

Date: 14 April 2019

Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Topic: The Coming King

Scripture text: Zechariah 9:9

1. John 12:12-15 is the fulfillment text of Zechariah 9:9. "Hosanna" means "save now". It is a cry of salvation. The Lord Jesus Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a young male ass has great significance.

2. Firstly, it teaches us about the prophecies in the Bible. This prophecy was given 500 years before the Lord came and there were more than 300 prophecies of His First Coming. They were detailed and precise, and all were fulfilled. The events did not happen by chance but God who is sovereign, powerful and in control, has ensured that things go according to His divine will. We learn how God is all-powerful and all-knowing. We also learn how God is faithful to keep His promises. God does not forget. This should encourage and comfort us. We are saved and safe in Christ. In Christ, our faith will find fruition.

3. Secondly, it teaches us about the principles of interpretation. We need to interpret Scriptures correctly or else we might get a wrong understanding of God's Word leading to wrong practices. The rules of interpretation comes not from men but from the Bible itself. We should not spiritualise or allegorise the prophecies. Rather, we should interpret prophecies literally, in its plain sense. We must spare no effort and give all diligence in the study of God's Word. Using the right principle will lead us to a right understanding and response to God's Word.

4. Thirdly, it teaches us the practice of our faith. The Lord Jesus Christ is King. But He is humble, meek and lowly. A donkey is a beast of burden, small and low. The Lord Jesus Christ came to serve, suffer and carry our burdens of sin. God became man. King became servant. The cross before the crown. We must also walk this strait and narrow way. We will be crowned one day, but first we must endure and suffer for Christ. We must choose Him and surrender our all to Him. The way of the cross leads to the crown, and this is how we must practise our faith.