

JOHN 12: ¹³THEY TOOK PALM BRANCHES AND WENT OUT TO MEET HIM, SHOUTING, "HOSANNA!" "BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" "BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL!"

THIS MORNING I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK OF TWO JEWISH HOLIDAYS THAT SHED LIGHT ON TODAY AND THE WEEK AHEAD.

1. FEAST OF UNLEAVEN BREAD

A. PURPOSE - REMOVE SIN FROM THE HOUSEHOLD.

- I. LEAVEN SYMBOLIZES SIN, UNLEAVENED BREAD SPEAKS OF SANCTIFICATION. GOD TOLD THE JEWS TO CLEANSE ALL LEAVEN FROM THEIR HOMES AND EAT ONLY UNLEAVENED BREAD, MATZAH, FOR SEVEN DAYS, SYMBOLIZING A HOLY WALK WITH HIM.

B. MESSIANIC SIGNIFICANCE. JESUS IS THE "BREAD OF LIFE" WITHOUT SIN. BORN IN BETHLEHEM, IN ARABIC MEANS HOUSE OF BREAD. JUST AS MATZAH IS STRIPED AND PIERCED, SO WAS THE MESSIAH. THIS FEAST FALLS ON THE DAY JESUS WAS BURIED.

- I. A CHRISTIAN MIGHT ASK, "WHAT CAN I DO TO CELEBRATE THIS WEEK?"

(1)MY THOUGHT, EXAMINE YOURSELF: LOOK TO SEE WHAT YOU MIGHT FAST, [GIVE UP] THIS WEEK TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS.

- (A) **Col. 3:8** But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

2. .PASSEOVER - LORD'S SUPPER

A. PURPOSE - REMEMBERING THE DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPTIAN BONDAGE.

- I. AN UNBLEMISHED FIRSTBORN MALE LAMB WAS SACRIFICED AND ITS BLOOD POURED ON THE ALTAR. A LAMB WAS SELECTED FOR EACH FAMILY, AND FOUR DAYS BEFORE THE LAMB WAS TO BE SLAIN IT WAS BROUGHT INTO THE HOME FOR A FOUR-DAY EXAMINATION PERIOD.

B. MESSIANIC SIGNIFICANCE: JESUS IS THE SACRIFICIAL LAMB WHO DIED FOR OUR SINS. ON NISAN 14 AT THE EXACT TIME THE LAMB WAS TO BE SLAIN, JESUS WAS SLAIN. JESUS ALSO HAD A FOUR-DAY EXAMINATION PERIOD BEFORE THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND WAS FOUND WITHOUT BLEMISH.

3. DAY OF FIRSTFRUITS

A. PURPOSE - TO HAVE THE LORD BLESS THE HARVEST.

- I. THE FIRST OF THE BARLEY HARVEST WAS BROUGHT AS AN OFFERING TO THE PRIEST IN THE TABERNACLE/TEMPLE. THE PRIEST WOULD PRESENT THE FIRST OF THE HARVEST UNTO THE LORD BY WAVING THEM BACK AND FORTH. THIS REMINDED THE HEBREWS THAT GOD GAVE THEM THE LAND, AND THE HARVEST BELONGED TO HIM. IN DOING THIS THE LORD WOULD BLESS THE BALANCE OF THE HARVEST.

4. JESUS AT BETHANY

- A. **JOHN 12:1**- SIX DAYS [SATURDAY NIGHT] BEFORE THE PASSOVER, JESUS ARRIVED AT BETHANY, WHERE LAZARUS LIVED, WHOM JESUS HAD RAISED FROM THE DEAD.
- B. **JOHN 12:9**⁹ A LARGE CROWD OF JEWS FOUND OUT THAT JESUS WAS THERE AND CAME, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF HIM BUT ALSO TO SEE LAZARUS, WHOM HE HAD RAISED FROM THE DEAD. ¹⁰SO THE CHIEF PRIESTS MADE PLANS TO KILL LAZARUS AS WELL, ¹¹FOR ON ACCOUNT OF HIM MANY OF THE JEWS WERE GOING OVER TO JESUS AND PUTTING THEIR FAITH IN HIM.

