

Overview

1-V1-6 The Lord is entering Jerusalem for the last time. This is the last week of his life. The week of suffering and death to take away the sin of the world and its consequences. He intentionally fulfills some of the prophecies about Himself. One of these was the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9. "*Your _____ is coming to you. He is _____, riding on a _____.*" He sends His disciples to fetch the donkey's colt. He is coming as the Prince of Peace who brings peace between God and man.

2-V6 Revelation is given to people of Jerusalem. The people's eyes are opened to see and understand that this Jesus is the Messianic King of prophecies. Their response is to spread their _____ and _____ on the road before Him, shouting the words of Psalm 118:25-26. "*Bless "the" one who comes in the _____ of the Lord.*"

3-V12 Jesus enacts prophecies about the Messiah because they were not clearly understood. He is not coming like David the general, but like David the man who built Israel into a holy nation – a nation of worship. He enacts the prophecy of Isaiah 56:7, "*My _____ will be called a place of _____ for all nations*" by physically making it a place of prayer again by clearing out of the temple animals being sold for sacrifice and the _____ changers. It was restored to a place of quietness, prayer, and worship.

4-V14 It was after all "His" temple. Now cleansed, He uses it in the proper way as a place where people are _____ in body and soul—a place where _____ happened.

5-V15-16 This was so right that even children (who perhaps sense things of God better than grown ups) were shouting about Jesus, "*_____ God for the Son of David.*" The pastors of Israel objected because they did not see Jesus as Messiah. Jesus quotes Psalm 8:2, "*You have _____ children and _____ to give you praise!*"

6-V18-22 Jesus sees a _____ tree, a common symbol of the nation of Israel, the next morning. He looks for _____ on it but it only had leaves and cursed it. "*May you never _____ again!*" The tree immediately _____. Jesus did this to speak of Israel as a whole, which had little faith, much doubt, little prayer, and no fruit. He teaches the disciples that if they will have _____ and not _____, they can even speak to this _____. "*May God lift you up and throw you into the sea' and it will _____.*" "*If you _____ (in me), you will receive _____ you ask for in prayer.*"

7-V23-27 The pastors and theologians of Israel are greatly upset by Jesus. They want to know by whose _____ he drove the _____ out of the temple. Rather than telling them the truth which they would reject ("I am God and this is my temple and I don't like the way you guys have corrupted it."), He puts a question to them about John the Baptist. "*Did John's baptism (authority) come from _____ or was it merely _____?*" They wanted to get Jesus in trouble but could see that they would be in trouble with the _____ if they put John down. So they answered, "*We don't _____.*" So Jesus said, "*I _____ answer your question either.*"

8-V28-32 Jesus tells a parable about two _____ whose father asked them to go out and work in the vineyard. One said he would and didn't. One said he wouldn't and did. Jesus tells the religious leaders that they are like the son who said he would and didn't, whereas corrupt _____ and _____ lived openly sinful lives yet turned from their _____ because they believed John.

9-V33-46 Jesus tells the pastors and theologians of Israel another parable whose meaning is that God turned Israel (His _____) over to them (the _____). However, when He sent His servants, the prophets, and in the end his _____, regarding the care and loyalty of his people, they sent them away empty, beaten and even killed them.

Word Study • DONKEY • BLIND and LAME • HOUSE OF PRAYER • PRAISE GOD • BETH-PHAGE • HUMBLE • INFANTS • NEVER RIDDEN • HEALED • STONE • FIG TREE

1. V1 _____ Means "House of healing." Jesus is the world's healer.

2. V2 _____ The colt was "holy unto the Lord." Only for His use.

3. V4 _____ Jesus in this case deliberately fulfills the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 which describes God's king coming in peace as savior and healer. Oriental kings coming in war rode horses. Kings coming in peace rode donkeys.

4.V 5 _____ or "lowly." The Greek word PRAUS means a character attribute -- considerate, meek, harmless, mild mannered, gentle. Humility involves a lack of ego. Ego – being focused on self – is a spiritual "manic depressive" state. When the person is up (manic) they feel they deserve to have and be happy – typically at the expense of others. When they are down (depressive) they are unhappy, self-demeaning, self-pitying and actually quite angry about it all. No matter where a non-humble person is, he or she is "self-focused."

5.V9 _____ "Hosanna." The most common translation of the Hebrew word is "Save now!" It is a cry for God's help and deliverance. Psalm 118:25-26 from which the phrase comes is Messianic. So the people were identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior of mankind from heaven

6. V13 _____ Other gospels add "for all nations." These animals were being sold in the part of the temple that non-Jews were allowed to come into and pray to the One God. How could they pray surrounded by animals and business deals?

7. V14 _____ Who is even more helpless than widows, orphans, single moms, the poor, the non citizen—in a third world culture? It is the blind and the lame. So Jesus heals these helpless people and restores them to community life.

8. V16 _____ "*Jesus called a small child over to him and put the child among them. Then he said, 'I assure you, unless you turn from your sins and become as little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven.'*" Matthew 18:2-3 Infants even in the womb are sensitive to the Holy Spirit. (John the Baptist - Luke 1:41) Children tend to know the Lord instinctually, more intimately and spiritually than adults. The devil's world blinds the spirits of people as they grow up. The Jewish pastors were blind to God's Son before them.

9. V19 _____ Israel was God's vine and fig tree. Jesus is using the fig tree to speak of the spiritual condition of most of Israel. The fig tree bears some fruit all the time in addition to a major harvest. There ought to have been some fruit but there were only leaves. Israel's religion was all leaves. That is, outward observances and no fruit. That is intimacy with and obedience toward the Father and His Son. Israel was already withered.

10. V 21-22 _____ Faith is a gift of God. Ephesians 2:10 It is a gift that comes when people are rooted in Jesus. See Ephesians 3:17-20

11. V42 _____ The Lord is talking about Himself as the stone. There are two options with Christ, the stone. (1) People can accept Him and He becomes the cornerstone, one which their life's house is built upon, that will withstand all the storms of life. Matthew 7:24f (2) Or people can reject their creator and savior - the Way, the Truth and the Life.

As they pass through life and into eternity they will continually be stumbling over truth and conscience and consequence and be broken. In the end the judgment on their lives for rejecting Christ will be like a rock falling on them. How terrible it is to fall into the hands of the living God after becoming the enemy of His son. Hebrews 10:26-31

What does this Scripture say to you? _____