

Luke 19:37-44 (NIV)

37 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:

38 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

40 “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it

42 and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes.

43 The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.

44 They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

42-19-01-Who Is This King of Glory?

Palm Sunday, triumphal entry, praise, compassion

Luke 19:37-44

Jesus is the King whose heart is broken over those whose heart is not.

INTRODUCTION: (text as the Scripture reading)

–**Text** is about *The Triumphal Entry* (anticipated by **Psa 24:9-10**, Lift up your heads, O you **gates**; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty– he is the King of glory. (But, *were people’s heart-gates open as Jesus rode in that day?*)

–Jesus had healed **Bartimaeus** of *physical blindness* and **Zacchaeus** of *spiritual blindness*. **Before riding in**, He told of *the postponed Kingdom*

– **Luke 19:11b**, because... the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. They were *blind* to Who “this King of glory” really is! He’s not *the earthly leader people seek*, but a *spiritual King!* **HOM.idea.**

We can listen to 3 cries in this passage. First...

I. Let’s Hear the Cry of the Crowd!– **v.38**, “*Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!*” “*Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!*”

A. This cry came from an ecstatic crowd of poor people!

1. They were so anxious to *honor this Messiah-King!*– **v.36** (NKJV) many spread their **clothes** on the road. [**Clothing** was *pricey back then!* *The poor might have just one garment!* Laying it before Jesus meant going naked. Those *already in naked poverty* might have joined others using palm leaves.]
2. *Why such excitement?* (If **this poor rabbi-carpenter** was **taking over political office**, *He’d bring their abject poverty to an end!*)

B. In their dejected situation, their hopes were running in high gear!

1. **Their cry**, “*Blessed is the king who comes,*” **meant**: “*We’ve lived to see the day when the Messiah will bring justice for the poor!*”
2. **Their cry**, “*Peace in heaven,*” **meant**: “*God’s upset with Rome and is planning to kick these Roman oppressors out of Palestine.*”

TRANS: People still think *politicians will solve life’s problems*. But they didn’t **know this King** and *His mission*. Today’s crowd doesn’t know **Jesus, the King whose heart is broken over those whose heart is not**. They’re **not looking for a Savior**, *brokenhearted* over sin. **Next...**

II. Let’s Hear the Cry of the Critics!– **v.39**, *Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”*

- A. *Their cry*, like that of today, was a confession of fear. **It was...**
1. **political fear**: “*Jesus will blow it for us with the Romans!*”
(Today: “*It’s not ‘politically correct’ to be a Jesus-follower!*”)
 2. **personal fear**: “*We can’t let this radical Messiah take over!*”
(Today: “*I’m not turning over control to God or anybody else!*”)
 3. **religious fear**: “*They blaspheme, calling Jesus “LORD Almighty”*
(Today: “*Jesus thought He was God?... I don’t buy that!*”)
- B. When Jesus said in v.40, “*if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out,*” it confirmed the Pharisees’ fears and confronted modern skepticism:
1. His words, “*if they keep quiet,*” affirmed that the cry of the poor was right! **He was** the “King of glory... The LORD Almighty” of Psalm 24!
 2. His words, “*the stones will cry out,*” affirmed that creation knows her Creator! Nature would be the first to welcome “*the King of glory!*”

TRANS: In affirming the cry of the crowd, Jesus rebuked the cry of the critics. But His own sad cry motivated that rebuke! So, finally...

III. Let’s Hear the Cry of the Christ– [it begins in] v.41, *As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it...*

- A. Christ’s tearful cry echoes the grief in God’s heart in the Garden....
1. God pursued a fleeing, fallen Adam, calling, “Where are you?” (“As [Jesus] approached Jerusalem”– John 1:11b, his own did not receive him.)
 2. Seeing Adam’s peace with nudity gone, God knew he’d been talking with Satan, so He asked, “*Who told you that you were naked?*” (When Jesus “*saw the city*” named **for** “*peace*” bereft of peace, He knew “*Jerusalem*” had also lost its peace through Satan’s lies.)
 3. When Jesus “wept over [the city],” He echoed God’s cry, “Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” (Sin ruined the original plan for our peace; now only His pain could redeem it.)
- B. He “wept” over their blindness– v.42, “*If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.*”
1. Spiritual blindness brings spiritual devastation (In v.43-44a, Jesus foretold Jerusalem’s physical fall. But all nations rejecting “the King of glory” are in for an even more devastating spiritual fall.)
 2. Spiritual blindness brings spiritual apathy (This happens to us, if we neglect our growth in Christ by spending no devotional time in prayer and in His Word, because it makes us like the crowd and critics in v.44b, failing to “*recognize the time of God’s coming.*”)

CONCLUSION:

–They weren’t seeking a “King of glory” **whose heart is broken over those whose heart is not**. He “wept over” cries shaped by political hopes and fears. He still weeps over hearts that miss His spiritual Kingdom.
–The **true Triumphal Entry** is when Jesus enters those who are broken-hearted over sin– Psa 24:9, Lift up your heads, O you **gates**; lift them up, you ancient **doors**, that the King of glory may come in. Let our heart-gates lift up so “this King of glory may come in.” Let our heart-doors open wide for Christ’s **Triumphal Entry** as “LORD Almighty” each and every day of our lives.