

Palm Sunday 2021

Have you ever been in a place where someone famous was going to perform, perhaps a concert or a ball game? What did you do when the famous person finally arrived?

Every year the Jewish people celebrate Passover to remember the time God protected them from death during the tenth plague on Egypt. After that plague, the Pharaoh of Egypt freed all the Israelites from slavery. One year, as the people came to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast, they heard that their special King was also coming, so they all went out to the road to praise Him. How do you think they reacted when their King arrived?

But, wait, some important things happened before that...

Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem when they stopped at a village called Bethany. This is located on the slopes of the Mount of Olives.

While they were waiting in Bethany, Jesus sent two of his disciples to another nearby village. He told them that they would find a colt of a donkey tied up there and that they should bring it to him. Well, sure enough, when the two disciples entered the village they found the donkey just as Jesus had said.

Now, in the city of Jerusalem, large crowds had gathered because it was the Passover feast.

News soon began to sweep through the entire city that Jesus was coming and everyone was getting really excited about seeing him. They had heard about all the wonderful miracles that he had done. Especially the raising of Lazarus from the dead.

The people began looking for Jesus outside the city. There were people everywhere. Pretty soon they saw Jesus, riding on a donkey, coming their way.

It seemed like everyone was taking off their cloaks and placing them on the road, sort of like a carpet being rolled out, for the donkey to walk on. Other people began waving palm branches and spreading them on the ground, too. This was their way of greeting Jesus as their king. And they were shouting, "Hosanna, Hosanna to the son of David!"

Hosanna is a Hebrew word that means "oh, save!" The people were using it to praise Jesus.

It was a great event that day. But some of the religious and political leaders were worried that Jesus would become an earthly king and plotted to kill him. Later that same week, Jesus was betrayed, arrested, beaten and nailed to a cross to die. But he rose from the dead on Easter morning, which will be our lesson for next Sunday—Easter!!

Suggested Parent/Child Activity: To celebrate Easter this year you can do something a little different with coloring eggs. Before dipping the eggs into the colored dye, use a wax crayon to write short messages on the eggs. The messages should be reasons to praise our Lord Jesus. Examples: Jesus is Lord of all Jesus Loves Me! The Lord is my shepherd Jesus is the Son of God, etc. The crayon will not be affected by the dye, so you will still see the message after dipping the eggs. Use this time to show how thankful you are for all Jesus provides.

