

Palm Sunday
This Is Love Part 1: “Not What We Expected”
Matt 21:1-11 (Pg 690) & 1 Cor 12:31; 13:1-8 (Pg 800)
Sunday, April 14, 2019 **Nathan L. Cherry**

What are you expecting this Easter?

Matthew 21:1-7 (NIV)

*The events that transpired in **vs 1-7** leading up to what is called the triumphal entry, were a fulfillment of the PROPHECY of Zechariah.

Zechariah 9:9 (NIV)

-I want us to take note of this passage for a couple of reasons:

First, because it is but one, of many, prophecies about Messiah that Jesus FULFILLED.

Second, to help us begin to see that Jesus was not exactly what was EXPECTED.

Matthew 21:8-11 (NIV)

*They shouted “HOSANNA,” which is a Hebrew expression that means “SAVE.”

(continued on inside)

*Their answer revealed their TRUE BELIEF in, and EXPECTATION of, who Jesus was.

*What the people wanted was a charismatic king...not the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God that brought SALVATION and GENTLENESS to men's hearts.

*It's not that He doesn't CARE for you...it's just that He cares TOO MUCH to give you all that you THINK you want and need.

*God says...

-I made you with a PURPOSE and I know you INTIMATELY. (Psalm 139:13-16)

-My plan for you is to PROSPER you, not HARM you. (Jeremiah 29:11)

-Never will I LEAVE you nor FORSAKE you. (Deuteronomy 31:6; Hebrews 13:5-6)

-I love you UNCONDITIONALLY. (Romans 8:38-39)

-I've REDEEMED you and you have an ETERNAL home with me. (Psalm 121; John 3:16)

1 Corinthians 12:31; 13:1-8 (NIV)

Vs 1, You can be the most ELOQUENT speaker...but if you don't have love your just OBNOXIOUS.

Vs 2, You can be a master of KNOWLEDGE & understanding or have the most powerful FAITH...but if you don't have love you are NOTHING.

Vs 3, You can be the most GENEROUS person and SACRIFICE everything...but if you don't love you've ACHIEVED nothing.

*Paul goes on to define what love really is:

Opportunity Challenge:

What are your expectations of God and His love this Easter?

Of the 16 characteristics of love that Paul described, which one do you struggle with the most?

*What can you going to do about it?!