

The Uncontrollable Hosanna!

I. The Sound of Kingdom Coming

A. Circumstantial Converge Beyond Comprehension

The Roman Empire — Dark and Oppressive

Toleration of the Herodian Kings

Suffering intensified prayer and **Messianic Expectation**

Their **prayers** would be **answered**, but not in a manner anyone could have imagined.

They knew the **Messiah** would be a **descendant of David**, would **restore the kingdom** of Israel, and would **rule in righteousness**...

However some messianic prophecies hinted at a **suffering Messiah**, even a dead Messiah.

Many expected the Son of David to expel the Romans and restore Jewish self-rule.

But some prophecies described an everlasting kingdom of perfect peace. How could that be?

This conundrum would only be solved by the Incarnate Son of God who came not to be served but to serve.

[Galatians 4:4](#) But when the fullness of time* had come, God sent forth his Son,

The **Shepherd** of Israel would become the **Perfect Lamb**.

The **Creator** would be abused by **his creatures**.

The **King of the Universe** would **suffer** at the **hands of his servants**.

The **Kingdom** he would bring would be the **Kingdom of Heaven**.

B. Lazarus — A Surprise Pivot Point, A Catalyst

God offends our minds to reveal our hearts — J. Wimber

1. Raising of Lazarus

We know the story... Jesus **delayed**, met **Martha**, then **Mary**, Jesus wept and went to the tomb.

Jesus spoke, "TAKE AWAY THE STONE"

Martha spoke up quickly. "Lord, **by this time there will be an odor**, for he has been dead four days." But Jesus insisted, and when the stone was removed, **the stench drifted** through the

assembled mourners. The crowd covered their noses, looked down, or turned away in embarrassed sympathy for the sisters.

Then, unexpectedly, Jesus **cried out** directly to the dead man: “**Lazarus, come out.**”

Everyone’s eyes were riveted to the tomb.

A long silence of anticipation was punctuated by gasps and shrieks when Lazarus appeared at the entrance, the burial bands of death encircling him from head to foot and the cloth still over his face...

“Unwrap him and let him go!”

Tears of mourning became **tears of joy** streaming down their faces as they jubilantly led Lazarus home. They had seen it with their own eyes, but ... could it be real?

2. Result — Many Believed in Jesus!

[John 11:45–48](#) (ESV)

⁴⁵ **Many** of the Jews therefore, **who** had come with Mary and had seen what he did, **believed** in him,

⁴⁶ **but some** of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

4. Reaction — The Great Sanhedrin — Kill Jesus!

They received this report with alarm and quickly gathered the Great Sanhedrin, a council of seventy leading men of Judea drawn from power groups within Judaism—chief priests, scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, and elders...

[John 11:47](#) (ESV) “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

[John 11:53](#) (ESV) So from that day on **they made plans to put him to death.**

Jesus went underground about 12 miles away.

5. Celebration of Jesus (and Lazarus his beloved friend)

[John 12:1](#) (ESV) Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.

[Mark 14:3](#) ... in the house of Simon the leper...

[John 12:2](#) (ESV) So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table.

The house of **mourning** became a **festival**; the funeral **lamentations** became songs of joy.

Stripping off their funeral clothes, the sisters changed into their best clothing and **prepared a feast**, a celebration like no other.

[John 12:3](#) (ESV) Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

Filling the house with the fragrance of **extravagant worship**... (her surrendered heart offended Judas Iscariot who had his own priorities...)

6. The Thirsty Respond

[John 12:9](#) (ESV) When the **large crowd** of the Jews learned that **Jesus** was there, they came, not only on account of him but **also to see Lazarus**, whom he had raised from the dead.

As word spread, people came from all around to join in the celebration or just to look at Lazarus. There was no disputing it.

Jesus had accomplished amazing deeds before, but **nothing like this!**

It was the greatest miracle imaginable.

7. The Chief Priests decide to kill Lazarus too

[John 12:10](#) (NLT) Then the leading priests **decided to kill Lazarus, too**,¹¹ for it was because of him that many of the people had deserted them and believed in Jesus.

II. The Triumphal Entry — The Coming One

A. The Growing Crowd & Acclamation

[John 12:12](#) The **next day** the large crowd that had come to the feast **heard that Jesus was coming** to Jerusalem.”

