

Luke 19:28-44

Announcement

As we've been talking about, Easter is a time of year where we want to partner with you to reach our community with the Gospel

- Many in our city are looking for a place to attend church that weekend, so be thinking about who you can invite to join you at the Summit for everything that we have going on.

First our new Summit Church All-Campus Choir, made up of over 200 voices, will be putting on a Concert of Worship on Good Friday, April 6 at the Brier Creek Campus.

- Right now, we've got 2 presentations planned at 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each and are available at the merchandise area at all campuses while they last.
- All proceeds from sales are going to the Summit's Ministry to at-risk kids. Make plans to be here and bring a friend with you!

There are also multiple Easter celebrations planned at all of our campuses. We've got inviter cards today for you to pick up to let people know about them.

And because you're going to be inviting so many people with these inviter cards, we want to be sure that we have plenty of volunteers that weekend to welcome our guests!

- Be sure to sign up today (registration closes at midnight this Sunday) at summitrdu.com/volunteer to serve at one of the celebrations at your campus.

Intro

- Illustration: HJ, "Daddy, I just tooted"
 - o Have you ever just missed a moment?
 - With your child? Your Husband? At work or school? Maybe with your parents...maybe with God...
- Today we are going to take a look at some folks who missed their moment with Jesus...even though they as a people have waited on him for centuries...and even though everything He has done on earth culminates in this beautiful moment of praise...

- A moment where Jesus enters Jer as the king he is! And he is received as people realize he is the one, he will reign, he will free us from oppression...
 - Jesus sees that they are actually missing Him...
- But in the end while it looks right...the praises and the cloaks...actually they are missing Him...
 - Because His reign poses a threat to the religious and doesn't fulfill the actual selfish desires of the consumer...
 - And I can't help but think how many of us may be in this same place? That while it looks right...actually Jesus is weeping for you...because in actuality you are missing Him.

Teaching the Story

- Y'all this is a wonderfully involved story...lets walk through it together and I would love to point some things out as we go...
- **Read Luke 19:28-29.** He gets all the way to Bethpage and Bethany...and then calls for the colt...
 - Do you see how odd that is? Jesus has been headed towards Jer since Luke chapter 9, presumably walking the whole way...now he gets within a couple hundred yards and asks for something to ride???
 - Illustration: It would be like you walking from your house to the Summit parking lot, then getting in a car to drive the rest of the way to the door...
 - Why is this happening? Fulfills the prophecy found in Zech 9:9..."your king is coming to you righteous and victorious, lowly riding on a donkey..."
 - I want you to see that Jesus is making a statement...The Gospel isn't something he just came up with, rather it has been in the works from the beginning of time...
 - It is the story of all creation, it is the story of all of our lives. From the Fall of man God has been working to bring a people to himself...and Jesus is at the center...t
 - Sometimes I think we miss this in an age of jamming the Gospel into 120 characters. Can we tweet the Gospel? Certainly, Jesus in my place...but don't miss that the Gospel is Big...
- **Read Luke 19:30-34.** There are a couple things to see here...first, a colt not a horse?
 - Illustration: Think back to when president Obama was inaugurated...what if he rode up on a moped?

- Like the president riding up to the White House with Lloyd Christmas...
 - Is that what is going on? Is this just the best ride Jesus could afford...no!
 - First let me give you a mental picture here...the population is swollen, animals in the street, the smell of cooked meat at every window...think State Fair with a Gospel twist...and why?
 - Remember that this the time of the Passover (this is why folks are in the street),
 - History here...now the Romans are the Egyptians
 - But its not a lamb being prepared for the slaughter...Jesus is being prepared to be slain and the colt represents His purity
 - Secondly and more practically, Jesus is the rightful owner of all we possess...
 - When we think about why would we give, is there any greater answer than “the Lord has need of it”. If he is king (not to mention creator) then is there anything that he cannot ask for?
 - Even when the people give their coats...
 - Most only had 1, would use it as a blanket...this is generosity!
 - This is Generosity geared towards exalting Jesus. Is there anything that you wouldn't lay down?
 - A car/truck, house, relationship, job, etc?
- **Read Luke 19:35-38.** Illustration: the onlookers here are seeing so much more than we see because of the background in Judaism that they have...its like Flyboys...he could have just told you the story but because he spends 200 pages giving you the background, the story suddenly makes sense...
 - With the shouts and praise we realize that the folks are connecting the dots, the backstory...prophecy, david, a coming messiah, riding a colt...they get it, sort of...
 - See most of the time in the Gospel's Jesus is concealing his true ID to the masses, but this is his coming out party...
 - He is surely making a statement...it's a proclamation...he is waiving the banner...I am The One
 - Some say Jesus didn't claim to be God...that the disciples threw that mantle on him...oh yes he did! And they get it...and eventually they will kill him for it...but not yet...

