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Sermon Notes

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The Triumphal Entry

Matthew 21:1-11

We were created for a purpose... a very clearly defined purpose

That is good to know... since we live in an age dominated by science and Darwinism, the concept that everything just came together as one grand and astonishing fluke; that somewhere deep in the primordial ocean there may have been a volcanic vent which spewed out just the right chemicals and kept the temperature at just the right heat, and suddenly voila... there was the FIRST CELL; then everything just kind of happened after that, over billions of years of mindless, purposeless evolution... through the various stages, ever-increasingly complex, until at last the human race evolved from the primates; then eventually you were born... for no particular reason, no particular purpose

Friend, the most natural way to live if you believe that is simply this: let us, eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die!! And when we die... NOTHING! Our chemicals are reclaimed by the earth and we cease to exist. So live it up while you can... have as much happiness as you can, grab as much as you can for yourself in the here and now; and that is EXACTLY how most people live their lives... for the here and now, for earthly things, earthly passions, goals, objectives, earthly feelings, earthly sensations, earthly pleasures

BUT... we were created for something infinitely HIGHER than all of that

That random, scientific way of looking at the origin of life kills PURPOSE... but God created you for a purpose

And that purpose is PRAISE... that you would spend eternity praising and glorifying God; that you would see Him, and know Him, and draw in His greatness and His glory and power and achievements, that you would discern His attributes, His perfections, and give Him praise, praise, praise for all eternity!!

That is why you were created... to PRAISE and MAGNIFY the glory of God

C.S. Lewis had a problem with that... all the commands of God seemed to focus on this issue: Praise me... worship me; even worse, sometimes the Psalmists seem to be offering praise to God like some barter system: "You deliver me, and I'll reward you with praise"... it made God seem somehow unworthy, some kind of low person groveling for a compliment; like an insecure woman asking all her friends, "How do you like my new dress?" It seemed to CS Lewis that God should be above all that! But suddenly a new thought hit him:

But the most obvious fact about praise — whether of God or anything — strangely escaped me. I thought of it in terms of compliment, approval, or the giving of honour. I had never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise unless . . . shyness or the fear of boring others is deliberately brought in to check it. The world rings with praise — lovers praising their mistresses, readers their favourite poet, walkers praising the countryside, players praising their favourite game — praise of weather, wines, dishes, actors, motors, horses, colleges, countries, historical personages, children, flowers, mountains, rare stamps, rare beetles, even sometimes politicians or scholars. . . . Except where intolerably adverse circumstances interfere, praise almost seems to be inner health made audible. . . . I had not noticed either that just as men spontaneously praise whatever they value, so they spontaneously urge us to join them in praising it: 'Isn't she lovely? Wasn't it glorious? Don't you think that magnificent?' The Psalmists in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about. My whole, more general, difficulty about the praise of God depended on my absurdly denying to us, as regards the supremely Valuable, what we delight to do, what indeed we can't help doing, about everything else we value.

I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed. It is frustrating to have discovered a new author and not to be able to tell anyone how good he is; to come suddenly, at the turn of the road, upon some mountain valley of unexpected grandeur and then to have to keep silent because the people with you care for it no more than for a tin can in the ditch; to hear a good joke and find no one to share it with. . .

God created the universe to put His own greatness, His radiant GLORY, on display, and He created angels and human beings at the pinnacle of His creation to know that glory, to take it in, to marvel at it, to love it, to feel something deeply about it, and to PRAISE GOD for it

He did this because He loves us and the greatest thing He could give us was HIMSELF, and the best thing we could spend time doing was to PRAISE

Therefore, heaven is a world filled with praise for the Almighty, living God

BUT earth is not . . . not sufficiently at least

Our hearts, so designed for praise and worship, have made a dreadful exchange:

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-- who is forever praised. Amen.

