

REDEMPTION CHURCH

The King of the Jews | Palm Sunday

BIG POINT

Remember, this gospel begins as Herod is killing all Jewish boys under age 2 and is asking, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews?" For 30 years, the question was lingering for the Jews, *is Jesus the King of the Jews?* And if so, *what kind of king is He?* Is He the one we have been waiting for? This theme repeats often over the final days of Jesus' life. This passage from Mark looks at Jesus' triumphal entry.

Exodus 13:13

Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—.

This week we looked at Mark 1:1-10 to answer:

1) *Who is the King of the Jews?* And, 2) *Who are we in the story?*

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples² and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴*And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"* **Mark 1:1-10**

Notes:

Jesus, the King of Kings, is clearly the King of Jews –albeit His entry here was perplexing and ironic); but, who are we in this story? We might be tempted to see ourselves as the two disciples; but, often in Scripture when two are sent, they are the picture of the Church or represent a witness. We are not the king or the disciples, we are the donkey! Let's look at 4 characteristics of the donkey and its situation, and then what the King does or how He responds.

#1: The donkey is alive. The King redeems us.

Exodus 13:13 shows us that a sacrificial lamb had to die for this donkey to live. The donkey had greater value than the lamb.

- We were redeemed with a price. We are only alive, spiritually, because a lamb was slain for us!
- See Ephesians 2:4-5 and [Revelation 5](#)

Chained by What?

Sin? Hurtful words?

Religion? A hurt (cut to the core and now defines you)?

Fear? Disappointment? Your past (haven't received the forgiveness offered)?

Addiction? Betrayal?

Low expectations (for self & what God can do)?

Abandonment? Heartbreak?

I Peter 4:1-2

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.

Hebrews 12:5-6

My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

Now What?

Don't stay tied to the chain!

We live in the presence of the King and operate in a new Kingdom!

Let Him redeem and break us, and then walk us into freedom and our purpose!

#2: The donkey is still tied up. The King releases us.

The donkey is tied/chained up, stuck, unbroken, & unused.

Once redeemed (untied) we must walk out of our chains and into our freedom. We're no different than this donkey!

We can be chained by dozens of things...but we can only be set free by One!

#3: The donkey has never been used. He rules/uses us.

It says Jesus "needs" it (the only time in Scripture where it says Jesus needs a *thing*).

We have been redeemed by a price so we can be released for a purpose. We can be redeemed, but still chained and without a purpose. We have been redeemed from sin (pain, fear, etc), so we can be released to live out our purpose in freedom... But, in order to be ruled by Him, we must first be broken.

Broken by: His death; difficulty (1 Peter 4:1-2); and discipline ([Hebrews 12:5-11](#)). Being broken is not to disqualify us, but to deploy us. The donkey is first broke and then used. **What needs to be broken in us?** Rebellious spirit; selfishness; pride...

Allowing our flesh to be crucified along the journey, we arm ourselves for the battle by putting on Christ's mindset:

"looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:2

#4: The donkey is returned. He returns us.

Give Him Abraham, a lost pagan, and He returns a man of faith and father of His people. Give Him David, a forgotten shepherd, and He returns a man after His own heart and the 1st King of Israel. Give Him Simon, timid and afraid, and He returns Peter –the church's first leader. Give Him Saul –hater of Christians, and He returns Paul –the planter of churches.

Give Him yourself and your...

...heartbreak and He will return you with His love.

...fear and He will return you with courage.

...hurts and He will return you with encouragement.

...pain and He will return you with wisdom.

...sin and He will return you redeemed.

...brokenness and He will return it with blessing.

We go through this so that we can then help others

See [2 Corinthians 1:3-11](#).