

PALM SUNDAY - TRIUMPH OR TRAGEDY?

Text Luke 19:37-44

1. TRIUMPH - Those Who Received (vs. 37-38)

A week before the cross Jesus entered Jerusalem to cries of praise and worship. This was the Triumphal Entry. It was at that time that Jesus was at the height of His public ministry. He was recognized as being the M_____.

The word Hosanna means "S_____ us now!" and was an expression of praise.

The thief's "Hosanna" was a simple declaration of faith and trust "remember me when you come into your kingdom". Jesus responded to his request with an affirmation and promise of salvation "today you will be with me in paradise".

Like the disciples and that thief who accepted Jesus, I hope Hosanna is on your lips today. You recognized that you have a need and have asked Christ to save you.

Thank Him for what He has done and give Him the honor due His name. Like those early followers we worship our king and lay down what we have before Him as He moves through our lives.

2. TRAGEDY - Those Who Rejected (vs. 39-40)

We live in a world that does not recognize Jesus for who He is. Though a p_____ has been granted they refuse to accept it. They have rejected the idea of Jesus as Lord and savior.

Those Who Missed What Was Happening (vs. 41-44)

Perhaps the largest group were the bystanders that day who saw what was happening but did not understand what it meant.

When Jesus looks up at Jerusalem as He approaches He knows what will happen. He sees the day forty years later in AD 70 when it will be burned and destroyed. He sees the destruction. He sees that the enemy will triumph over it. It would be destroyed because it did not recognize the time of God's _____.

So close but so far away.

Easter is a time of decision. Two thieves crucified on either side of Jesus. One _____ and one rejects. One is saved and another is lost. It is the very picture of decision.