“BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL!”

John 12:12–19

Key Verse: 12:13

1. Where had Jesus just been? (1–2a) Who is mentioned in verse 12, and what did they hear? (Compare with 11:55–56.) Why were they so eager to see Jesus?
2. Read verse 13; compare with Psalm 118:25–27. What did the palm branches signify? (Lev23:40; Rev7:9) See the footnote on the meanings of the word “Hosanna!” From what were these people hoping Jesus would save them? From what did Jesus really come to save us? (8:34–36; Mt1:21)
3. Read verse 13 again. What did it mean to “come in the name of the Lord”? What did their calling Jesus “King of Israel” mean? (13b; 7:31,41; Rev19:16) In what sense was their welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem an act of faith?

1. At this exciting moment, what did Jesus do? (14–15) Why did he deliberately ride into the city on a donkey, and what does this mean to us? (Mt11:28–29) What did the author say about his disciples? (16) Why did they not understand until later? (2:22; 7:39)
2. What did those who witnessed Jesus’ raising Lazarus do? (17–18) What can we learn from them? How did the Pharisees respond, and how did this actually look forward to the future? (19)
3. Review what this passage teaches us about Jesus. How can we honor and receive him as our King personally?