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Savior of the World!

Scripture: Matthew 1:21-23

Jesus came to earth to save us because we couldn't save ourselves from sin's consequences. **Sin** is an immoral act considered to be a transgression of divine law (transgression, iniquity, error, missing the mark, trespass, lawlessness, unbelief). There are **sins of commission are things that you SHOULD NOT do but you did anyway**; "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). **Sins of omission are things that you SHOULD do but that you don't**; "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me" (Romans 7:21).

Sin originated with Satan entered the world through Adam, was and is universal, Christ alone excepted and incurs the penalties of spiritual and physical death and was our remedy in the sacrificial death of Christ. **No matter how good we are, we can't eliminate the sinful nature present in all of us.** Only Jesus can do that. Jesus didn't come to help people save themselves; He came to be their Savior from the power and penalty of sin.

Our proper and biblical attitude is to be aiming for perfection and determining to **perfect holiness in the fear of God.** If we should falter and sin, thankfully we have a forgiving Advocate with the Father in the person of our Lord and Savior Jesus. John assures us that "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins" (1 John 1:9).

Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday – The Suffering of Christ at Calvary) is a Christian **moveable feast.** The feast commemorates Jesus' **triumphal entry into Jerusalem,** an event mentioned in all four **Gospels** (**Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-40; John 12:12-19**). Putting the four accounts together, it becomes clear that the triumphal entry was a significant event, not only to the people of Jesus' day, but to Christians throughout history. We celebrate Palm Sunday to remember that historic occasion.

This day has to do with him approaching the end of his ministry. His ministry on earth was about **3 or 3 ½ years.** He avoided public recognition of his identity to the masses. Within that time frame he did so many **miracles** and had much opposition before this great day (**Palm Sunday**). It also lets me know we have a certain amount of time to fulfill our ministry.

Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies of the coming Messiah. His entry into Jerusalem riding the donkey had been specifically described in **Zechariah 9:9.** The gathering Passover crowd was stirring in expectancy and excitement. When Jesus appeared shouts and praises filled the air: "**Hosanna, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**" Spreading their coats in the way and waving palm branches, the masses of people welcomed their long-awaited Messiah. The triumphal parade led the worshipers through the Eastern Gate right into the courts of the Temple.

Jesus was the Son of God, God manifested in the flesh. His supernatural birth of a virgin demonstrated His divine origin. It was the fact that He equated Himself with God that most angered His critics. Yet, because He is God, we should worship Him. As the crowds praised and welcomed their Messiah on that day of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, **so should we worship Him and welcome Him into our lives.** **Let us proclaim to the whole world, Jesus is the Christ!**

May the church always be praising Jesus as the Kings of kings and the Lord of lords! **He is coming again to receive those who by faith received Him by repenting of their sins, being baptized in His name, and being filled with His Holy Spirit.** His **second coming** will be with great power and majesty, and everyone will recognize Him as the Lord of all.

Jesus will save us "**from**" our sins. If you have been **born again** in Him, you are free from the guilt of sin and the wrath formerly due to your sins. **But** you are also saved and "**freed from**" the ongoing continuance in sin. Crucified with Christ and having buried your sinful old man in baptism, you rise to a new life "**freed from sin.**"

Remember, Jesus came to save us: **1)** from the guilt of and the wrath due to our sins; but also **2)** from the ongoing committing of sins.