

Palm Sunday: An Invitation of Hope

Luke 19:29-44

The Lord **NEEDS** it: An invitation to **join** Him.

 Luke 19:29–35 (NIV) As He approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as He had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it.”

 Mark 11:2–3 (NIV) “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

 Psalm 50:9–12 (NIV) “I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, ¹⁰ for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹ I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. ¹² If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.”

 Zechariah 9:9 (NIV) “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.”

 Luke 19:36–40 (NIV) “As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ³⁸ “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” ⁴⁰ “I tell you,” He replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.””

The Lord **FEELS** it: An invitation to **know** Him.

 Luke 19:41–42 (NIV) “As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it ⁴² and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.”

 Isaiah 55:6 (NIV) “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.”

The Lord **SEES** it: An invitation to **shelter in** Him.

 Luke 19:43–44 (NIV) “The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

 Proverbs 29:1 (NIV) “A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy.”

 Psalm 27:1–5 (ESV) “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ² When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. ⁴ One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple. ⁵ For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.”

Digging Deeper: Will you accept God’s invitation of hope today? Will you join Jesus in announcing Him—our Hope to the world? Does your heart break for the same things that break God’s heart? Have you found shelter in Christ? Is there something in your life that Jesus is nudging you to make available to Him? Will you invite someone who needs hope to come to Easter service with you?

