

Lessons From Palm Sunday

Pastor Ross S. Russell, Church on the Beach, 4-5-20

Text: Luke 19:29-44, John 12:12-19

1. Understand the moment. *1 Thessalonians 5:6*

We need 2020 vision. Remember? We talked about this in the beginning of the year. We need the right perspective. How do we do that? By knowing the big picture so we can understand the moment. By knowing the past and the future so we can comprehend and interpret the present. How do we do that? By knowing Biblical history. By reading the Bible!

2. Be students of the Scriptures. *Acts 17:11, Romans 12:1-2, 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

The ones who didn't know or understand the Scriptures and the teachings of Jesus misinterpreted the whole event of Palm Sunday and were discouraged when Jesus didn't take control from the Romans. Then they crucified Him a week later! Jesus warned them about this before it happened. And warned them of their impending judgment. *Read Luke 20:9-18.* We need to understand the moment that we are living in now too! Many are jumping to conclusions regarding the Coronavirus. And how it plays into the end time scenario. *Read Luke 21:5-36 and Matthew 24:1-14.* I urge you to read it and study it so we too can understand the moment we are in. We can understand the times, not the exact hour. *Read Matthew 24:36.* These are only signs of the last days. Matthew 24:14 says the Gospel must first be preached to the world and *then* the end will come. So there's still some things that have to happen. But even when all is done to prepare the way for the Lord, He will still come suddenly, like a thief in the night. *Read 1 Thess. 4:13-18, 5:1-11.*

3. Put your trust in the Lord. *Psalms 118:6, 8; Proverbs 3:5-6, Romans 8:28*

Every promise in Scripture is "yes!" Even when it doesn't make sense. Jesus came on a donkey. It didn't make sense to a lot of people. They needed to trust His words. Trust Him for the outcome. We need to do the same. Let God show you what He wants you to learn in the Coronavirus pandemic. I believe for a lot of us, it is a time to reset and examine our priorities. Get back to the important things in life that fell by the wayside when we were busy working. Trust the Lord to use this difficult time for your benefit.

4. Share the Gospel. *Matthew 24:14, 28:18-20; 1 Peter 3:15*

Jesus went to Jerusalem to die on the Cross for us! Let the world know! So Jesus can come back! They don't have to die in their sins. But warn them too. Not to be caught without making a decision for Him. Today is the day for salvation!

5. Praise the Lord! *Psalms 150, 1 Thessalonian 5:16*

Like they did on Palm Sunday. Worship Him! The King has come. And He's coming back again too. That's great news! We shouldn't fear that we are in the last days. If the end is near, that means Jesus is coming soon. Encourage each other with these words. Jesus is coming back. And we will be with Him forever!