CHRIST'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

1. THE CROWD GOING FORTH TO MEET JESUS

- A. **JOHN 12:12**¹²THE NEXT DAY THE GREAT CROWD THAT HAD COME FOR THE FEAST HEARD THAT JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM.
 - I. ON THE NEXT DAY
 - (1) WHAT DAY? UP TO THIS TIME JESUS DID NOT WANT PUBLIC ATTENTION. BUT HERE WE SEE HIM ACTIVE IN ALL THINGS. SO WHAT IS THIS NEXT DAY?
 - (A) **DANIEL 9:23-27** THEREFORE, CONSIDER THE MESSAGE AND UNDERSTAND THE VISION: ²⁴"SEVENTY 'SEVENS' ARE DECREED FOR YOUR PEOPLE. [THE JEWS] AND YOUR HOLY CITY [JERUSALEM] TO FINISH TRANSGRESSION, TO PUT AN END TO SIN, TO ATONE FOR WICKEDNESS, TO BRING IN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS, TO SEAL UP VISION AND PROPHECY AND TO ANOINT THE MOST HOLY. ²⁵"KNOW AND

UNDERSTAND THIS: FROM THE ISSUING OF THE DECREE TO RESTORE AND REBUILD JERUSALEM UNTIL THE ANOINTED ONE, THE RULER, COMES, THERE WILL BE SEVEN 'SEVENS,' AND SIXTY-TWO 'SEVENS.' IT WILL BE REBUILT WITH STREETS AND A TRENCH, BUT IN TIMES OF TROUBLE. ²⁶AFTER THE SIXTY-TWO 'SEVENS,' THE ANOINTED ONE WILL BE CUT OFF AND YOU WILL HAVE NOTHING. THE PEOPLE OF THE RULER WHO WILL COME WILL DESTROY THE CITY AND THE SANCTUARY. THE END WILL COME LIKE A FLOOD: WAR WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE END, AND DESOLATIONS HAVE BEEN DECREED. ²⁷HE WILL CONFIRM A COVENANT WITH MANY FOR ONE 'SEVEN.' IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 'SEVEN' HE WILL PUT AN END TO SACRIFICE AND OFFERING. AND ON A WING OF THE TEMPLE HE WILL SET UP AN ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION, UNTIL THE END THAT IS DECREED IS POURED OUT ON HIM."

(i) THE FIRST PERIOD

- 1) SEVEN - SEVENS WERE TO BE SPENT IN THE REBUILDING OF JERUSALEM - 49 YEARS
- A) THE BOOKS OF EZRA AND NEHEMIAH

(ii) THE SECOND PERIOD

- 1) THEN SIXTY TWO MORE SEVENS
- A) THE CRUCIFIXION OF THE MESSIAH, 434 YEARS, TO THE CUTTING OFF OF THE ANOINTED ONE, JESUS
- B) NEHEMIAH 2ND CHAPTER
- C) JOHN 19:30-31 WHEN HE HAD RECEIVED THE DRINK, JESUS SAID, "IT IS FINISHED." WITH THAT, HE BOWED HIS HEAD AND GAVE UP HIS SPIRIT. ³¹NOW IT WAS THE DAY OF PREPARATION, AND THE NEXT DAY WAS TO BE A SPECIAL SABBATH. BECAUSE THE JEWS DID NOT WANT THE BODIES LEFT ON THE CROSSES DURING THE SABBATH, THEY ASKED PILATE TO HAVE THE LEGS BROKEN AND THE BODIES TAKEN DOWN.

(iii) THE THIRD PERIOD - A FUTURE PERIOD THAT MIGHT

START AT ANY MOMENT.

1) ONE SEVEN

A) THE ANTICHRIST WILL MAKE AND BREAK A COVENANT WITH ISRAEL ENDING WITH THE SECOND ADVENT OF THE MESSIAH

B) REVELATION 4:1 TO 19:21

C) MATTHEW 24:15-31

2. THE JOYOUS ACCLAMATIONS OF THE PEOPLE - HERE WE SEE JESUS COMING 434 YEARS AFTER THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE.

A. JOHN 12: ¹³THEY TOOK PALM BRANCHES AND WENT OUT TO MEET HIM, SHOUTING, "HOSANNA!" "BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" "BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL!"

I. HOSANNA = ARAMAIC MEANING "GOD SAVE NOW"

II. AT THE COMING OF JESUS , THE THREE KINGS PROCLAIM HIM "THE KING OF JEWS"

III. NOW AT THE END OF HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY THE PEOPLE PROCLAIM HIM, "KING OF ISRAEL"

IV. AND HE COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

V. THE WEEK WILL START WITH THE PEOPLE WAVING PALM BRANCHES FROM THE PALM TREE, THE SYMBOL OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL FOR THEIR KING, IT WILL END WITH THE RESURRECTION OF THE CHRIST AND THE PRIESTS WAVING BARLEY BEFORE THE LORD.

