

The Jesus Way – The Cause Over the Crowd **Luke 19:28-40**

It's Palm Sunday... the day when a great crowd gathered and celebrated Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem! If anyone is deserving of such a reception, it's Jesus! But why was the crowd there... gathered... cheering...?

It was **Passover**... 100-300k Jews filled Jerusalem every year for this festival! So some were there for Jesus... but others were there for other reasons!

- Some were there out of religious & ethnic obligation... **They were Jews.**
- Some were there out of guilt... Sacrifices needed to be made for sin.
- Some were there to catch a glimpse of a celebrity... **A miracle worker.**
- Some were there out of false pretenses... A military/political takeover.
- Some were there because **where Jesus goes, they follow!**

It's Palm Sunday... the day when great crowds gather here at church too... But why are we really here... gathered... excited...?

- Some are here out of religious obligation... **It's the start of Holy Week!**
- Some are here out of guilt... Maybe if I come to church, then...
- Some are here to catch a glimpse of a celebrity... **Jesus or the Bunny?**
- Some are here out of false pretenses... A works righteousness...
- Some are here because where Jesus goes, they follow!

*"What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus Christ my King, what a beautiful name it is, **nothing compares to this...**"*

Can you/I really say these words & mean them, *"nothing compares to this..."* To being with, following after, being faithful to Jesus & His cause in this world?

- If you are here just to see the bunny, I'm glad you are here, but someone way more important is here who **I would like to introduce you to!**
- If you are here just for the eggs, I'm glad you're here, but there's something far more valuable found here than what is inside these 1800 eggs!
- **If you are here for your kids,** I'm glad you are here, but Easter is not just for them, it's for all of us!
- **If you're here for any other reason than Jesus, then you are missing out!** He alone ought to draw a crowd based solely on who He is... what He has done... and what He promises He will do both now and for eternity!

We are far too **satisfied** with far too less than what God has provided for us in Jesus Christ!

- **In 2025, 2.1 million people turned out for a free Lady Gaga concert in Rio!**
- In 2025, 112,408 people attended a Luke Bryan concert in Michigan!
- **At the Olympic Games this winter 1.3 million tickets were sold!**
- In 2021, 15-20 thousand people came to a Trump rally in Wellington, OH
- **In 2016, 1.3 mill. people attended a championship parade in Cleveland!**

We get really excited about, & come out in droves to hear singers sing, athletes compete, politicians rally, & teams celebrate victory... **but what is our response to the God of the universe** taking on flesh, dwelling among us, living a sinless life, going to the cross to pay the penalty of sin, dying the death we deserve, rising from the dead, concurring sin & the grave, and giving us a righteous standing before Him thru faith in what Jesus Christ accomplished on our behalf?

We are far too satisfied with far too less than what God has provided for us in Jesus Christ! We are satisfied with bunnies, eggs and chocolate, when this day, this week, is about God providing us with eternal treasure... everlasting life... heavenly reward... earthly hope... and **a never-ending joy in Him!**

Our facilities may not be as elaborate as the Olympic stadium... Our singers & musicians may not have the names Lady Gaga & Luke Bryan... Our pastor may not draw tens of thousands of supporters... and our victories as a church may never warrant a parade down East 9th street...

But it has never been about crowds... **it has always been about a cause!** On that Palm Sunday, 2000 years ago Jesus entered into Jerusalem, yes with a crowd... but with far more than that, He entered with a cause!

We often think Holy Week started with Palm Sunday, but Jesus was **"the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world"** – **Revelation 13:8.**

It has **always been** God's plan to redeem His broken creation and reconcile sinful humanity to Himself through the sacrifice of Jesus, the Passover Lamb!

This was the cause, the Jesus Way, from the beginning! Whether an earthly crowd was present or not, **Jesus elevated His cause above the accolades of man.** Do we do the same today? No matter the size of our audience!

God has done great things, greater things than anything that man could ever accomplish in this world ... May we respond to Him as such! **Luke 19:37b-38**

Such a response came from Jesus' followers before He even accomplished His mightiest work of all... The cause is greater than the crowds! This is the Jesus Way! So don't just go through the motions this week... **Worship the King!**

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It was _____ 100-300k Jews filled Jerusalem every year for this festival! So some were there for Jesus... but others were there for other reasons!

- Some were there out of religious & ethnic obligation... They were _____
- Some were there out of guilt... Sacrifices needed to be made for sin.
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- Some were there because where Jesus goes, _____

It's Palm Sunday... the day when great crowds gather here at church too... But why are we really here... gathered... excited...?

- Some are here out of religious obligation... It's the start of _____
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"What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus Christ my King, what a beautiful name it is, nothing _____"

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- If you are here for _____ I'm glad you are here, but Easter is not just for them, it's for all of us!
- If you're here for any other reason than Jesus, then you are _____ He alone ought to draw a crowd based solely on who He is... what He has done... and what He promises He will do both now and for eternity!

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It has _____ God's plan to redeem His broken creation and reconcile sinful humanity to Himself through the sacrifice of Jesus, the Passover Lamb!

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