

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

April 13, 2025

Undisputed Champion

You know I must admit that even though I did not graduate from University of Houston I was very disappointed they lost in the finals. They have been through so much for so many years to bring home a national championship. They put in so much work, made so many sacrifices, even though in the final game winning was everything.

If we were to take a careful look at all the attacks that Christ encountered it would be too many to list. Here are a few; His family did not believe in Him (Matthew 12:46; John 7:5), Jewish leaders were always trying to kill Him, Herod was glad to get his hands on Him (Luke 23:8-12), He was continuously needing money (Luke 9:58), and even the little Christ had was being stolen by Judas. Satan remained His enemy whether by demons, or Jewish leaders or by his continual attacks against Christ (Luke 4:13). When He was arrested everyone deserted Him but John.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey it is representative of a humble King and a conqueror. This is why Palm leaves and people’s other garments were placed before Him. No one was able to conquer Him, stop His ministry progress, He did not starve to death, and the Jewish leaders could not touch Him until God allowed them. The Jewish people recognized this and now wanted for Him to conquer Rome (His disciples expected this; Mark 10:35-40). The only thing left to counter was death and that He did a few days later. He came to the final game and won, never to be defeated anymore because everything was finished, so completed after forty days He ascended to heaven to sit down at the right hand of His Father.

We will experience trials (1 Peter 4:12); each experience is only teaching us how to play the game already won. James, the writer of Hebrews and Peter, would say it teaches us endurance, perfects us, and completes us so we lack nothing (James 1:4). It purify us (1 Peter 1:3-9) or teaches us discipline (Hebrews 12:7-11), and to top it all off, if we endure the process, we then win the Crown of Life (James 1:12; Revelation 2:10). We no longer need to concern ourselves with winning any of our battles because “He who is in us is greater....” (1 John 4:4) and we are more than conquerors through Christ (Romans 8:37). What is most beautiful about all that we gain from all that Christ overcame is that “....neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, not thing to come, nor power, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created being (includes Satan), will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39).”

Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem was a victory lap for all of us; “to God be the glory!”

HAPPY PALM SUNDAY!



UPCOMING Events

LEGACY YOUTH
YOUTH PARENT MEETING
YOUTH STAFF & VOLUNTEER FELLOWSHIP
SUNDAY APRIL 13TH

LEGACY YOUTH PARENT MEETING TODAY
Calling all parents of youth 7th-12 Grade, join us for a Parents Meeting today after first service at 10 a.m. or after second service at 1 p.m. Let’s talk about upcoming events, activities, how you can stay connected and be involved with our youth ministry. For more information contact Youth Minister Brandon Crenshaw or Angela Holmes at angholmes32@gmail.com

PRAYER BREAKFAST
MAY 3RD 9AM-12PM

WOMEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST—MAY 3RD
Join the Women’s Ministry and Prayer Ministry Saturday May 3rd, at 9 a.m. for their annual prayer breakfast. Cost is \$10 for this event. Register online at bit.ly/4ifednZ or on the LWFC Events Page. Email wog77088@gmail.com for more information.

EASTER WEEKEND
April 18 - 20

EASTER WEEKEND 2025—APRIL 18TH-20TH
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE — APRIL 18TH
Join us at 6 p.m. to kick-off the weekend in worship with a theatre production presented by the LWFC Drama Ministry & Creative Jams, “Don’t Pass Me By.”
GOOD NEWS FEST — APRIL 19TH
Bring the entire family on Saturday from 11 a.m.—2 p.m. for our Good News Fest. Invite family and friends for an Easter Egg Hunt, food, games, bouncers & more!
EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 20TH
Join us for three services on Easter Sunday 6 a.m., 8:30 a.m., or 11 a.m.

SUMMER ADVENTURE PROGRAM 2025

SUMMER ADVENTURE 2025
Calling all young explorers, artists, and scientists! ABC Word Academy and LWCA are bringing learning and unforgettable experiences to life with our action-packed Summer Adventure Program including NASA & STEM Explorations, art classes, performing arts, and outdoor fun. Register your children, ages 4-12 today! Call (281) 445-9673 or register online at http://tinyurl.com/LWFCSummerCamp.

