

Pastor's Weekly Devotional- April 10, 2014
"The King Rides Into Jerusalem"

It was the first Palm Sunday. Jesus comes to Jerusalem riding a donkey. It should be noted that when a king goes to war, he rides on a horse but when he comes in peace, he rides a donkey.

Jesus was the King of Peace as he rode into Jerusalem. The multitude broke into enthusiastic shouts. They shouted "Hosanna!" This word means: "Save now." The shouts of the people were not one of praise; rather, it was a cry to God to break in and save them.

They were disappointed. One week later these same people were shouting "Crucify Him!" Now what lessons can we learn from this first Palm Sunday? Here are a few personal thoughts:

- Christ asks for more than public honor. He wants our hearts.
- Ecclesiastical respectabilities are not enough. He wants our lives.
- Christ does not want our hosannas like the thoughtless shallow crowd on that first Palm Sunday; rather, He wants the self-surrender of our wills and the full commitment of our love.
- Obedience, submission, self-sacrifice and love are the paths God wants us to follow. This was Christ's path and it should be ours too.

Indeed, religious excitement has its sphere of usefulness in the Christian life, but it would be a grievous mistake to regard emotional excitement as the very essence and substance of the Christian life. That's the lesson learned from the first Palm Sunday.

Take time and reflect on God's loving kindness to you as we enter Holy Week!

See you in church Sunday! Have a blessed week!

Pastor Sewdin