

THIS IS THE DAY OF DIVINE VISITATION

TEXT: Luke 19:44: *And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.*

It is Jesus, The Holy Son of God, The Ambassador from Heaven, Who is here, making His public entry into Jerusalem. It is called by most preachers, “The Triumphal Entry”, but Jesus knew He is not to be accepted, but rather rejected. Jesus knew He was going into deep water. Yet, we cannot fail to see His deep concern for this city and its people who are lost sheep. They knew not the time of their visitation.

Their King is coming, lowly riding on the foal of an ass, as prophesied by:

Zechariah 9:9: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

They were blinded and did not recognize their true Messiah and Saviour. It was this moment for which all moments waited. It is that time which angels and prophets desired to look and behold. It is the moment when the Gospel of salvation is to be born. Religious blindness makes this the saddest and most pathetic hour in Jesus’ ministry. The hour of their visitation — and they knew it not. It was a triumphal visitation, but only a few got hold of it in their hearts.

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The time had fully come when the Lord Jesus must be publicly manifested as the Son of David and the King of Israel. Heretofore, He had refused the demands of the multitude who, after His Galilean ministry, tried to take Him by force and make Him a King. But now, as the end draws near, it is only proper that He should fulfill all ancient prophesy for one brief moment at least, and appear as the heir to the Throne of David — the answer to all the messianic hopes of Israel.

It is strange that the first to recognize Him as Israel’s King were two blind beggars. That which the rulers, with all their wisdom, pomp, and pride failed to discover and comprehend was discovered by poor old blind Bartimaeus and his friend. They

called Him by His Messianic Name. They cried as the procession passed by, **“Jesus, Thou Son of David...”** Jesus halted the procession, and healed the blind.

True to the words of Jesus, as recorded in, **Luke 10:21b:**

... thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight . . .

The wisdom of the religious world, blinded by theology, has no vision of Christ. It is often to the lowly and illiterate that Jesus reveals the mysteries of the Kingdom and the Holy Scripture.

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How did these men know Jesus was the Son of David? Seek after the Light and you will find Him. The crowd begins to increase and gather enthusiasm at every step until a mighty multitude, and most of them children, followed Him with shouting, **“Hosanna to the Son of David!”**

The excitement grew until they made a carpet of their garments and cut down branches from trees and cast them in the way. All the excitement only moved Jesus to tears, as He wept over Jerusalem. Imagine! A King weeping on His coronation day – amid all the acclamation. He gave way to bitter tears and lamentation. Jesus wept amid triumphant rejoicing to show how deeply the blinded and lost affect His heart of love.

This time of visitation to the church at Jerusalem, a second group recognized Him as King Jesus. That group was the children. They cried, **“Hosanna, Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.”** Children often see things the hardened, calloused church members do not see. The “children” caught the vision and spirit of Jesus coming. The prophecies of Isaiah and Zachariah are being fulfilled which was also proclaimed of John the Baptist. The children recognized Him as their King, with outbursts of love and shouting in genuineness of praise.



Matthew 21:16: And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

The Pharisees were ready to scorn their enthusiasm, but Jesus rebuked their contemptible spirits and vindicated the children. Jesus is the children's King.

Matthew 19:14: But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus' next visitation was to the Church at Jerusalem. He passed thru the gates of the city and to the temple where He had heretofore gone and cleansed it. He called it, "***My Father's House***". This time He called it, "***My House***". Later, upon leaving the hopelessly blinded professors of such stately religion Jesus said in ***Luke 13:35a:***

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate . . .

It is no longer Mine; it is yours; and it will come to naught.

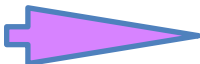


It is here in the temple that Jesus made the braided whip and went to work on the corruptors of the House of Prayer. He swept through the temple overturning the tables of the money changers, casting out the dove sellers and sacrifice offerings. He forbade vessels to be carried thru the House of God.

Jesus, for at least one glorious moment, had taken the Throne and the reins of government and was doing what needed to be done for a long time.

Oh, how tragic not to know the day of our visitation, not to be able to recognize the significance and purpose of the ministry of the Lord Jesus. This is the time of special visitation in the life of the church, and of each individual believer. If you miss it, it may NOT come again. The revelation of Christ to your soul is to give you cleansing and forgiveness. It is to bless and make you whole.

Christ is here visiting with the purpose of sanctifying and filling with the Spirit. It is possible for you to be in the church and partake of its rituals and NOT know the hour of your visitation from King Jesus.



Prophetically: Jerusalem is getting ready to receive Him again. Old Jerusalem is beginning to rise from the dust and -- being awakened -- will look on Him whom they have pierced.

Jesus had said in **Luke 13:35**:

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see Me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord. [Christ's Second Coming]

To those who really know the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord, we cannot have a service without the visitation of His Presence. It will matter little who comes if He does not come. It will avail little what songs we sing and what message we bring if the Presence of Jesus is not manifest in our worship.

We can always tell the Pharisaical church, for they care little about the Lord's Presence. They can get along without Him, and when He comes, it is trouble to them. Men and women will do one of two things: either surrender to the truth, or fight it.

When Jesus came at that final day to the temple, He cried out:

John 7:37: If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.

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