

**CAUTION**

**The Trinity@ Work**

**Jesus did not meet  
expectations**

**...and sometimes He doesn't  
meet ours either**

**John 12:** <sup>12</sup> The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”

<sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

<sup>15</sup> “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion;  
see, your king is coming,  
seated on a donkey’s colt.”

<sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

<sup>17</sup> Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word.

<sup>18</sup> Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”

# Opening scene:

- The Passover was one of the three festivals that Jews needed to attend in Jerusalem.
- People had heard that Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead, they came to see Jesus.
- Massive crowds when Jesus makes an entry, on a donkey
- The people go berserk!

# Context:

- Jesus was welcomed to Jerusalem in a display of messianic-nationalistic fervour by a very large crowd
- Palm branches were waved
- They shout “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!”
- <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it,

**<sup>16</sup> At first his disciples did not understand all this.** Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

# **The 'audience'**

- **THE PEOPLE**
- **THE PHARISEES**
- **THE DISCIPLES**
- **THE GREEKS-** (the Gentiles)



# Why doesn't he seem to meet our expectations?

- Our perception influence our expectations
- With God, there is always a bigger context (Acts10)
- Simply, our expectations are misplaced

# Times and seasons ordained by God

- **John 7:6:** Therefore Jesus told them, “My time is not yet here; for you any time will do.
- **Deuteronomy 29:29** <sup>29</sup> The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law
- **Acts 1:6-8** <sup>6</sup> Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.

# What should we do?

- Ask God for His perspective; trust that He knows
- Look around at the larger context of your life
- Hope deferred, makes the heart sick. (Proverbs 13:12)
- Admit you're disappointed
- Deal with it, or the 'enemy of our soul' will create mischief
- Make hindsight your friend!

Hindsight is a wonderful thing  
but foresight is better, especially when it comes to saving life,  
or some pain!

(William Blake)

# **As Christians in the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

- Relationship with God
- Scriptures that teach us
- The Holy Spirit has been given to us
- Places are more accessible
- More aware
- We have 'hindsight'

# **The challenge for us today**

- To live wisely as people of wisdom
- Understand the 'times and seasons' of God
- To live in submission to God