- At this point, in their misconception of Him, the crowds erupt in wild praise...ok think Franklin Street after the national championship comes to Chapel Hill...why? Because they get it, sort of...
 - See the people get it...they understand exactly what Jesus is doing here (Psalm 118:26) ...that he is claiming to be The One
- **Read Luke 19:39-40.** Also don't miss what just happened...an important distinction is drawn out in the text. There are those that praise and those that rebuke...but in the end, they all reject...
- Read Luke 19:41-44. But rather than bask in praise, Jesus weeps for the people???...because He knows that their rejection of Him will result in God's rejection of them...
 - The day of visitation refers to the day when the true King of Israel has come. It is the ushering in of the Kingdom of God...but, as prophesied, Israel will reject what God is giving to them in peace...in salvation. The things that make for peace is the peace of God, it is salvation...but to the Jews it is hidden.
 - Isaiah 53:1 refers to the servant who is rejected of men but accepted by God...
 - There is an actual judgment...the Romans. But see the mountain behind the foothills here...ultimate judgment.
 - Jerusalem and Rome in AD70
 - Josephus...crucified 500 a day until all the trees were gone, the bodies of the starved couldn't be buried for no one had the strength, city burned to the ground,
 - But behind this foothill is the mountain, the true rejection, eternal separation from God...
 - This very day peace has arrived, and the ironically the city that is named "peace" has failed to see it
 - Luke is showing us that while we should be seeing the coronation of a king...we are being shown the depths of His rejection

The Religious Miss Him

- For the religious, this is a total threat to the total control of their lives...in their reality...
 - they are the center
 - Its like taking a child to a friends Bday party...at some point you have to say, "baby, this aint your party"

- they control their own destiny
 - every athlete wants this...they don't want to have to wait on anyone else to lose or win
 - explain how I always played HORSE growing up and how at the end you have two shots to stay in
 - they do this because they believe in themselves and their own ability to win the game...that is religion not Gospel...
- and they are esteemed...
 - but Jesus threatens all of this by telling them that they aren't the center, they cant do this on their own, and that HE is to be esteemed!
- Now this is where they miss the moment!
 - Here he comes, awaited for centuries, kingdom and thrown, overthrowing satan and evil...and they would rather be the old guy who is calling the cops about the party getting to "raucous"
 - Illustration: We are singing The Anthem at a youth event and I see this dude folding an origami crane...
 - My first thought was, "are there any counselors at this event because I don't know, but this seems against the rules"
 - 3 rules: no PDA, no cell phones, no origami
 - My second thought was...How is this possible? Death could not hold you, you have won the victory, for me!...nope I would rather play with paper, and see if I can make it into a flower...or crane with movable wings...
 - Glory, sovereignty, praise...they don't want Jesus to have these things because in their system (I work hard, God accepts me) they think they deserve that praise...and they don't want Jesus messing with the control they have...
- Without even knowing it, this may be where you today...
 - A relationship with God for you may be adhering to a list of these 5 things...
 - if I don't drink, cuss, smoke or chew, or date girls who do...then I am good
 - realize, that you are a Pharisee. And also realize, that while it may look innocent enough its not...it's a power play against God. Its your way of telling God...while it looks like I am

working to please you (and you may even believe that) its really not about You, its actually about me not needing you...so stay out of my life...

- maybe you have never thought about this way...but I can promise you who did think about it this way, Paul...read the NT. He hates works righteousness because in the end, its not about God...its about your control

The Religious Consumers Miss Him

- Next lets talk about the Religious Consumer...For the consumer, Jesus is a genie to make all their dreams come true.
 - Its like Aladdin, Jesus is Robin Williams and praise/prayer are rubbing the lamp...
- The Scripture told us that they praised him, "for his works"...The desires don't come true IN Christ...but he becomes the means by which they get to their desires.
 - Illustration of the Piñata and the Candy...newsflash, Jesus is the candy! But not the way they see it...
- Isn't that odd...why would this moment of rejoicing turn to mourning? Its because even though they are praising Him, he sees their heart! That in their religion they have missed love, they missed Jesus...
 - See, their expectations won't be met because they thought Jesus would come and set up a kind kingdom to overthrow the Roman government...so when they see him bound and subjected to authority and their expectations are crushed...when He disappoints, they leave...and Jesus knows they will...
- See at their core, they are consumers not disciples. They love and praise (their coats are an act of homage, the palms are an act of victory) Jesus for his mighty works...when it looks like the works will cease...their praises cease.
- Jesus was the King...but everyone in this crowd, they had their own king...themselves. And if Jesus fit into that plan by giving them bread, healing their sick, and overthrowing the Roman government then great...but if not, forget it...I will be my own king.
- Isn't it just like Jesus to look through the hoopla and see reality...how many of us are trying to mask what is really going on with a party? But in our heart of hearts we know there is a different reality?
 - Let me ask you a hard question...How many of us are the same way?
 - Jesus is good for my family and my kids learn to obey me...so I will follow him

