

# **Behold Your King!**

*Studies in the Gospel of Matthew*

## **The Reception of the King into Jerusalem**

**Matthew 21**

**Lesson 16**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*April 15, 2012*

# The Week that Turned Promise into Gospel

- ▶ Sunday – Triumphal entry
- ▶ Monday – Cursing the fig tree and cleansing the Temple
- ▶ Tuesday – Discussion of the fig tree and authority

# The Kingdom of Heaven

- ▶ The redemptive work of Christ
- ▶ The life of Christ

# **The Just shall Live by Faith**

- ▶ Believe in Christ for eternal salvation
- ▶ Live under the curse – the world, the flesh and the devil
- ▶ Live with an “incomplete” salvation
- ▶ Live in anticipation of the revelation of Jesus Christ

# The Life of Christ

- ▶ A life of humility and humiliation
- ▶ Zeal for the way of righteousness
- ▶ Christ, the King in obscurity

# The Gospel of Matthew

- ▶ The glorious Son of God in the flesh
- ▶ Teaching and illustrating the life of faith
- ▶ A simple, factual presentation of His suffering, death and resurrection



# Greatness in the Kingdom of Heaven

- ▶ Matthew 18-20
- ▶ Humility
- ▶ Serving
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:21-23

# Matthew 21

## ▶ The Triumphal Entry

- The King comes in humility (21:1-11)
- The King cleanses the Temple (21:12-13)

## ▶ Opposition arises (21:14-17)

- The lesson of the fruitless fig tree (21:18-22)
- The lesson on authority (21:23-27)
  - Parable of the two sons (21:28-32)
  - Parable of the tenants (21:33-41)
  - The Cornerstone (21:42-46)



# The Triumphal Entry (21:1-11)

- ▶ Sunday
- ▶ Bethphage – “house of unripe figs”
- ▶ Only reference to Christ as Lord in Matthew
- ▶ Psalm 24:1-2; 7-10
  - “The earth is the LORD’S . . .”
  - “The LORD of hosts. He is the King of glory.”

# The Triumphal Entry (21:1-11)

- ▶ The Sovereign Lord on a young donkey
- ▶ Isaiah 62:11
- ▶ Zechariah 9:9
- ▶ “Hosanna to the Son of David”
- ▶ Psalm 118:25-26 – “Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord”
- ▶ Crowd stirred up
- ▶ Prophet Jesus from Nazareth

# Cleansing the Temple (21:12-14)

- ▶ Monday
- ▶ Malachi 3:1-5 – suddenly comes to His Temple
- ▶ Isaiah 56:7 – house of prayer
- ▶ Jeremiah 7:8-15 – den of robbers
- ▶ Drove out both sellers and buyers.
- ▶ Destruction of the Temple and Law
- ▶ Healing and worship in the Temple

# Opposition arises (21:15-17)

- ▶ The chief priests and scribes are indignant
- ▶ Wonderful things He did
- ▶ Adoration of the children
- ▶ Psalm 8:2 – out of the mouths of babes
- ▶ Matthew 11:25-26 – revealed to little children

# The Accursed Fig Tree (21:18-22)

- ▶ Monday/Tuesday
- ▶ The fruitless fig tree is cursed by Christ
  - Micah 7:1-6 – no fruit
  - Jeremiah 8:13 – no figs on the fig tree
- ▶ A lesson on prayer?
  - Matthew 17:20 – “Move this mountain.”
  - Matthew 18:18-20 – bind or loose in earth and heaven
  - Imprecatory prayer



# Authority Questioned (21:23-27)

- ▶ What authority?
- ▶ Jesus counters with a question about John
- ▶ A revealing “non-answer”
- ▶ Do not answer a fool in his folly (Proverbs 26:4)



# Parable of 2 Sons (21:28-32)

- ▶ Answer a fool in his folly (Proverbs 26:5)
- ▶ Two sons charged with a duty by the father
- ▶ Question: Who did the will of his father?
- ▶ John came in the way of righteousness
- ▶ Behavior shows acceptance of authority
  - Prostitutes and tax collectors believed
  - Chief priests and elders saw and rejected

# Parable of the Tenants (21:33-41)

- ▶ Vineyard prepared and leased to tenants
- ▶ Time for payment to the master of the house
- ▶ Tenants killed the servants and the son
- ▶ Question: What will the master of the house do?
  - Kill the tenants
  - Seek new tenants
- ▶ The authority of the master of the house

# The Cornerstone (21:42-46)

- ▶ Spoken to the chief priests and Pharisees (21:45)
  - The issue is not lack of authority (v.32 – they saw)
  - The issue was their sinfulness (v.41 – wretches)
- ▶ The authority of Scripture (Psalm 118:22-23)
- ▶ Stone rejected by the builders became the Cornerstone
- ▶ Rejection of God's authority leads to loss of the Kingdom
- ▶ The authority of the Cornerstone – eternal judgment

# Jesus is the Cornerstone

- ▶ Stone of stumbling and rock of offense (1 Peter 2:8)
- ▶ Unseen but loved and believed (1 Peter 1:8)
- ▶ The offense of the cross
- ▶ Embrace the way of righteousness
- ▶ Live for the sake of the Kingdom of heaven (Matt. 19:12)