

Pastor Matt Heard
Read: Luke 19:28-44

PICKING YOUR p e a c e

In light of Palm Sunday, we're going to reflect on Christ's arrival in Jerusalem for the final week leading up to His crucifixion and resurrection.

All of us yearn for a sense of authentic, personal peace. However, too often we head down the wrong path to find it. We end up pursuing a peace that doesn't satisfy the deep longings of our life's journey.

Palm Sunday

March 15/16, 2008

Luke 19:28-44

Where does peace come from?

1. The WHAT of Peace

- Yearning to see my heart changed . . . instead of merely my circumstances

2. The WHO of Peace

- Looking to Christ as my King . . . instead of my candidate

3. The HOW of Peace

- Addressing my own sin . . . instead of merely focusing on the sins of others

Questions

1. List a few things in your life that bring you peace. Then discuss the lasting impact of each thing.
2. On Jesus' triumphal entry, he heard the crowds chanting:
"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" and *"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"*
Yet Jesus was grieved because the people didn't get it. He was not a king who would remove them from Roman oppression or the puppet leadership they had experienced. He was not about a political transformation, rather a transformation of the heart! Explain how Jesus' entry into your life has changed your heart – not merely your circumstances.
3. We all have times in our life when our circumstances turn difficult. Matt referred to them as Hurricanes of the Heart. How has your heart grown during these personal storms? How did you experience peace in the midst of this storm? Discuss.
4. Matt challenged us to relate to Jesus as our King – not our candidate. The difference is this: We seek a candidate's hands and what he can do for us. We seek a King's face because of who they are! Where are you on your faith journey today? Is God your candidate or is He your King? Explain.
5. Read Psalm 24:1-10. This is the song of a king! Discuss how the words and images from this psalm impacts your view of Jesus the King.
6. In Luke 19:41 we read that Jesus wept. This wasn't a mild cry. The Greek word reveals a deep sobbing action. Jesus shook! He was heartbroken that the people thought it was coronation day, instead of the once-for-all final sacrifice! *He* was the Passover lamb. This verse gives us a glimpse into the heart of Jesus. He grieves when we fail to see Him for who He truly is – the King who's rule will never end. Discuss who Jesus is in your life right now. Does your daily life reveal a proper view of Jesus? Explain why or why not.
7. Jesus is the Substitute who died in your place. He gives forgiveness and grace to those who believe. Discuss what the following items mean to you personally as you journey with the King:
 - Substitute:
 - Forgiveness:
 - Grace: