

Easter Is Coming
Reference: **Luke 19:28-41**
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Reference: **Psalm 96:7-13**

Easter is really made for praise and worship.

What do we do to ‘prepare’ for Easter? Let’s learn from the “Triumphal Entry” Reference: **Luke 19:28-41**

Spontaneous Praise:

Who was this crowd – and why did they break forth in praise?

- It was a large crowd from all the land – people coming into Jerusalem for the Passover feast.
- Many in the crowd knew of Jesus’ miracles and therefore knew who He was.
Reference: **John 12:13**
- Jesus says we are blessed if we can believe without seeing. You and I have all the proof we need found in the words of the Bible and the testimony of believers.
- The crowd was praising Him for the miracles (dynamion) – or “evidences of spiritual power” – they had seen.
- Their praise was directly quoted from a Messianic Psalm.
Reference: **Psalm 118:25-26**

When you are a believer, you have the proof of His mighty power in your own personal testimony of salvation. This great salvation should lead us to praise God! Does it?

Those who Quench the Spirit:

There were those hanging around who knew just what their loud “hosannas” meant – the Pharisees.

- As a result of this event, there developed a deep jealousy among those Pharisees.
- The result of that jealousy? All of this joy could not be allowed.
- As Christians today – we who are blood bought by the perfect life, death, and sacrifice of the Son of God – have every reason to break forth in spontaneous praise, but we often don’t – I believe many times it is because we fear of others who would judge us.
Reference: **Matthew 23:13**

- The Pharisees call out to Jesus to shut them up; but,
 - a. Jesus despises the contempt of the proud and
 - b. Jesus accepts the praise of the humble.

Rocks crying out instead of me isn’t going to happen!

Reference: **Luke 19:40**

- Jesus is master over nature – and all of nature itself cries out in praise to God!
- If rocks really could cry out in praise – what would they be saying?

Exodus 17 - God provides for us all our needs!

Exodus 34 - God gives us direction in life!

Judges 16 - God is the God who renews our strength and gives us another chance!

1 Samuel 17 - God is the God who will take down the giants in our lives when we go forward in His name.

Nehemiah 4 - God is the God who rebuilds lives!

1 Kings 18 - This is the God who answers the fervent prayer of a righteous man!

Luke 2 – The manger (actually made in a hollowed out section of a large rock) would say “I got to hold the Baby!” – the baby that now holds you!

Matthew 4 – Jesus is the sinless, sovereign Son of God!

John 8 - We are to praise Him for His redemption – the salvation from our own sins.

Mark 16 - The grave couldn’t hold Him, death couldn’t defeat Him, and because of His victory, we have blessed eternal hope!

- If these are the ways in which the rocks would give praise unto Jesus – who are we to do any less?

So, how do we really prepare for Resurrection Sunday?

1. Consider His redeeming work in your life – If you haven’t allowed Him to redeem you yet, let Him in today!
2. Praise Him even now! – What for? For the wonderful blessings He’s brought into your life.
3. Decide now to live your life to serve Him, to follow Him, to do whatever and go wherever He calls you to!