That is why Jesus came to earth... that we might be reclaimed from bondage to worship of idols and give our true heart devotion and praise where it really belongs—to God, the Creator and Redeemer

In today's passage, Jesus enters Jerusalem to begin the climactic last week of His life

As He enters the city, a huge throng of Jewish people enthusiastically greet Him, welcome Him, and shout His praises

The Triumphal Entry of Christ is one of the most ironic passages in the Bible... here is the Incarnate Son of God, infinitely worthy of praise, entering the City of David, being praised by His people... but not one of them really understands who He is, each one of them will be stunned by His behavior and even more by His crucifixion... some of them perhaps will even cry out for His death mere days after they cried out for His enthronement

I. The Details of the Triumphal Entry

A. The Triumphal Entry Described

1. Circumstances: Passover

- a. One of the three times all Jewish males required to go up to Jerusalem
- b. Huge crowds, multitudes flowing into the city
 - i) During a census taken about ten years after this time, the number of sacrificial lambs slaughtered during the Passover: 260,000
 - ii) According to Jewish custom, one lamb could be offered for up to ten people... so that meant there may have been over TWO MILLION Jews flooding into the city
- c. Roman authorities and soldiers certainly on heightened alert... careful to avoid any incident or riot that might endanger Roman lives or Roman rule

2. Location: Bethphage, Mount of Olives

- a. Jesus has just finished healing the two blind men as He was leaving Jericho
- b. He enters Bethphage, near Bethany on the Mount of Olives; frankly, other than these facts, nothing else is known about Bethphage
- c. BUT Bethany was a place of refuge and refreshment for Jesus
- d. John's Gospel (12:1-3) tells us Jesus visited the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary in Bethany "six days before the Passover"... this was probably, then, a Sabbath day—Saturday

- e. During that visit, Mary anointed Jesus' feet with a lavish amount of a costly perfume called nard, and all four Gospel accounts link that lavish gift with Judas' decision to betray Jesus

John 12:4-6 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

Jesus' answer showed how much His own death was dominating His mind:

John 12:7-8 "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

Judas was utterly disgusted and went immediately to betray Jesus...The idea is that Judas began to see that it was no longer going to be financially lucrative to be Jesus' treasurer... it was time to trade Him in for as much money as he could get

- f. Just a short time before that, Jesus had done His most spectacular miracle, raising Lazarus from the dead four days after his death
 - g. This incredible display of supernatural power electrified the region, since it was done so close to Jerusalem
3. Chronology: This visit of the large crowd to Bethany probably occurred on the day after the Sabbath, a Sunday
- a. According to John MacArthur, this means that the Triumphal Entry probably took place the next day, on a MONDAY... rather than on "Palm Sunday" as a longstanding Christian tradition holds

Illus. When I was growing up in the Roman Catholic church, Palm Sunday was one of the most dramatic celebrations of the years... we would all get palm branches and march around the church waving them and smiling, saying "Hosannah!" and like the Jews of Jesus' day, utterly clueless about the true significance of it all!!

- 4. Jesus' command:

Matthew 21:1-3 Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

- a. With all these events swirling around Him, how serenely Jesus orchestrates the details of the final week of His life before crucifixion

- b. The calm, serene, commanding picture of Jesus is consistent in all four Gospels: Jesus commands this, does that, goes here, orchestrates everything
- c. This crushes the view of many theological liberals who say that Jesus was a tragic figure who got sucked down in the whirlpool of events that got way beyond His control... nothing EVER got beyond Jesus' control!
- d. Notice also Jesus' astonishing foreknowledge... the detailed knowledge of the village, and what the two disciples would find there
- e. Jesus also dealt with the concern if anyone stopped the two disciples: **Tell them the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away!**

5. Fulfilled Prophecy

- a. There were two overwhelming concerns in Jesus' life: to obey the will of His Father and to fulfill Old Testament prophecies describing the Messiah's first coming
- b. Matthew tells us that the purpose of this command was to fulfill prophecy
- c. Fulfilled prophecy is one of the greatest proofs of the identity of Jesus... and an overwhelming number of those prophecies focus on the last week of Jesus' life
- d. This prophecy from Zechariah is one of those

Matthew 21:4-5 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ⁵ "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

- e. Many of the prophecies involve things that would have been beyond Jesus' human control... this one He may have orchestrated on purpose to identify openly with this Messianic symbol... riding on a donkey entering Jerusalem... more on this in a moment

6. Disciples' Obedience... and a Confusion Clarified

Matthew 21:6-7 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them.

