

Week 15  
96/269

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... Hosanna! Blessed is He ...”**  
*John 12:13*

It was very appropriate for the Jews to celebrate Christ's Lordship. The only problem is that they did not fully understand who He was or what He was doing or about to do. Even Christ's closest disciples did not know the depth, length and breadth that Jesus had entered into on their behalf as well as ours. Most of this group in this passage from John's gospel, and many of His early followers, thought that He had come to deliver them from Roman bondage and oppression. They thought that Jesus was on a political mission of liberation. He was going to be their Jewish King over the Roman Emperor.

For this reason, this group described here in John's gospel hailed Jesus Christ as such. However, He did not reciprocate. The whole time that He was with them He told them that He was here on His Father's business. He told them that He was here to save His people from their sins. It was a dead giveaway that Jesus did not share in their celebration, as they saw it, by the mere fact that He entered the city on a donkey – the beast of burden – instead of a white horse (that will come later, Revelation 19) – the indication of a conquering hero.

What is of great significance concerning this event is that it took place early in the week before Christ's crucifixion. By the end of the week, the very same people who were shouting, Hosanna (which is to say, “save now, we pray), were with the same enthusiasm shouting for Pilot to crucify Him. To make matters worse, Jesus' closest disciples abandoned Him, Judas betrayed Him to the high priests and Roman officers, and Peter publically denied Him. It seemed at the time that the Romans had more compassion for Jesus than the Jews and His disciples.

Before we are too harsh on those who were there in the heat of the moment and fulfilling prophecy by there every word, let's be careful to examine our own allegiance to Christ. Do your actions betray your confession? Do you only run to Christ for physical, financial and political gain? When pressed for your testimony, do you have one to offer? Do you understand fully the ramifications of being a follower of Christ, or is He just your “get out of jail free” card? Does your heart beat with the same desire of praise as did theirs when they rightly proclaimed, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”?