

Palm Sunday – March 24, 2013 – Providence Church

HABEMUS REGEM - WE HAVE A KING

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19 – The Triumphal Entry

Reading Matthew 21:1-11 - O.T. quotes from: Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 62:11

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout *in triumph*, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
He is just and endowed with salvation,
Humble, and mounted on a donkey,
Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” Zechariah 9:9 NASB

“O LORD, do save, we beseech You;
O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.” Psalm 118:25-26 NASB

Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth,
Say to the daughter of Zion, “Lo, your salvation comes;
Behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him.” Isaiah 62:11 NASB

1). A SOVEREIGN GOD REIGNS – ALWAYS & FOREVER & OVER ALL THINGS

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,
And His sovereignty rules over all.
Bless the LORD, you His angels,
Mighty in strength, who perform His word,
Obeying the voice of His word!
Bless the LORD, all you His hosts,
You who serve Him, doing His will.
Bless the LORD, all you works of His,
In all places of His dominion;
Bless the LORD, O my soul! Psalm 103:19-22

I will extol You, my God, O King,
And I will bless Your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless You,
And I will praise Your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised,
And His greatness is unsearchable.
One generation shall praise Your works to another,
And shall declare Your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of Your majesty
And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.
Men shall speak of the power of Your awesome acts,
And I will tell of Your greatness. Psalm 145:1-6 NASB

An Eternal, All Powerful, All Knowing God is ALWAYS PERFECTLY SOVEREIGN! And that eternal King
has sent His Son, the God/man, King Jesus, the Anointed One (the Christ.)

2). A KINGDOM HAS APPEARED – ALREADY, BUT NOT YET

Three critical items when we think of a Kingdom.

A. THE SOVEREIGN OF THE KINGDOM.

A Sovereign Shows Up in Human History Preaching a Kingdom. This Sovereign was prophesied in the O.T.! (Messianic Psalms: 2; 8; 16; 22; 24; 34; 35; 40; 41; 45; 68; 69; 89; 102; 109; 110; 118)

Why are the nations in an uproar
And the peoples devising a vain thing?
The kings of the earth take their stand
And the rulers take counsel together
Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,
“Let us tear their fetters apart
And cast away their cords from us!”

He who sits in the heavens laughs,
The Lord scoffs at them.
Then He will speak to them in His anger
And terrify them in His fury, saying,
“But as for Me, I have installed My King
Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”

“I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to Me, ‘You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.
‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
And the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession.
‘You shall break them with a rod of iron,
You shall shatter them like earthenware.’” Psalm 2:1-9 NASB

The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”
The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*,
“Rule in the midst of Your enemies.”
Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power;
In holy array, from the womb of the dawn,
Your youth are to You *as* the dew.
The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,
“You are a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek.” Psalm 110:1-4 NASB

B. THE SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM.

The King calls out subjects for Himself.

From that time Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. Matthew 4:17-22 NASB

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved,... Colossians 3:12 NASB

The King gives them an identity in His kingdom.

But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.
1 Peter 2:9-10 NASB

C. THE REALM AND RULE OF THE KINGDOM.

He Gives Us His Command, His Word and His Spirit to carry out His Authority

Paul's Ministry in Rome at the end of the Book of Acts:

When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening. Some were being persuaded by the things spoken, but others would not believe....Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will also listen.... And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered. Acts 28:23,24,28-31 NASB

Paul to the Colossians:

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven. Colossians 1:13-20 NASB

For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which *exists* among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Ephesians 1:15-23 NASB

3). THE SOVEREIGN KING IS LOWLY, MEEK, & HUMBLE

Who can counsel God?- No one!

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand,
And marked off the heavens by the ^lspan,
And calculated the dust of the earth by the measure,
And weighed the mountains in a balance
And the hills in a pair of scales?
Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD,

Or as His counselor has informed Him?
With whom did He consult and *who* gave Him understanding?
And *who* taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge
And informed Him of the way of understanding? Isaiah 40:12-14 NASB

Who can see God? No one!

No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.
John 1:18 NASB

I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen. 1 Timothy 6:13-16 NASB

Who can humble God? No one! Except...

Philippians 2:5-11

4). Someday, When He Returns, His Kingdom Rule Will Be Quite Visible and Eternal.

"I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven
One like a Son of Man was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And was presented before Him.
And to Him was given dominion,
Glory and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations and *men of every* language
Might serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
Which will not pass away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed." Daniel 7:13-14 NASB

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood — and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. Revelation 1:4-7 NASB

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,
"The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."
Revelation 11:15 NASB

We are between two comings of a King. If that is so, what are our marching orders, from our Commander-in-Chief?

Matthew 28:18-20

Are there any current events in our world that would demonstrate to us that people, governments or religious organizations have set themselves against this King as Psalm 2 indicates?

“Redefining marriage to include same-sex couples would jettison the rationale and logic behind prohibitions on polygamous marriages, according to several friend-of-the court briefs urging the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold the traditional definition of marriage. ‘Ultimately, there is no principled basis for recognizing a legality of same-sex marriage without simultaneously providing a basis for the legality of consensual polygamy or certain adult incestuous relationships,’ reads one of the briefs, filed by the Christian legal group Liberty Counsel. ‘In fact, every argument for same-sex marriage is an argument for them as well.’” www.bpnews.net

Pope Francis Elected, Mystery of Iniquity Moves On - By Richard Bennett, March 19th 2013

<http://www.bereanbeacon.org/>

“In 1547, the Church of Rome went fully apostate at the Council of Trent when it formally declared. If anyone shall say that justifying faith is nothing else than confidence in the divine mercy which remits sins for Christ’s sake, or that it is this confidence alone by which we are justified: let him be anathema [cursed]. {Henry Denzinger, *The Sources of Catholic Dogma*, B. Herder Book Co., 1957, #822, Canon 12}”

But Jesus Christ alone is the supreme authority over His Church!

“So, then, if anyone says that the Roman Pontiff has merely an office of supervision and guidance, and not the full and supreme power of jurisdiction over the whole Church, and this not only in matters of faith and morals, but also in those which concern the discipline and government of the Church dispersed throughout the whole world; or that he has only the principal part, but not the absolute fullness, of this supreme power; or that this power of his is not ordinary and immediate both over all and each of the Churches and over all and each of the pastors and faithful: let him be anathema.” (Vatican I, Session 4, Ch. 3 – 1869-1870 a.d.)

“The pope’s power of primacy over all, both pastors and faithful, remains whole and intact. In virtue of his office, that is as Vicar of Christ and pastor of the whole Church, the Roman Pontiff has full, supreme and universal power over the Church. And he is always free to exercise this power.” (Vatican II, LG 22, 1962-1965 a.d.)

Pope Francis I is the first Jesuit who has been elected/ordained as Pope. Jesuits were started by St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1539, which was 22 years after Luther’s 95 Thesis. They are sometimes called colloquially “God’s Marines” because their founder considered that he was a “captain” by God’s provision and he was immediately drawn into the battle by Catholicism against the Reformation called the Counter-Reformation. The out-workings of this battle were formalized in writing at the Council of Trent.

St. Ignatius of Loyola’s “Spiritual Exercises” are similar to the teachings that have come into the Protestant church recently under the form of “Spiritual Formation”.

<http://www.svchapel.org/resources/articles/133-spiritual-formation-movement/796-ignatius>

Following the announcement of Bergoglio's election, Rick Warren would tweet his congratulations: Welcome Pope Francis, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, #HabemusPapam. You have our prayers.