

Luke 19:11-48

Do you know the things that make for peace? (v42)

A humble approach

- Jesus comes to Jerusalem riding on a colt (vv28-36)
- he is not coming to Jerusalem to start a revolution (v11)
- moving forward in humility

Mighty works that evoke rejoicing

- “the whole multitude of disciples began to rejoice... for all the mighty works they had seen” (v37)
- “if these were silent, the very stones would cry out” (v40)
- yet the disciples needed to learn the significance of the signs and Jesus’ purpose for his disciples (vv12-26)

The sorrow of the peacemaker

- “when he drew near... he wept” (v41)
- Jesus is rejected by the city (v14, 39) – his sorrow is not for what he will face himself, but for what they will face (vv43-44)
- everything around us promises a measure of peace – do we know what makes for peace? do we recognize it in Jesus? do we follow his pattern?

Questions for reflection:

1. What brings you peace? Imagine a moment where you feel at rest – what is in the picture? What details contribute to the serenity?
2. How are you affected by the lack of peace in our world, whether it is your own emotional life, relationships you are part of, or current events in the world? What attitude have you adopted to cope with this (how do you keep moving forward in life)?
3. Jesus comes to us – he did not have to enter our broken world, but did, and came humbly. How does God sending his Son aid in God’s purpose to reconcile with us? Does it make it easier to turn to God knowing that Jesus has come to draw near to us first?
4. The mighty works Jesus did show how God will reverse all that has taken our peace. Jesus healed the blind, raised the dead, cast out demons, preached good news to the poor, cleansed lepers – what would you want him to do for you? Can you believe that God will answer your prayers in some way (at some point)?
5. Jesus moves towards those who need him with humility, his works show he promotes peace, and he is filled with compassion. How can you follow that pattern? Who should you move towards (or how would you do it humbly)? What actions should characterize your life to demonstrate you are a person of peace? How do you keep your heart from hardening, even so that you have compassion for those who might reject you? Can you do this apart from turning to Jesus yourself?