10th of Nisan — Each household would choose their passover lamb.

Presentation of the Lamb — a Parade in which the High Priest brought in the Sacrificial Lamb.

B. King of Israel

[John 12:13](#) So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, **“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!”**

Save us now! Save us now! This **Thousand Year Old Prayer**

[Psalm 118](#) (part of the six HALLEL Psalms (11-118) 118 is the final one **Song of the Conqueror**

[Psalm 118](#): (NIV84)

¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

²¹ I will give you thanks, for you answered me;
you have become my salvation.

²² The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone;

²³ the LORD has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ O LORD, save us;
O LORD, grant us success.

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.
From the house of the LORD we bless you.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has made his light shine upon us.
With **boughs in hand**, join in the festal procession
up to the horns of the altar.

They were looking for a political revolutionary to break the back of Roman tyranny.

But Jesus was targeting a much **older**, much **darker** tyranny - the spirit of **death** and the legal claim of sin over humanity.

[Luke 19:35-37](#) (ESV)

³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶
And as he rode along, they **spread their cloaks on the road**..

They were saying, “We lay our lives before you, we recognize that you are the king!”

³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—**the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice** for all the mighty works that they had seen,

Why does the Church celebrate this day if Jesus is going toward his death?

This was the **only occasion** in his life when Jesus was **publicly acknowledged** as the **Messiah**

This was **dangerous** — The powerful would be **threatened**, while others would **misunderstand** his mission. Even his own disciples did not understand that he had come to suffer and to die.

III. What Kind of King?

A. Riding on a Donkey

But now, as he affirmed the crowd's acclamation, signaled what kind of Messiah he was.

[John 12:14](#) And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

In the culture of that day, a king **returning from a conquest** would ride a **stallion**, signaling "I have subdued my enemy."

But a king coming in **peace**, or coming **to offer a covenant**, rode a young donkey.

By choosing the donkey colt, Jesus was making a dual declaration:

I am your **King** & I am **coming** as the **Prince of Peace** to *serve and to save, not to slaughter*.

B. He was keeping a 500 year old promise!

[Zechariah 9:9](#) **Rejoice greatly**, O daughter of Zion! **Shout aloud**, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you; **righteous** and having **salvation** is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

F. Outside of Our Expectations and Unstoppable

[John 12:16](#) His disciples **did not understand** these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him.

[John 3:8](#) The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but **you do not know** where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

[John 12:17-18](#) (ESV) **The crowd** that had been with him **when he called Lazarus out of the tomb** and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. (NIV- **spread the word**).¹⁸ **The reason why** the crowd went to meet him **was that they heard** he had done this sign.

The Messiah is Coming and no one can control or stop Him from fulfilling His Mission.

[John 12:19](#) (MSG) The Pharisees took one look and threw up their hands: “**It’s out of control.**” The world’s in a stampede after him.”

III. A Wider and Deeper Purpose

A. All People

[John 12:20](#) Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were **some Greeks.**

21 We wish to see Jesus

The Gentiles wanted to see & comprehend Jesus. Philip → Andrew

[John 12:23](#) (ESV) And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

[John 12:27](#) “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour?’ But for this purpose I have come to this hour.

28 “Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

31 **Now** is the judgment of this world; **now** will the ruler of this world be cast out.

32 And I, **when I am lifted up from the earth**, will draw all people to myself.”

33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

Not What Was Expected

34 So **the crowd** answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. **How can you say** that the Son of Man must be lifted up? **Who is this Son of Man?**”

37 Though he had done so many signs before them, they still **did not believe in him**,

[Isa 53](#) fulfilled —Who has believed our report?

[John 12:42](#) (NIV84) Yet at the same time **many even among the leaders believed** in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

All this leads to [John 13-16](#) Washing the Feet, Last Supper, New Commandment, Holy Spirit, Abiding... the Kingdom Coming.

IV. Response

Is Jesus King of my Whole Life,

Have I laid down my “garments” — reputation, agenda, will — so He can ride on them

Hosanna — Not just personal rescue, but Lordship. Rule in our day, in our world.

Let’s be the one who know the sound. Not just watch the parade!

Let’s clear the way for His Glory to enter into every arena

Life, Family, Nation, World

Holy Spirit, Come!