

"If You Had Only Known—the Things that Make for Peace"

Holy Week 2026

March 29, 2026

Lk 19:28-36 ...Thus begins the original "Holy Week" in Jerusalem in ~33AD

INTRO ... "Holy Week" - In cities like N.O. & Jerusalem

Luke 19

...v. 28 ..."going up to Jerusalem" ...it is intriguing to see how much of the Holy Bible is dedicated to THIS EVENT! — Matt. starts focusing on **this "trip to Jerusalem"** in chapter 19/28 ...Mark in chap. 10/16 ...Luke in chap. 9/24 ... Jn. in chap. 11/21

Lk 9:51 "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem."

Matt 16:21 From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

...Whatever anyone thinks the Christian Faith is about—Clearly, God intended to place Enormous Weight on Holy Week!! ...There is this "Obsession" with these Holy Week Events that DOMINATE the GOSPELS—and All of Scripture!

Upon Jesus "Palm Sunday Entrance" into This Jerusalem ...Jesus encountered 3 things highlighted in this passage: Religious Zeal ...Religious Disconnect ...Religious Repurposing

Religious Zeal

v. 37 ...[the crowds in triumph mode] ... "the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'"

- **Jesus had a unique resume of "mighty works"** (AUTHORITY! over all that exists)
- **HOWEVER... Good Friday Provides Commentary on the Crowds at Palm Sunday!**
- **THIS Palm Sunday... There are disciples here this morning who are in this place!** ...we have seen God do mighty things! We have some significant level of appreciation for Jesus. We include him in our religious rituals and lifestyle! ...BUT, **what will I do with him when life feels "threatening" or "scary" or "unpleasant" or "tragic" or simply "off-script"???**

...It may be that my "discipleship" is more culturally informed than Truth Informed! ...We could be a people who are "religiously on board"—as long as life stays in my range of expectations!

...For God to be a "Savior" ...For God to be a "King"

"Jesus is King, but he is not the king the people expect, as he does not immediately destroy Israel's enemies and vindicate his people. Instead of coming into the city on a war horse, he comes on a colt as the King of peace. Many do not recognize him as their King because this fulfillment of prophecy is contrary to

their expectations. We can make the same mistake. We may expect our lives to turn out a certain way. We may have a plan we think God will fulfill, and if things do not turn out the way we expect we may question his faithfulness. But we must remember that Jesus brings peace to the world through suffering, that he is a King who fulfills prophecies in a way no one had anticipated. In that sense Jesus' kingdom is "not of this world" (John 18:36). Our call is to put our trust in God, even when we do not understand fully what is happening, trusting that he will bring to pass all that he has promised." **Thomas Schreiner, Luke, ESV Expository Commentary**

Religious DISCONNECT

v. 41-44

- "Seeing the city, he wept over it" ...What is it that makes the Son of God cry?
- v. 42 ... "would that you, even you, had known..."
 - "even you" ...this is a 2-word phrase DIPPED in EXPECTATIONS!! ...who are these people and why are there any expectations for them in particular to "know something"??
- v. 42 ... "the things that make for peace"

...What Does it REALLY Take to FIX Your Life/World???

...They Thought "BARABBAS" was a Better Fix than Jesus!

Lk 23:18-19 But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"—¹⁹ a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.

...They thought an "Insurrection was more vital than the Resurrection!"

...The Conspiring Jewish Leaders are convinced their "Political Negotiations" are a Better Fix than Jesus!

"...he also shows the crowds what kind of Messiah he is, namely, not the earthly Messiah of Israel's dreams, the One who wages war against an earthly oppressor, but the One who came to promote and establish "the things that make for peace" (Luke 19:42), lasting peace: reconciliation between God and man, and between a man and his fellow man. ...the people in general, their minds filled with earthly ideas concerning the Coming One, do not understand or appreciate this. In hailing him as the Messiah, the people are right; the Pharisees, chief priests, and scribes (Matt. 21:15, 16; Luke 19:39, 40) are wrong. But in expecting this Messiah to reveal himself as a political, earthly Messiah the Hosanna shouters are as wrong as are their leaders. Those who in every way reject Jesus are committing a crime, but those who outwardly "accept" and cheer him are also doing him a gross injustice, for they do not accept him for what he really is. ...when the crowds begin to understand that Jesus is not the kind of Messiah they had expected, they, at the urging of their leaders, are shouting, "Crucify (him)!" **William Hendriksen, "The Gospel According to Luke" (New Testament Commentary Series Hendriksen-Kistemaker (12 Vols.))**

?? - Hey, Humanity, Do You Have Any Idea What Makes for PEACE in Our Existence?

Eph 2:12-22 “remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

- What “makes for PEACE”? ...Holy Week!!
- What Kind of Peace Matters the Most? ...Peace with GOD!!
- What does Peace with God Bring? ...Access to His Life and Presence!

Religious REPURPOSING

...v. 45-46 ...A Religious Life that Repurposes Things

- Visiting Europe ...N.O. in My Lifetime!
- “Our Secular Age” ...When your life STOPS being about the Presence of God, the Good of His Nearness, the Spirit Pulsing that brings love, joy, peace, etc. ...You'll REPURPOSE All kinds of things in your life!

Celebrating Communion - with its origin in the Passover Meal

“Oh, if you knew the things that make for peace!”

...v. 45 ... *“and He entered the temple”* ...This is Dramatic & HUGE!!

... A Unique Setting on Earth ...this is NOT a Synagogue or a Church! ...this is the Tabernacle Setting on Earth—It is the DWELLING PLACE of the PRESENCE of GOD

Eph 3:22 ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.