- a. The disciples went and did exactly as Jesus commanded, and found everything as He had predicted
- b. There were indeed two animals: a donkey and her colt

- c. Both animals were brought to Jesus, and he chose the colt, the younger, stronger animal... no, He didn't ride two animals at once, but chose one
- d. The disciples placed their cloaks on both animals, Jesus sat on the CLOAKS as He rode on the colt
- e. Some hostile and unbelieving commentators on this passage say that Matthew failed to understand the Jewish parallelism in the Zechariah passage, that the prophecy only speaks of ONE animal!!
- f. I always find it astonishing that so-called experts think they know Jewish grammar better than Matthew, a first century Jew, and the fulfillment better than Matthew, a personal eyewitness of what Jesus actually did!!
- g. Though the disciples obeyed precisely what Jesus commanded, John's Gospel tells us they didn't really understand what was going on... none of them did

John 12:16 At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him.

7. The Crowd's Actions

Matthew 21:8-11 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!"

- a. The huge crowd, certainly unaware of all aspects and depths of Jesus' personhood and mission, were caught up in a fanatical fervor
- b. They spread their cloaks on the road as a display of humility before a coming King
- c. Symbolically, they are saying in effect what John the Baptist had earlier:

Mark 1:7 "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

- d. The cutting of branches and spreading them before Jesus was their version of rolling out the red carpet
- e. Palm branches in particular were symbols of salvation and joy
- f. Their words of praise were incredible

***"Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
"Hosanna in the highest!"***

***Luke 19:38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in
heaven and glory in the highest!"***

- g. The cry "Hosannah" means literally "O save!!" or perhaps even better, "Save NOW!!"
 - i) This urgent cry, however, was not for the kind of salvation Jesus was seeking to work: salvation from the dominion of sin
 - ii) Instead, they yearned like all patriotic Jews to be liberated from the crushing yoke of Gentile rule... to throw off the military power of the Romans
 - iii) By crying "Hosannah in the highest" they were crying out to Almighty God in conjunction with Jesus' actions... that on the basis of His triumphant ministry of miracles, God was clearly about to come down and deliver the Jewish nation from Gentile oppression

Luke's Gospel makes is plain: The mighty miracles of Jesus were hugely driving this celebration:

Luke 19:37 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

- iv) John's Gospel: It was especially the raising of Lazarus that was on their minds
- h. "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"
 - i) this is a direct quote from Psalm 118... it is a Messianic statement, just like "Hosannah!" is
 - ii) by saying "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord," they are saying they think Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of David
 - iii) more on this in a moment as well

8. The City's Reaction

Matthew 21:10-11 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

- a. As with any huge crowd, it is quite possible that many of the people there had no idea what all the commotion was about
- b. During riot in Ephesus recorded in Acts 19, it says most of the people did not even know why they were there!!
- c. So as Jesus enters Jerusalem, the whole city is stirred up, whipped up to a frenzy, and yet many did not know why
- d. So they ask "Who is this??"
- e. The answer shows how little they understood who Jesus was: "This is Jesus, the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee..." That was a bare minimal account... Jesus was indeed a prophet... the greatest prophet God ever sent; but He was truly the Messiah, the Son of the Living God

B. Opposition to Jesus

1. the Jewish leaders are deeply alarmed at this display
2. they are terrified of Roman intervention that would cause them to lose their place and their nation... specifically, their own cushy roles of leadership
3. they had indeed been planning on killing Jesus, but this was not their timetable
4. so they rebuke Jesus for the crowd's actions

Luke 19:39-40 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."

So Jesus DEFENDS the praise... later, when little children are praising Him, Jesus will defend it again!

Matthew 21:15-16 But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.¹⁶ "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "'From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise'?"

