



THE BIG REVEAL

MATTHEW 21:1-11

The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Amy and I love to watch House Hunters. The buyer(s) look at three properties and then there is the big reveal: the buyers decide which of the three houses they're going to buy and call the real estate agent and the deal is done. At the end of the show there is usually a few minutes that the new home owners have some friends over to celebrate their new purchase. You might be thinking, well that seems kind of boring, or really simple. Well, the recipe for the show has led to 17 successful seasons with 2200+ episodes, and a massive fan base.

Today as we begin Passion Week we are going to see a big reveal. Jesus has been doing ministry with his disciples for three years and on Palm Sunday he reveals himself as Messiah. But first, let's stop in Hebrews as we prepare ourselves for the week ahead:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Choices and Issues for those who were at the Triumphal Entry:

A. Choice of Praise - The Crowd

Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:8-9)

B. Choice of Rejection - The Pharisees

And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples."
⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." (Luke 19:39-40)

C. Confusion - The Disciples

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. (John 12:16)

D. Curiosity - The People in the City

And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" (Matthew 21:10)