

Palm Sunday
Mark 11:1-11

The crowds were shouting ...

I. Mixed Multitude

- A. Triumph Seekers
- B. Trouble Makers
- C. Troubled King

II. Unmixed Affections

- A. The King of Love
- B. My Only King
- C. Arrayed in Glory

... "who is this?"

Children, Listen ...

1. What did the people do when Jesus came riding on a donkey?
2. Why were they so excited about Him?
3. Do you think they knew what was going to happen soon?
4. Can you explain why our King Jesus had to die?
5. Jesus reigns as King now. Will you bring Him your whole heart in worship?

In Lowly Pomp Ride on to Die

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem sparked great festivity along the way. The people who believed He was the great deliverer of Israel were, for the moment, enamored by this King who came humbly and riding on a donkey. But their enthusiasm was misplaced and poorly timed. What they did not understand was that this triumphal procession was leading their hero to triumph indeed, but a triumph that required a brutal death first. We can worship our King with enthusiasm on Palm Sunday because, unlike the parade goes, we understand the true nature of our King and His great triumph over sin, the devil and death. But do we really sense the gravity of the event we commemorate year after year?

To get a more profound sense of the meaning of the day we call Palm Sunday we are going to sing an appropriate hymn, but with two different worshipful tunes. This morning we will sing Ride "On, Ride on in Majesty!" to the tune published along with it in our hymnal – as you will see, it has a celebratory tone to it. In the evening, we plan to sing the same hymn to the familiar tune to "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," Hamburg, which has a more pensive and mournful feel to it. In doing so, the nuances of the words will probably rise and impact you somewhat differently one from the other. Hopefully this will enhance our worship experience as we move from the excitement of the triumphal entry into the sobering intensity of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.