C. Jesus Weeps Over Jerusalem

1. Strangely, as all this raucous celebration was going on, Jesus was moved deeply in His spirit concerning Jerusalem and the Jewish nation
2. He knew full well what was in their hearts, and they actually did NOT believe in Him, or think they needed a Savior from their sins

3. as they always did, the Jewish nation and especially the City of Jerusalem would REJECT God's messengers
4. this rebellion would result in their destruction

II. The Significance of the Triumphal Entry

A. Jesus Forces the Issue

1. by this bold, open, public display, Jesus openly identifies Himself as the Messiah, the Son of David
2. by riding into Jerusalem with all the crowds shouting His praise, He openly risks the intervention of the Romans
 - a. the Romans were all about keeping their subject people quiet and orderly under Roman rule
 - b. they wanted peace and taxes... they wanted regions quiet
 - c. any public display like this, especially in that Jesus is claiming to be the King of the Jews, would have been seen to be EXTREMELY PROVOCATIVE
3. Jesus was taking control of the timetable of His betrayal, arrest, trial, and death
4. He would not REACT to His enemies. They would REACT to what He did!!

B. Jesus Fulfills Prophecy

1. The Manner of His Entry

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

- a. The symbolism of riding on a donkey was not lost to the Jews
 - b. They were very well aware of these prophecies
 - c. Jesus was intentionally identifying Himself with them
 - d. But there is a deeper issue... the rest of the prophecy; we'll come back to that in a moment
- #### 2. The Timing of His Death
- a. Jesus had come to be the Passover sacrifice

- b. He HAD to die that week, in order to fulfill that pattern
- c. So He orchestrated this triumphal entry to start the wheels turning for His death

C. Jesus Accepts Worship

- 1. Jesus said even the rocks and the stones would cry forth His praise
- 2. Jesus defended the children praising Him
- 3. Though He knew that their praise was empty and shallow, it was still right for them to praise Him
- 4. By accepting and even encouraging worship, Jesus is establishing forever our true purpose in life, and His true identity as the Son of God

D. Jesus Exposes Israel's Unbelief

- 1. Israel expected an IMMEDIATE deliverance from Roman rule
 - a. The prophecy predicts that the Messiah's reign will bring an extension of Jewish authority to the ends of the earth and a total end to WAR
 - b. His coming would bring in a golden age of Jewish domination worldwide

Zechariah 9:8 But I will defend my house against marauding forces. Never again will an oppressor overrun my people, for now I am keeping watch.

Zechariah 9:10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

- c. It was for this very reason that the crowds were celebrating so much... they thought the Jesus was at that moment going to restore the Kingdom to Israel and make it greater than it ever was before
- d. IMAGINE: Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead... Jesus could continually raise Israel's soldiers from the dead in any battle against the Romans, and send them back into the fray... Israel would be UNBEATABLE militarily... none of their soldiers would ultimately die;
- e. And what OFFENSIVE weaponry this wonder-worker would marshal against Rome: He spoke to the winds and the waves and they obeyed Him; perhaps He could whip up a storm and destroy them from the field
- f. Oh the possibilities were endless!!

2. They did not understand their true danger:

Matthew 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

3. Jesus had come to die in their place as a substitute under the wrath of God... that was the salvation they needed! Not deliverance from Roman rule, but deliverance from sin, and death, and hell
4. When it would become clear that Jesus was NOT going to defeat Rome, but even worse, that Rome would seemingly defeat Him, the Jewish people turned on Him and rejected Him: within one week they would cry out for Jesus' crucifixion!!!
5. Jesus exposed their unbelief by His triumphal entry, His actions in that last week in Jerusalem, and His ultimate trial and crucifixion
6. Because of all this, Jesus wept over Jerusalem

III. The Greatness of Christ Revealed

A. Omniscience

1. He knew exactly what had to happen in order to fulfill prophecy
2. He also knew details about current events... a donkey and colt tied; a man carrying a water jug, etc.

