

Read Mark 11:1-11

**1** As Jesus and his disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the towns of Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead.

**2** “Go into that village over there,” he told them. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

**3** If anyone asks, ‘What are you doing?’ just say, ‘The Lord needs it and will return it soon.’” **4** The two disciples left and found the colt standing in the street, tied outside the front door.

**5** As they were untying it, some bystanders demanded, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” **6** They said what Jesus had told them to say, and they were permitted to take it.

**7** Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments over it, and he sat on it.

**8** Many in the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others spread leafy branches they had cut in the fields.

**9** Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting, “Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD!

**10** Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David! Praise God in highest heaven!”

**11** So Jesus came to Jerusalem and went into the Temple. After looking around carefully at everything, he left because it was late in the afternoon. Then he returned to Bethany with the twelve disciples.

**As Jesus was getting ready to enter Jerusalem, what did He do (vv. 1-2)?** Sent two of His disciples ahead of Him to get a specific donkey. **Who were the two disciples?** The Bible doesn’t tell us.

**If anyone questioned what the two disciples were doing, what did Jesus tell them to say (v. 3)?** The Lord needs the donkey and will bring it back soon after He’s done using it. **What did the two disciples do next (vv. 4-6)?** They got the donkey. (Elaborate)

**When they brought the donkey to Jesus what did the people do (vv. 7-8)?** They threw their jackets on the donkey for Jesus to ride on. They also spread their jackets and palm branches on the road ahead of Him.

**What did the people who ran ahead do (vv. 9-10)?** They shouted Hosanna which means “save.” Because Jesus came to “save.” And they were shouting other things also. They were excited and preparing for a celebration -- Jesus was riding into Jerusalem to set up His kingdom (v. 10), or so they thought.

**Why did Jesus ride into town on a donkey rather than something like a white stallion or a magnificent chariot?** It was prophesied in Zechariah 9:9 written 500 years before: “*Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the (unridden) foal of a donkey.*” It was also a sign of humility. It sent the message that He came as a servant and not like a powerful Army General.

**What did Jesus do after entering the city (v. 11)?** He went into the temple to check it out. (He will come back the next day to address the issues there.) Then He went to Bethany with His disciples.

**Why was this event called the “Triumphal Entry?”** Jesus was on his way to two different triumphs -- the victory of the Cross which was a triumph over Satan (victory over sin). And the victory of the Resurrection which was a triumph over death -- the two greatest triumphs of all time.