

Jesus Final Journey Discussion Questions

The Curious Parade Luke 19:28-40

Drawn from the February 18, 2024 sermon by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Opener: What are some extravagant ways you have seen people honored (i.e., for a promotion, a significant milestone, an achievement award, etc.)?

Luke 19:28-35 NIV

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it.

1. This portion of Luke’s Gospel is often called, “The Triumphal Entry.” In what ways do these verses seem to contradict that title?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose a young donkey to ride into Jerusalem and how would this contrast with the image of entering on a horse? (see Revelation 19:11-16)

The parallel account in Matthew 21:4-5 also points out that this act fulfilled a prophecy and then quotes the Old Testament

“Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is humble, riding on a donkey— riding on a donkey’s colt.” (Zechariah 9:9 NLT)

3. If the people of Jerusalem knew of this Scripture, how might it have affected their idea about what was going on?

Luke 19:36-40 NIV

³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:³⁸ “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”⁴⁰ “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

4. What did the crowd’s actions reveal about their expectations of Jesus?

5. Why would Jesus enter Jerusalem this way if he wasn’t going to follow through with being a national deliverer?

6. Why did proclaiming Jesus as king bother the religious leaders?

7. Read Luke 19:41-44. What do Jesus’ comments show you about the spiritual condition of the people in Jerusalem?

Group Prayer Time: Thank God for Jesus’ humility. Praise Him for coming not as we expect Him to, but in the way we need Him to. Invite Him to give you the humility you need to reflect His true nature to the world around you so they can find peace.

For Further Reflection:

A. Have you ever wanted to “cry out” about Jesus but felt pressure to be quiet?

B. In what sense has your own victory in Christ come by way of humility?

C. How has humility changed your relationships within the church and with others?

Next week, February 25, pastor Jeff will cover “Something About Mondays” Luke 19:45-48 and there will be discussion questions available in “Downloads” on the SCC website.