B. Sovereignty & Power

1. displayed in His control over minor and major events
2. Jesus was not an accidental victim but a Sovereign and Powerful Lord laying down His life
3. BUT His power was vastly different than His followers wanted... it was the power of weakness, submission, death so that we might live forever

C. Humility & Gentleness

1. Jesus' willingness to ride on a donkey shows astounding meekness and gentleness
2. The prophecy in Zechariah speaks of these attributes: Your King comes to you gentle and meek, lowly, riding on a donkey
3. This is the essence of the FIRST coming... like a lamb, He yields and submits, even to the most outrageous treatment

4. Conquering Kings come on mighty steeds:

Plutarch tells us the story of wondrous horse that Alexander the Great rode for thousands of miles and through many battles to create his mighty empire. This mighty steed was so huge and powerful that 12-year old Alexander called him "Ox-Head" (Bucephalus) This horse was wild and powerful and the 12-year old boy was able to ride him only because he noticed the horse was afraid of his own shadow... so Alexander brought him out to the bright sunshine so there would be no shadow; Bucephalus carried Alexander through every battle, falling only to a mortal wound in the last battle Alexander ever fought

Throughout history, powerful military leaders rode mighty steeds in their most famous battles:

- El Cid, 11th century Spanish conqueror of the Moors at Valencia, rode an Andalusian charger into battle
- Napoleon at Waterloo, 1815, rode a charger, a white stallion named Marengo
- General Robert E. Lee's faithful gray mount throughout the war was named Traveller, and General Grant's favorite was a white stallion named Methuselah

It's hard to imagine any of these commanders riding into battle on a donkey!!

The donkey Jesus rode was no well-bred animal but is specifically called a "beast of burden"... it would be much lower to the ground and slower than an Arabian charger... not much use in battle and therefore a symbol of PEACE

Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and this symbolizes His first coming

5. Jesus' Second Coming will be vastly different, and He will ride a different steed, a symbol of His conquering power

Revelation 19:11-13 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

6. But humility and gentleness is appropriate for the First Coming, in which He seeks to woo sinners to come to Him for salvation, and to trust Him with their sins

Matthew 11:28 - 12:1 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

IV. The Praise of Men Exposed

- A. Positively: Human Praise is Appropriate and in Some Cases Genuine
- B. Negatively: Human Praise is Passionate but Frothy; Shallow and Self-Centered

V. The Future Prefigured

A. The Immediate Future: Death for Christ

1. Christ was riding to His death... and He knew it well

B. The Long-Range Future: Suffering for Israel

Luke 19:41-44 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."

Clear implication: because Israel did not recognize the time of God coming to them in Christ, they would have to be judged and destroyed by God.... Jerusalem would be surrounded, sacked, burned, razed to the ground

It is worthless speculation to wonder what if the Jews HAD recognized that Jesus was the Son of God... just as it is worthless to speculate what would have happened if Adam had not sinned in the Garden of Eden

BOTH were part of the sovereign plan of God... in His good pleasure, that sin would be addressed in a glorious redemption story that included the REJECTION of CHRIST by His own people

Yet, Jesus wept over Jerusalem because their destruction brings Him no personal delight

C. The Final Stage of History: Conversion for Israel

1. In speaking of Israel's desolation, He described what would have to happen for them to be saved

Matthew 23:37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. ³⁸ Look, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

2. They WILL SAY "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord...!!!"

Romans 11:25-27 *Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷ And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."*

Zechariah 12:10 *"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child"*

D. Our Heavenly Future: The New Jerusalem, and Heavenly Worship

1. This passage also prefigures the day when we will spend eternity praising Christ forever in the New Jerusalem, in the new heaven and new earth

Revelation 7:9-10 *After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."*

Jonathan Edwards, "Praise the Chief Employment of Heaven"

Saints in heaven will not be idle, but extremely active... and the greatest part of their activity consists in passionately and knowingly praising Christ their redeemer

VI. Application

A. Praise Him NOW

1. Admire His attributes: power, sovereignty, knowledge AND humility, lowliness, gentleness
2. Admire also His achievements: Cross and Empty Tomb

B. Rid Yourself of Frothy and Empty Praise

C. Study the Plans of God to Understand the Work of Christ Better

1. The city of Jerusalem cried "SAVE NOW..." but the salvation they demanded was not the salvation they needed
2. So also we need to accept God's wisdom to save us how and when He chooses

D. Do Not Trust Your Own Heart... Human Praise is Fickle!!

E. Anticipate Heaven with Great Eagerness

F. Revel in His Meekness and Lowliness: He is inviting you close to Him!!!