

HOSANNA TO THE KING

AGAPE LIFE CHURCH
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And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

"Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!" And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?"

Matthew 21:8-10

Hosanna - Worship Him Who Saves

The people in the crowd that day were shouting something that was far more significant than they realized. Hosanna, they shouted. Hosanna. This Hebrew word means "**He who saves.**" They were welcoming their King but not like any other King. They were honoring the King of kings and Lord of lords. They were honoring the King that would triumph over death. They were singing praises to the Lamb of God, who would take away the sins of the world.

The spreading of garments and palm branches on the road, as was often done in triumphal processions, is a hopeful acknowledgment of Jesus as King. Many were anticipating that Jesus was coming to set up His reign in Jerusalem. This was a common way to welcome a victorious King when he would return from battle. The palm branches are a symbol of joy and victory.

Knowing Whom You Follow (Matthew 21:10 "Who is this?")

Scholars estimate that more has been written about Jesus in the last 20 years than in the previous 19 centuries. **People are still trying to figure out what to do with Jesus.** His life was so pivotal that everything that has happened on the earth is categorized of before Christ or after Christ. The teaching of Jesus was different than the religious teachers of His day. **The teachings of Christ caused the hearers to be faced with a decision of what He was to them.**

The Privilege of Being Called to Follow Him

"For many are called, but few are chosen." Matthew 22:14

Core Point: Jesus enters Jerusalem and takes His place as Messiah to God's chosen people. The reception and worship was genuine but was far more significant than the multitudes understood.

You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light. "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy." 1 Peter 2:9-10

What does He expect of us who follow Him?

And He said to all, If any person wills to come after Me, let him deny himself [disown himself, forget, lose sight of himself and his own interests, refuse and give up himself] and take up his cross daily and follow Me [cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying also]. Luke 9:23 Amplified

1. Take up our cross _____.

The process of the cross is pivotal for us in our new life with Him. To take up our cross and follow him means we focus on the importance of **renouncing** self as the center of our life and actions.

We are invited to participate in the body of Christ in many functions together; but the decision to walk the walk of a crucified life we must face and choose alone.

The greatest mistake is ignoring and avoiding the cross. Many search for triumphant living but refuse to live a crucified life.

The lesson here is; ***we must live a crucified life.***

2. To live a life of _____ to others. John 13:1-17

Jesus teaches with an example to drive home the importance of living as a servant. The sooner a Christian discovers that God's purpose for them is to live for others, the sooner they discover who God truly has made them to be.

3. To know we belong to a higher Kingdom. Matthew 5:11-12

We should rejoice when we experience contrast with the world because we have a King and His Kingdom we follow. John 15:18-25

His life was defined by rejection. Isaiah 53:3-5

4. To know you are welcome to come often to His _____.

Luke 22:14-20

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever." Psalm 23:5-6

Core Statement: It is a privilege to take up my cross and follow Jesus. I will live a life of service and rejoice when the world doesn't understand God's rule and reign in my life. Jesus is my Lord!