LEGACY YOUTH Stay Connected

JOIN THE LEGACY YOUTH BAND APP
Legacy Youth parents and youth, join the BAND APP to stay connected throughout the year ahead. Use the link below to join: https://band.us/n/a8adA2G6V4fdO
For more information, contact Angela Holmes at angholmes32@gmail.com



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

“Victorious”
John 12:12-19; Mark 11

Click “Sermon Notes” on the Website

Call to Discipleship
Please remain seated at this time

Visitor’s Welcome

Benediction

Children are now required to check-in upon arrival. Please report to the registration desk located in the children’s wing.
Infants—6th grade

LEGACY
EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMORROW
youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP

MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL
2 3 4 & TUESDAY NIGHTS
SUNDAY e 7:30 PM

Victorious

John 12:12-19; Mark 11

A. Last Lap (vs. 12-13):

1. This was the time of the Passover (the celebration of Israel's release from Egypt), so the city grew from about 100,000 to possibly a million people. Christ's blood on the doorpost (Israel's departure from Egypt) to save the firstborn (Colossians 1:15) is the firstborn Son of God who will shed His blood for the world in fulfilling God's promise to Abram in Genesis 12:3.
2. The people actively, on their own initiative, were determined to do whatever was necessary to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem.
3. The people continuously, with no plans to stop, kept screaming as loud as possible, "Hosanna!" The victorious, mighty warrior who will deliver them from Rome.
4. Christ was so well spoken of that the people desired even more to have a relationship with God, confirming Christ as continuously coming in the name of the Lord.
5. Christ's final three years on earth exposed that His coming for the Passover was unlike anyone else before Him because all He did resulted in God walking with Him. Israel's history with Elijah, Moses, and many others allowed the crowd to realize that Christ rises above them all and is, therefore, *King of Israel*.
6. Jesus was sitting on the donkey colt (Mark 11) in obedience to what God had legislated for Him to do in fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9.
7. Christ, seated on a donkey colt, was a vivid portrayal that the Messiah had come, and even more, in His death and resurrection, He was victorious. Our ultimate enemy, Satan, is defeated. No matter what Satan threw at Christ while on earth, not one piece of dirt stuck. He obeyed every law, whether civil, moral, or ceremonial; even through every trial, and every destructive act of Satan. All Jesus now had to do was to overcome death. Because of everything, He is the perfect sacrifice.

B. Fulfilled (v. 16):

1. The eleven followers of Christ that remained after the resurrection, once and for all, by the influence of the Holy Spirit in their lives, gained a full knowledge and complete understanding of all that took place on this day.
2. The Holy Spirit blessed the disciples to recall all God prescribed in His Word, which must be fulfilled from the Holy Scriptures.
3. These things were initiated by those who decided to celebrate the powerful manifestations of God's nature which is fulfilled through Christ.

C. Acknowledged (vs. 17-19):

1. Many eyewitnesses continued to remain with Christ who heard Christ loudly call upon Lazarus to come back to life. They all knew that Lazarus remained in the grave for four days.
2. They will forever be eyewitnesses to this fact and can testify that this did take place.
3. This miracle was so unmistakably supernatural that Jesus was now far above the accomplishments of any other spiritual leader in Israel's history. Along with every other miracle Christ performed, the people became extremely hopeful for a deliverance from Roman oppression and were determined to make Him their king.
4. Immediately after Christ raised Lazarus from the dead (Luke 11:47-53), the Pharisees began to interpret what was taking place and communicated their jealousy and fears to one another.
5. The worshippers accepted the truth, but those who had spent all day studying the Word, rejected the facts provided by the eyewitnesses. What Christ said earlier is now vividly demonstrated about the heart of the unbelieving Jewish leaders; "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life (John 5:39-40; NASU)."

Scan For Full Notes



PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Pat Brandon & family, Joyce Newsome & family, Alton Smith & family, Evelyn Harvey & family, Latricia White & family, Beverly Shaw & family, Leon Brooks, Jeffrey Allen & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Eric White, Pat Crawford, Tanisha Collins, Jon Heard, Rutha Patrick, Kevin Carey, Sherri Love, Elizabeth Clarke, Clara Williams, Kathryn Ford-Cheatham, Anthony Thomas, Beverly Austin, Joshua Williams, Ruby Hunter, Elizabeth Bean, Patsy Gatterson, Joyce Newsome, Arleatha Housley, Patrina Johnson, Cheryl Walker, Walter Banks, Sheryle Crowe, Arnie Glover, Clarence Coleman, Diana Doyle, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, Janie Buchanan, Yolanda Barnes, Rochelle Carter Brown, Terrance Ford, Robert Edwards, Jessie Austin, Evelyn Harvey, Shinell Clark, Elsie Starks, Sandra Phillips, Ruth Cranford, and Eugene Reese.

PALM SUNDAY



JOHN 12:12-19; MARK 11