

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for April 13, 2014

The Triumphal Entry
John 12:12-19

How did Jesus the eternal Son of God who came into this world on behalf of His Father, orchestrate the events of the triumphal entry based on John 12:12-19?

Jesus orchestrated the celebration (John 12:17-18; cf. John 11:1-12:11).

Jesus orchestrated the celebration by tapping into the excitement that had been fueled throughout Jerusalem by the eyewitness testimony of those who had seen Him raise Lazarus from the dead (John 12:17-18; cf. John 11:1-12:11).

Jesus tapped into the excitement that had spread throughout Jerusalem, thus precipitating the subsequent celebration by strategically choosing to stay in the house of Lazarus the day before He entered Jerusalem (John 12:12; cf. John 12:1-11).

Palm branches in the time of Christ had become a national symbol.

The word “hosanna” literally meant, “give salvation now” but had come to be used simply as an expression of praise.

The phrase “blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” comes from Psalm 118:26 and is best understood as a messianic title.

Though the phrase “even the King of Israel” did not come from Psalm 118:26, it does confirm that “he who comes in the name of the Lord” was a messianic title.

Jesus orchestrated the fulfillment of a prophecy from Zechariah 9:9 that involved a young donkey (John 12:14-16; cf. Matthew 21:1-7).

A donkey symbolized peace in contrast with a horse that symbolized war.

Jesus orchestrated the despairing hostile response of the Pharisees (John 12:19).

May God give us the grace to understand that, if we love Him and are called according to His purpose, He will most certainly in His sovereignty work all things in our lives together for good.