

Session 19: Mark 11

JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM

1. Read Mark 11:1-11. After considering the praise offered by the crowd, read Psalm 118:24-25. What was the crowd proclaiming about Jesus?
2. What prophecy does Jesus fulfill? Read Zechariah 9:9.
3. Notice that Jesus does not deny the praises of the crowd and their acclamations as the Son of David and King of Israel. They seem to be expecting something overtly visible, powerful, and political to happen. However, they miss the more important self-designation of Jesus and His ultimate purpose. What was Jesus' self-designation from His 3 Passion predictions and what was His purpose? See Mark 8:31; 9:31, 10:33.
4. It is popular in commentaries to compare Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with that of the entry and reception of dignitaries to a city in the ancient world. Is that comparison valid? What did the religious leaders do? The Romans? The citizens?

THE FIG TREE AND THE TEMPLE

5. Read Mark 11:12-26. Return to verses 12–14. Why did Jesus curse the fig tree? How did this leafy tree symbolize the Jewish religion and its leaders at this time? See Jeremiah 8:13 and Micah 7:1.
6. Read Isaiah 52:8. What did Jesus going up to the Temple signify?
7. The area where commerce was taking place was in the court of the Gentiles. What did the commercial activity prevent? Note Jesus' words in verse 17.
8. Why did this incident cause the religious leaders to seek a way to destroy Jesus?
9. What kinds of things might Jesus desire to cleanse from churches today?

JESUS' AUTHORITY

10. Read Mark 11: 27-33. How does Jesus make the religious leaders reveal their unbelief? (verses 27–33)