



SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 13.04.25

PREACHER: PS JOSH PLUMB

WELCOME THE TRUE KING

BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

BEING [HEART], THINKING [MIND] & DOING [BODY]

[A PERSONAL REFLECTION]

Conviction of a Disciple: As we journey in our growth into Christlikeness, we become more fully surrendered to Christ's authority, offering Him not just our admiration but our allegiance as our True King.

OVERVIEW

Jesus didn't enter Jerusalem as a mere teacher or prophet—He came as a King. To know Him truly, we must welcome Him not only with praise, but with our surrender to his rule in our life. The path of the King is the way that leads to true life.

ACTION

Step 1: Reflect: What "kings" have you crowned in your life that still have a hold over you? How have they shaped the way you see Jesus?

Step 2: Commit: What would full surrender to Jesus actually look like for you in this season—what needs to be laid down?

Step 3: Act: In what concrete ways can you live out your worship and obedience this week as a response to Jesus' Kingship?

THOUGHT

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 19:28-46

Journeys shape us. Along the road to Jerusalem, we don't just learn about Jesus—we learn about ourselves. His disciples were learning, step by step, what it means to walk with Him. And so are we.

As Jesus approaches the city of Jerusalem, the story slows. Every detail begins to matter. He chooses a colt to carry Him—an act packed with the weight from the Old Testament Scriptures. Israel's prophets had spoken of a King who would come riding on a donkey, a humble ruler who would bring salvation, not by force but by faithfulness to YHWH.

And as Jesus enters the city, the people seem know who and what they are seeing. They lay down cloaks. They lift their voices. They quote Psalm 118, crying out, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

This is no ordinary entry. This is a kingly welcome and royal celebration.

But not everyone is rejoicing. Some try to hush the crowd, to quiet the celebration. But Jesus won't have it. "If they keep silent," He says, "even the stones will cry out." Creation itself knows who He is.

Because here's the truth: the crowds wanted their version of a king - their messianic ideal. But this is not who Jesus was. His path to victory looked very different to what they had in mind.

Welcoming Jesus as King requires more than songs and palms. It means surrendering to our agendas and ideals. It means no longer being the master of our own lives. It is the path that leads to death - but trusting that this death is what brings us to real life.

Sometimes we say we've surrendered, but if we're honest, we're just playing the game—doing the church things, living in proximity to Jesus without ever letting Him take the throne. And the kings we do crown—comfort, wealth, control, appearance—will always take more than they give. They promise life, but they slowly crush us.

Jesus' way is different. He is a King who walks the road of suffering. Into the deepest darkness, even going into death itself - not avoiding anything, but transforming everything. His path is life. Abundant life. Resurrection life. But only on the other side of surrender.

He grieves over Jerusalem. So close to salvation, and yet they missed it. Still today, Jesus grieves over His creation—over hearts that are near in form but far in surrender. We can do holy things and still miss the Holy One.

He's still riding into hearts, still asking for a place to reign. Will we make room?

DISCUSSION

[A GROUP REFLECTION]

1. Why do you think so many people welcomed Jesus as King in word, but rejected Him in action just days later? In what ways do we still do the same?
2. What's the difference between admiring Jesus and actually obeying Him? How can we tell which one is true in our own lives?
3. Jesus invites us into death that leads to life. How have you experienced surrender leading to deeper freedom or wholeness?

PRAYER

Jesus,

We welcome You—not just with our songs, but with our whole lives. Teach us what it means to follow You down the road of surrender, to trust that Your way leads to life. Strip away our false kings and lead us in the way of Your kingdom. Be our King—fully, truly, always.

Amen.