

“Face Palm Sunday”

“See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.” (Ecclesiastes 7:29)

Ecstatic Welcome

Matthew 21:1-11 – ¹ “Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, ‘Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, The Lord needs them, and he will send them at once.’ ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵ ‘Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’ ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’ ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, ‘Who is this?’ ¹¹ And the crowds said, ‘This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.’”

Emblematic Wavering

Matthew 26:56 – ⁵⁶ “But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples left him and fled.”

Matthew 27:20-24 – ²⁰ “Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor again said to them, ‘Which of the two do you want me to release for you?’ And they said, ‘Barabbas.’ ²² Pilate said to them, ‘Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?’ They all said, ‘Let him be crucified!’ ²³ And he said, ‘Why,

what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Let him be crucified!’
²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.’”

Enduring Warning

Jeremiah 2:1-2, 4-5 – ¹ “The word of the LORD came to me, saying,
² ‘Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD,
I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride, how you followed me in the wilderness, in a land not sown.’ ⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the clans of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the LORD: ‘What wrong did your fathers find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?’”

2 Samuel 1:27 – “How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!”

1 Corinthians 10:11-12 – ¹¹ “Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹² Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.”

2 Peter 3:17 – “You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.”

Enduring Mercy

Mark 16:5-7 – ⁵ “And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”