

# THE WOMEN OF EASTER BIBLE STUDY

Lesson 4: "With Palms Before Thee"  
Matthew 21:1-17 (John 12:9-19; Luke 19:37-42)

**Location:** Grant Chapel AME  
Church of Wichita  
**Zoom ID:** 863 5435 3859  
**Passcode:** 275067219  
**Facilitator:** Pastor Gordon Glenn

**Opening Discussion:** What stands out in your heart *and mind* about how your church observes Palm Sunday? Why is that meaningful to you?

**Setting the Scene<sup>i</sup>:** "Palms can mean the soft centers of our hands, like Mary of Bethany's palms that touched the feet of Jesus. Or the palms of God, on which He has written our names: `Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands.'" [Isa. 49:16 NASB]

"Palms are also tall, graceful plants found throughout Scripture and often used in worship. `You are to take branches from luxuriant trees – from palms, willows and other leafy trees – and rejoice before the Lord your God.'" [Lev. 23:40]

"In the next chapter in Jesus' life, both kinds of palms would be used to honor Him, with the waving of branches and the clapping of hands." **Read Matthew 21:1-17**

## Questions to guide our study<sup>ii</sup>:

1. Make a list of our Savior's divine qualities that would inspire you to shout, "*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*" (vs. 9)
2. **What** prompts you to praise God ANY day of the year?
3. In the temple, (vs. 12) THE LORD *could have* allowed His disciples to overturn the tables. **Why** was it important for Jesus to do this Himself?
4. **How** does this scene (in the temple) speak to you, personally?

**More on back.**

5. Moments later (vs. 14) we see Jesus healing the blind and the lame. **How** do you reconcile these juxtaposed images of Him angrily tossing aside a table one minute and then gently healing people the next?
  
6. In the same way, **how** might you explain that God is *a righteous judge*, a God who displays His wrath every day, in light of the fact that “His compassions never fail, they are new every morning” (Lam. 3:22-23)?

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:**

*If Jesus were to visit your Church, where would He begin “turning over tables”?  
What about in your life?*

**NEXT TIME: “O, Most Afflicted” Luke 20:1-8; 21:1-4; 22:3-13;  
John 13:3-10; Matthew 26:20-56**

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<sup>i</sup> Excerpted from *The Women of Easter* by Liz Curtis Higgs (Waterbrook Press, c. 2016), p. 69.

<sup>ii</sup> Questions gleaned from *The Women of Easter “Study Guide”* by Liz Curtis Higgs (Waterbrook Press, c. 2016)