3. THE SAVIOR MOUNTED ON AN ASS

A. JOHN 12:14 ¹⁴JESUS FOUND A YOUNG DONKEY AND SAT UPON IT, AS IT IS WRITTEN,

I. AS IT IS WRITTEN;

(1) **THAT DAY**

(A) **ZECHARIAH 9:9** REJOICE GREATLY, O DAUGHTER OF ZION! SHOUT, DAUGHTER OF JERUSALEM! SEE, YOUR KING COMES TO YOU, RIGHTEOUS AND HAVING SALVATION, GENTLE AND RIDING ON A DONKEY, ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A DONKEY.

(2) **TODAY**

(A) **HOSEA 5:15** THEN I WILL GO BACK TO MY PLACE UNTIL THEY ADMIT THEIR GUILT .AND THEY WILL SEEK MY FACE; IN THEIR MISERY THEY WILL EARNESTLY

SEEK ME."

(3) **NEAR FUTURE**

(A) **ZECHARIAH 12:10** "AND I WILL POUR OUT ON THE HOUSE OF DAVID AND THE INHABITANTS OF JERUSALEM A SPIRIT OF GRACE AND SUPPLICATION. THEY WILL LOOK ON ME, THE ONE THEY HAVE PIERCED, AND THEY WILL MOURN FOR HIM AS ONE MOURNS FOR AN ONLY CHILD, AND GRIEVE BITTERLY FOR HIM AS ONE GRIEVES FOR A FIRSTBORN SON.

II. JESUS IS DIRECTING THESE ACTIVITIES!

4. THE KING'S PRESENTATION OF HIMSELF TO ISRAEL

A. JOHN 12:15 ¹⁵"DO NOT BE AFRAID, O DAUGHTER OF ZION; SEE, YOUR KING IS COMING, SEATED ON A DONKEY'S COLT."

5. THE DULLNESS OF THE DISCIPLES

A. JOHN 12:16 ¹⁶AT FIRST HIS DISCIPLES DID NOT UNDERSTAND ALL THIS. ONLY AFTER JESUS WAS GLORIFIED DID THEY REALIZE THAT THESE THINGS HAD BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT HIM AND THAT THEY HAD DONE THESE THINGS TO HIM.

I. **LUKE 24:25-26** HE SAID TO THEM, "**HOW FOOLISH YOU ARE, AND HOW SLOW OF HEART TO BELIEVE ALL THAT THE PROPHETS HAVE SPOKEN!**" ²⁶DID NOT THE CHRIST HAVE TO SUFFER THESE THINGS AND THEN ENTER HIS GLORY?"

II. THE THINKING OF THE DISCIPLES CAN BE SEEN IN **1 PETER 1:11** TRYING TO FIND OUT THE TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES TO WHICH THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IN THEM WAS POINTING WHEN HE PREDICTED THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST AND THE GLORIES THAT WOULD FOLLOW.

6. THE REASON THE PEOPLE SOUGHT JESUS

A. JOHN 12:17-18 ¹⁷NOW THE CROWD THAT WAS WITH HIM WHEN HE CALLED LAZARUS FROM THE TOMB AND RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD CONTINUED TO SPREAD THE WORD. ¹⁸MANY PEOPLE, BECAUSE THEY HAD HEARD THAT HE HAD GIVEN THIS MIRACULOUS SIGN, WENT OUT TO MEET HIM.

7. THE FEELINGS OF THE PHARISEES

A. JOHN 12: ¹⁹SO THE PHARISEES SAID TO ONE ANOTHER, "SEE, THIS IS GETTING US NOWHERE. LOOK HOW THE WHOLE WORLD HAS GONE AFTER HIM!"

8. THE DESIRE OF THE GREEKS TO SEE JESUS

A. JOHN 12:20-23 ²⁰NOW THERE WERE SOME GREEKS AMONG THOSE WHO WENT UP TO WORSHIP AT THE FEAST.

I. THESE WOULD BE GREEKS WHO CONVERTED TO JUDAISM,
²¹THEY CAME TO PHILIP, WHO WAS FROM BETHSAIDA IN GALILEE, WITH A REQUEST. "SIR," THEY SAID, "WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE JESUS." ²²PHILIP WENT TO TELL ANDREW; ANDREW AND PHILIP IN TURN TOLD JESUS. ²³JESUS REPLIED, "**THE HOUR HAS COME FOR THE SON OF MAN TO BE GLORIFIED.**"

(1) NOW WE ARE NO LONGER TALKING ABOUT DAYS, BUT HOURS. THE GENTILE WORLD WANTS TO LOOK UPON JESUS.

