



Palm Sunday

Save Us Now!

Matthew 21:1-11

Sometimes our return to faithfulness goes through the Valley of the Shadow

A Different Kind of Palm Sunday

The last mention of “Return To Me” because Holy Week begins today—and a descent into the shadow

Easter is right there—let’s just get to it, am I right?

No renowned artist, no Grammy winning band, no championship sports team ever said... “It was all just so easy.”

You can’t have Easter without Holy Week.

The shadow proves the sunshine—but it still has to be reckoned with.

SOMETIMES OUR RETURN TO FAITHFULNESS GOES THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW

Matthew 21:1-11

A short-lived celebration—because the expectations were too low...

It’s obvious it was planned—but for what purpose, what audience?

Palms - signs of victory as well as nationalism

Donkey - a sign of peace and a fulfillment of prophecy

Contrast with Pilate’s procession for sure... but there was more.

Psalms 118:15-29 - A Song To Welcome The Messiah

What were they really saying, though?

Hosanna—Save Us Now! A plea for help in the growing shadows...

We understand these people more than you might think...

They wanted victory, but their view was too narrow.

The world was falling apart around them, and they wanted a Savior

They wanted a road to salvation that wasn’t draped in shadow.

So they shouted—Hosanna! Blessed is The One Who Saves....

But Jesus had another kind of blessing... With the crowd noise in his ears...

*He stepped forward into the darkness.... **Blessed are the broken***

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SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

Show Me The Way: Daily Lenten Readings

Henri J. Nouwen

Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent & Easter

Various Authors

Preparing For Easter

C.S. Lewis

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