- Jesus is good for when life rocks me a bit with my job or health...
 - Jesus is good for provision in this life...
 - But when it comes to his actual call on my life...when it isn't only about the things that I see as helpful and good and fun...but when it comes to Him as king, meaning His kingdom...where He reigns and I am a subject...i don't want that...
- I am on my way out the door here so I am just gonna say it...60% of you are in love with Jesus as a consumer but don't want him as Lord...do you know how I know?
 - don't tithe...
 - aren't in a small group...
 - Don't volunteer...
 - Leave before the service is over so as to beat the crowd for parking as if this is the circus or a football game...
 - Don't engage during worship...thats if you show up in time to worship!
 - Boom roasted!
- See the crowds are fickle...they look different but their heart is the same!

Gospel Application

- So, no matter which angle you are coming from...both roads lead to the same place...do you know where they lead?
 - They lead to a dirt courtyard in Jerusalem...(totally paint a picture here that puts people into the crowd, where they shout..."Crucify Him!")
 - Crucify Him...for he threatens my autonomy and my control!
 - Crucify Him...for he refuses to give me the things that will ultimately fulfill me!
- BUT both of these folks (the religious who crucify Him because he is a threat to their control or consumers who crucify because he disappoints as a genie) God still loves and longs to see come to him in Faith...turning them from their past and into a people who take up their cross, follow him, and in him find their life (Luke 9:24).
 - Jesus is either a threat to the religious (crucified), a genie to the consumer (crucified), or He is Lord to those who carry their own cross
 - All of us have been in the first two camps, but some have been moved from death to life...and embrace Jesus as the Lord of their lives...

- Jesus didn't die so he could follow us around fulfilling our every whim...he died so that we would follow him!
 - But there is a window of opportunity...the Spirit of God will not strive with man forever...
 - We are born by nature and choice...sinners
 - Peace denotes war...Jesus is waging war on those things that break the peace...satan, death, sickness...
 - If you aren't in Christ you are a foe
 - You may be thinking, I wouldn't have yelled crucify...it just doesn't matter that much to me...
 - But there are only 2 camps...indifference isn't an option...
 - There are two kingdoms, darkness and light, and they are set against each other...
 - And He is here...and He is peace...and He is Jesus...
- But its not too late for you...and if God is pulling you then his Spirit has not departed from you he is still striving with you and he is calling you...
 - Gospel presentation...
 - Why couldn't he just have the crown? Well he could have!...but he wanted you...
- And as always, when we see what God has done for us were are moved to look outward...not to pool his grace but to allow it to flow through us...
- When God looks at RDU there is grief in His heart...when he looks at Denver, and Murfreesboro, and Greensboro...He weeps and that should also be heart
 - If we don't see our city in Peril then we don't believe the Bible...
 - We all know Easter is coming...there are two things we do on Easter. Suddenly as a society we deem it socially acceptable for women to wear large, outlandish, hats...and we invite lost people to come to church...
- But now, don't you see why? He has extended this great love...how can we not be ones who share it.
 - Who can you invite to Easter?

- Think about Jesus knowing he will be crucified, yet weeping because he loves all...Who is it that you may be surprised that Jesus is compassionate about? Who do you not care about? Really Jesus should have hated them because they are about to crucify Him!
- Occupy or Tea Party? Religious or hipster? Southern or Yankee? Grunge or Frat Boy? Country or rap? Suv or Civic Hybrid? Name brand or Walmart brand?

Conclusion

- He came to make peace...don't miss the time of your visitation...

Bullpen

- "For the Love of the Game"...after throwing the perfect game he breaks down, because he realizes that its all for naught if he doesn't have the girl...
 - The irony is that if they made a sequel he would bring down when he realizes he is not fulfilled until he gets the...whatever
- Even in Psalm 118, they see what they want to see...and we all do that (illustration).
- See we've talked about the religious, and we've talked about the consumer...but there is a 3rd group...the redeemed
- We see what we want to
 - The religious miss what they see and hear...because they always think it is for someone else...
- Palm Monday by Keller...