

Reading:- Matthew Chapter 21

We see crowds of people in the streets when the Queen is passing by. This is an occasion of great happiness and rejoicing among the common people; just think how much more it must have been when the Lord rode through Jerusalem on an ass.

At this time Jerusalem would be crowded with people arriving in preparation for the feast of the Passover. The people in Jerusalem had heard of the many wonderful things Jesus had done (e.g. miracles) and they were most anxious to see him. They had hoped that he was going to make himself their leader and with his wonderful powers, rid them of the Roman rulers whom they hated so intensely. Jesus is our King, He did not come as a King the first time he lived on earth, but he is coming back very soon to be King over the whole world. Jesus knew he was not to become King at this time, and so we do not find him riding into Jerusalem with the pomp and ceremony of royalty, but simply and quietly seated on a young ass.

During the journey from Bethphage to Jerusalem, the multitude must have been ever increasing. The crowd in front of Jesus would proclaim Him and those ahead prepare for him by laying down their garments and cutting down branches from the trees. The procession would go over the brow of mount Olivet and down the mountain, over the brook Kedron and so into Jerusalem, through the narrow streets to the Temple of God.

Jesus lead the people to the Temple, He must of felt the need to praise his Heavenly Father and desired that the multitude might also praise Him. When Jesus found in the Temple courts those who defiled his Father's house, the money changers, and the sellers of doves, he was filled with anger, and he made a whip of cords and drove them all out, overturning the tables of the money changers and driving out the "shopkeepers". His journey, which might have ended in perfect praise in the House of his Father, was ruined by these sinful men. How sad this must have made Jesus.

Point to remember:- Jesus, although so lowly, was indeed the King and that young children can sing and praise God and His Son.