9. THE RESPONSE OF CHRIST

A. JOHN 12:24-26 ²⁴I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, UNLESS A KERNEL OF WHEAT FALLS TO THE GROUND AND DIES, IT REMAINS ONLY A SINGLE SEED. BUT IF IT DIES, IT PRODUCES MANY SEEDS. ²⁵THE MAN WHO LOVES HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT, WHILE THE MAN WHO HATES HIS LIFE IN THIS WORLD WILL KEEP IT FOR ETERNAL LIFE. ²⁶WHOEVER SERVES ME MUST FOLLOW ME; AND WHERE I AM, MY SERVANT ALSO WILL BE. MY FATHER WILL HONOR THE ONE WHO SERVES ME.

10. CHRIST'S PRAYER AND THE FATHERS ANSWER

A. JOHN 12:27-28 ²⁷"NOW MY HEART IS TROUBLED, AND WHAT SHALL I SAY? 'FATHER, SAVE ME FROM THIS HOUR'? NO, IT WAS FOR THIS VERY REASON I CAME TO THIS HOUR. ²⁸FATHER, GLORIFY YOUR NAME!" THEN A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, "I HAVE GLORIFIED IT, AND WILL GLORIFY IT AGAIN."

11. THE DULLNESS OF THE PEOPLE

A. JOHN 12:29-30 ²⁹THE CROWD THAT WAS THERE AND HEARD IT SAID IT HAD THUNDERED; OTHERS SAID AN ANGEL HAD SPOKEN TO HIM. ³⁰JESUS SAID, "**THIS VOICE WAS FOR YOUR BENEFIT, NOT MINE.**"

12. CHRIST'S PREDICTION

A. JOHN 12:31-33 ³¹**NOW IS THE TIME FOR JUDGMENT ON THIS WORLD; NOW THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD WILL BE DRIVEN OUT.** ³²BUT I, WHEN I AM LIFTED UP FROM THE EARTH, WILL DRAW ALL MEN TO MYSELF. ³³HE SAID THIS TO SHOW THE KIND OF DEATH HE WAS GOING TO DIE.

13. THE PEOPLE'S QUERY

- A. JOHN 12:34 ³⁴THE CROWD SPOKE UP, "WE HAVE HEARD FROM THE LAW THAT THE CHRIST WILL REMAIN FOREVER, SO HOW CAN YOU SAY, '**THE SON OF MAN MUST BE LIFTED UP**'? WHO IS THIS 'SON OF MAN'?"

14. CHRIST'S WARNING

- A. JOHN 12:35-36 ³⁵THEN JESUS TOLD THEM, "**YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE THE LIGHT JUST A LITTLE WHILE LONGER. WALK WHILE YOU HAVE THE LIGHT, BEFORE DARKNESS OVERTAKES YOU. THE MAN WHO WALKS IN THE DARK DOES NOT KNOW WHERE HE IS GOING.**" ³⁶PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE LIGHT WHILE YOU HAVE IT, SO THAT YOU MAY BECOME SONS OF LIGHT." WHEN HE HAD FINISHED SPEAKING, JESUS LEFT AND HID HIMSELF FROM THEM.

CHRIST'S MINISTRY REVIEWED

15. THE NATIONS RESPONSE TO CHRIST'S MINISTRY

- A. JOHN 12:37 ³⁷EVEN AFTER JESUS HAD DONE ALL THESE MIRACULOUS SIGNS IN THEIR PRESENCE, THEY STILL WOULD NOT BELIEVE IN HIM.

16. THE FORECAST OF ISRAEL'S UNBELIEF BY ISAIAH

- A. JOHN 12:38-41 ³⁸THIS WAS TO FULFILL THE WORD OF ISAIAH THE PROPHET: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR MESSAGE AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?" ³⁹FOR THIS REASON THEY COULD NOT BELIEVE, BECAUSE, AS ISAIAH SAYS ELSEWHERE: ⁴⁰"HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND DEADENED THEIR HEARTS, SO THEY CAN NEITHER SEE WITH THEIR EYES, NOR UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEARTS, NOR TURN--AND I WOULD HEAL THEM." ⁴¹ISAIAH SAID THIS BECAUSE HE SAW JESUS' GLORY AND SPOKE ABOUT HIM.

17. THE CONDITION OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY CHRIST

- A. JOHN 12:42-43 ⁴²YET AT THE SAME TIME MANY EVEN AMONG THE LEADERS BELIEVED IN HIM. BUT BECAUSE OF THE PHARISEES THEY WOULD NOT CONFESS THEIR FAITH FOR FEAR THEY WOULD BE PUT OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE; ⁴³FOR THEY LOVED PRAISE FROM MEN MORE THAN PRAISE FROM GOD.

