#### What to Think of Jesus

PASTOR MIKE YODER • MARK 11:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples,

saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here."

"If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly."

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it,

some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?"

They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go.

When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, He sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields.

Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, He went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Projection is hope in someone to make my wishes morph into reality.

## **Projection:** People pursue Jesus for all kinds of **mixed** purposes.

#### Their Preparations for Jesus

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

#### Their Declarations About Jesus

When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"





Ironically, creation is aware of Jesus, but the leadership of the nation is not. That which is lifeless knows life when it sees it, even though that which is living does not.

When people give in to projection, they allow themselves to take a few elements of reality in order to create a fantasy future world that they hope will be real.

### Resolve: Jesus pursues God's purposes with determined focus.

It was fairly easy for the crowd, after hearing Jesus' preaching and seeing His miracles, to ascribe messiahship to Him as much in their hope as in conviction. But it was far harder for them to grasp the inevitability of His suffering and death.

Here was Jesus Christ, the King of authoritative, miraculous power, riding into town on a steed fit for a child or a hobbit. This odd juxtaposition demonstrates that Jesus was King, but that He didn't fit into the world's categories of kingship. He brought together majesty and meekness.

# Outcome: Individuals must own their purposes for following Jesus.

What if Jesus represents a different person and message than what we want? Not everyone who follows Jesus has embraced Him.

Jesus goes to Jerusalem preparing to die. His followers saw Jesus going to Jerusalem preparing to reign.

Who is Jesus to you? Are you a bandwagon fan of Jesus, but don't really know who He is?

# The choice to follow Jesus for who He really is enables the new start in our lives.