 49 percent of Methodists believe in UFOs. One-third of Methodists and Presbyterians have faith in astrology.** While nearly three-fourths of all Americans believe in hell, hardly any believe it to be their likely destination in eternity.

University of Wisconsin historian Thomas Reeves indicts popular religious belief and service. **"Christianity in modern America is, in large part, innocuous," he writes. "It tends to be easy, upbeat, convenient, and compatible. It does not require self-sacrifice, discipline, humility, an otherworldly outlook, a zeal for souls, a fear as well as love of God. There is little guilt and no punishment, and the payoff in heaven is virtually certain."**

Transition: Scoffers do not take God seriously, scoffers treat God with contempt, scoffers ridicule the Word of God

Scoffers Ridicule The People of God.

The fourth characteristic of a scoffer is found in the Greek word *diachleuazo* which means to scoff at- to deride someone or make a laughing stock, to show contempt toward someone by speech.

Acts 2:13 "Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Scoffers do not respect the people of God!

Archaeologists digging in the remains of a school for imperial pages in Rome found a picture dating from the third century. It shows a boy standing, his hand raised, worshiping a figure on a cross, a figure that looks like a man with the head of a donkey. Scrawled in the writing of a young person are the words, "Alexamenos worships his God." Nearby in a second inscription: "Alexamenos is faithful." Apparently, a young man who was a

Christian was being mocked by his schoolmates for his faithful witness. But he was not ashamed; he was faithful.

Scoffers did not respect Jesus!

Scoffers did not respect the disciples of Jesus!

Scoffers will not respect anyone who stands boldly for the name of Jesus Christ!

When the emperor Valens threatened Eusebuis with confiscation of all his goods, torture, banishment, or even death, the courageous Christian replied, "He needs not fear confiscation, who has nothing to lose; nor banishment, to whom heaven is his country; nor torments, when his body can be destroyed at one blow; nor death, which is the only way to set him at liberty from sin and sorrow."

Scoffers will not respect you or me!

Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.