18. CHRIST'S TEACHING ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER

- A. JOHN 12:44-45 ⁴⁴THEN JESUS CRIED OUT, "**WHEN A MAN BELIEVES**

IN ME, HE DOES NOT BELIEVE IN ME ONLY, BUT IN THE ONE WHO SENT ME. ⁴⁵WHEN HE LOOKS AT ME, HE SEES THE ONE WHO SENT ME.

19. CHRIST'S TEACHING CONCERNING THE DESIGN OF HIS MINISTRY
 - A. JOHN 12:46-47 ⁴⁶**I HAVE COME INTO THE WORLD AS A LIGHT, SO THAT NO ONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME SHOULD STAY IN DARKNESS.** ⁴⁷"AS FOR THE PERSON WHO HEARS MY WORDS BUT DOES NOT KEEP THEM, I DO NOT JUDGE HIM. FOR I DID NOT COME TO JUDGE THE WORLD, BUT TO SAVE IT
20. CHRIST'S TEACHING CONCERNING THE DOOM OF ALL WHO DESPISE HIM
 - A. JOHN 12:48-49. ⁴⁸THERE IS A JUDGE FOR THE ONE WHO REJECTS ME AND DOES NOT ACCEPT MY WORDS; **THAT VERY WORD WHICH I SPOKE WILL CONDEMN HIM AT THE LAST DAY.** ⁴⁹FOR I DID NOT SPEAK OF MY OWN ACCORD, BUT THE FATHER WHO SENT ME COMMANDED ME WHAT TO SAY AND HOW TO SAY IT.
21. CHRIST'S TEACHING CONCERNING THE WAY OF LIFE
 - A. JOHN 12:50 ⁵⁰I KNOW THAT HIS COMMAND LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE. SO WHATEVER I SAY IS JUST WHAT THE FATHER HAS TOLD ME TO SAY."
 - B. WHEN JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM,
 - C. THE WHOLE CITY WAS STIRRED
 - D. AND ASKED, "WHO IS THIS?"
 - E. [11] THE CROWDS ANSWERED, "THIS IS JESUS, THE PROPHET FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE."
 - I. THE ACTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS KING
 - (1) ENTERED THE TEMPLE AREA
 - (2) AND DROVE OUT ALL WHO WERE BUYING
 - (3) AND SELLING THERE.
 - (4) HE OVERTURNED THE TABLES OF THE MONEY CHANGERS
 - (5) AND THE BENCHES OF THOSE SELLING DOVES.
 - II. WHAT HE WANTED KNOWN!
 - (1) "IT IS WRITTEN," HE SAID TO THEM, " 'MY HOUSE WILL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER,'
(a)Isaiah 56:7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for

my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

(2) BUT YOU ARE MAKING IT A 'DEN OF ROBBERS.'

(a)Jeremiah 7:11 Has this house, which bears my Name, become a den of robbers to you? But I have been watching! declares the Lord.

III. THE ACTIONS AT THE TEMPLE!

(1) THE BLIND AND THE LAME CAME TO HIM AT THE TEMPLE, AND HE HEALED THEM.

IV. WHAT WAS THOUGHT ABOUT THIS?

(1) WHEN THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW SAW THE WONDERFUL THINGS HE DID

(2) AND THE CHILDREN SHOUTING IN THE TEMPLE AREA,

(A) "HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID,"

(3) THEY WERE INDIGNANT. [16] "DO YOU HEAR WHAT THESE CHILDREN ARE SAYING?" THEY ASKED HIM.

V. WHAT DID JESUS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THIS?

(1) "YES," REPLIED JESUS, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ, " 'FROM THE LIPS OF CHILDREN AND INFANTS YOU HAVE ORDAINED PRAISE'?"

(A) Psalm 8:2 From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

22. Jesus the Son of God came into the world and did nothing but good: He healed the sick, forgave those who were caught in sin that leads to death, He raised the dead and He offered Himself to the leaders and they rejected Him.

a. The people who cried "HOSANNA" on this day will reject Him in just four days, four days of examining the LAMB OF GOD. Then they will "Crucify Him"

b. But we serve such a LOVING, GRACEFUL GOD, He does not always seem to answer our prayers when and how we expect Him to. BUT, in 58 days He will answer their prayer and they will be saved forever.

c. We live in a different time, **but the same season** as both Jew and Christian prepare to celebrate the feast of Firstfruits. Which we shall do next Sunday.

d. IF you and I cry today, HOSANNA, SAVE US NOW, He does.

But the full manifestation of it will come later. When we stand before Him and He says “WELL DONE, my good and perfect servant”

The question for each of us today, What will I do for this King? Will I acknowledge Him, and name Him King of my life, and accept His Kingdom of Righteousness or reject Him?