



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

John 12:12-19 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. On what day did Jesus enter Jerusalem to go to the festival? What happened to Him the day before and what day was that?

Jesus entered Jerusalem on Sunday, called Palm Sunday by Christians. The day before Palm Sunday was Saturday, the Sabbath, where He ate at a dinner with Lazarus and others and where Mary anointed His feet.

2. What word did the crowd use when Jesus entered Jerusalem? What did that word mean? Or what are some meanings of that word? Consider Psalms 118:25.

Hosanna! “Save, I Pray!” or “Savior!” or “Help!” In Psalms 118:25, we read, “**Save us**, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, **give us success!**”

3. What did the crowd call Jesus? What do you think His entering Jerusalem meant to them?

“The King of Israel” (the Messiah). They probably thought He would be a physical or political Savior and free them from slavery to Rome rather than as the spiritual Savior who would free them from slavery to sin and the devil and give them the Holy Spirit and the gift of eternal life.

4. To fulfill prophecy, what did Jesus do during the parade with His disciples?

He rode the colt of a donkey into the city. In Zechariah 9:9, we read this prophecy: “Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

5. Who did the crowd testify about? How or why could they testify to this?

They testified about Lazarus and Jesus and how Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead. Those in the crowd who could testify saw Jesus raise Lazarus and Lazarus walk out of the tomb. Some who could testify saw Jesus and Lazarus eating dinner together the night before. Many eye-witnesses testified to the Jews coming out of Jerusalem to meet them as they neared the city about this sign Jesus performed.

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Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and lgp@theiblf.com.