

“A Parade to Remember”
Luke 19:28-44
Sunday, March 28, 2021 (Palm Sunday)

Introduction: We just saw a Palm Sunday Parade with elementary children in grades 1-5. This is one parade I will remember.

I want to talk to you this morning about another parade to remember.

- It was in Jerusalem over 21 centuries ago.
- It is the Palm Sunday Parade.
- It is recorded in each of the gospels (Matthew 21; Mark 11; Luke 19; John 12).
- Only in John’s gospel do we read “Palm branches” (12:13).
- Matthew says, “clothes and branches from trees.”
- Mark says, “leafy branches.”
- Luke says, “clothes on the road.”

Text: Luke 19:28-44

- The part of this parade I want us to think about this morning is in verse 41.
- Jesus saw the city of Jerusalem and wept over it (Luke 19:41).

The Bible records three times that Jesus wept. (Remember that everything Jesus did is not recorded in the Bible (John 21:25)).

1. Luke 19:41 tells us that Jesus wept on His Palm Sunday ride.
2. Jesus wept struggling doing God’s will in the Garden of Gethsemane. We read about this in Hebrews 5:7.
3. Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus (John 11:35).

T.S. Lets look at each of these and see what we can learn to help us.

- 1. Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus. (John 11:35)**

- The Bible records many who wept.
- Abraham wept when Sarah died (Genesis 23:1-2).
- Jacob wept when he thought Joseph had been eaten by wild animals (Genesis 37:35).
- Joseph wept when he revealed himself to his brothers (Genesis 45:2).
- Joseph wept when his Father Jacob died (Genesis 50:1).
- David continually wept (Psalms).
- King Hezekiah wept when the prophet Isaiah told him to get his house in order because he was going to die from his illness (2 Kings 20:1-3).
- Jeremiah wept over Jerusalem.
- Peter wept bitterly after denying Jesus the third time (Luke 22:62).
- These are “spiritual giants”!!
- Then we read that Jesus wept (John 11:35).

The Greek word translated “wept” in John 11:35 denotes “slightly bursting into tears” in contrast to the weeping and wailing of the people in 11:33.

Question: Why did Jesus weep? Jesus knew He would raise Lazarus from the dead.

1. Jesus was truly man—human and divine.
2. Jesus wept seeing the grief of others.
3. Lazarus was a friend.

Application: Every family member and every friend opens the door for grief (tears) because they, like ourselves, are mortal. Our tears do not mean we have no faith. Our tears mean we are human.

Illustration: Tears are not confined to death. There are tears at job losses, relationship losses, loss of a promotion at work, loss of health, etc.

Illustration: A scientific study has revealed that the chemical contrast of sad tears and happy tears are different. Toxins are released from the body through sad tears which release the emotional pain. (Charles Stanley "Handbook for Christian Living" page 104).

Application: Two words:

1. No two people grieve alike.
2. Grieving is a process.

2. Jesus wept struggling doing God's will (Hebrews 5:7).

- In Hebrews 5:7 we read about Jesus struggling and weeping doing God's will.
- Hebrews 5:7 refers to Christ (verse 5) and to His experience in Gethsemane.
- The Gethsemane experience is recorded in each of the four gospels. Only in John's gospel is it called a garden.
- Matthew and Luke tell us that Jesus was sorrowful, deeply distressed, troubled as He struggled with doing God's will.

Illustration: In my life, I recall four times I literally wept tears doing God's will.

1. Leaving our family and friends and moving to Texas to go to seminary.
2. Leaving Tennessee to go to FBC Sulphur Springs.
3. In a motel lobby in Dallas, Texas on a Friday night struggling with leaving Sulphur Springs to go to a Dallas church.
4. Leaving Sulphur Springs to come to this church.

Question: In your life, how many times do you recall weeping doing God's will?

3. Jesus wept on His Palm Sunday ride (Luke 19:41).

- Only Luke tells us that Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem.
- Why did Jesus weep?
- He wept because the people in Jerusalem had missed their opportunity to receive Him as Messiah.
- Jesus wept because now it was too late.

Application: The sins in America should bring us to weep.

Illustration: God's words to Moses in Exodus 32:8, "How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live! They have melted down gold and made a calf, and they have bowed down and sacrificed to it" apply to us even more so.

Illustration: I was thrilled that Pope Francis signed off on barring Catholic priest from blessing same-sex unions on March 15, 2021. Pope Francis said, "Same-sex unions are "not ordered to the Creator's plan." He went on to say that God "cannot bless sin."

Several of the liberal media and promoters of same-sex unions said that the Catholic church needs to get in the 21st century. Let me respond to that. **The 21st century needs to get in the Word of God.**

Conclusion: I think God must weep when He sees so many miss their opportunity to receive Him as Messiah and live according to His plan.

Invitation: For some this morning, this is your opportunity to accept Christ and live His way. It is not too late today, but one day it will be.