



Let's connect

Blessed is the king who comes
in the name of the Lord! Peace
in Heaven and glory in the highest!

Luke 19:38 (NIV)

Connect Groups Study | Study 1. From Creation to Jerusalem



STUDY 1

FROM CREATION TO JERUSALEM

SCRIPTURES

Luke 19:28-44
Colossians 1:15-17

Background, context, and observations

Before focusing on the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem as the King of the Jews and the King of all creation, let's go back to that beginning in Genesis 1:1 as seen in Colossians 1:15-17. (Many scholars believe that Paul is incorporating portions of an early Christian hymn in this passage. Whatever the case, these verses are deeply theological poetry.) The life of Jesus on earth makes God known to humanity. His ministry on earth clarifies that He is the pre-existing Creator and the One whose death and resurrection offers reconciliation for all of creation. The people of Israel did not grasp that the one riding on a young colt was the King of all kings, the Creator of heaven and earth, God incarnate, the One who existed before earthly time began.

After seeing the big picture, we can more easily understand the purpose of Jesus as He journeyed into Jerusalem in Luke 19:28-44. He was not arriving to overthrow existing powers and establish a new kingdom as the King of the Jews, nor was He coming to be defeated in death. Those expectations were far too limiting. This is not the beginning of the end but, rather, the beginning of the fulfillment of His plan (the "BIGinning" so to speak)!

Example Questions for Discussion

1. Read Luke 19:28-44. What were the people celebrating? What might have been their expectations, hopes, and fears at the time? Do you ever feel emotions such as hope or fear when you consider Jesus, or come to Him in prayer or worship? Why do you think this is?
2. In verse 41, Jesus wept (anguished sobs) over Jerusalem. Why was He weeping and what does that tell us about Jesus? What can we learn from his example?
3. Read Colossians 1:15-17. What elements point to the supremacy of Jesus? Take a moment to share your expectations or desires for what God might do in your life this Easter.

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Dive Deeper

Related scriptures: Luke 13:34; Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; John 12:12-19; 2 Kings 9:13; Psalm 118; Zechariah 9:9; Isaiah 55:8-12

For further consideration:

1. Examine the Old Testament scriptures provided above, and other scriptures that are related, identifying the prophecies fulfilled by the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem. Then research the significance of Jesus riding a donkey colt as opposed to a horse.
2. Read Luke 13:34. See also Isaiah 30:15-18. Consider God's patience towards humanity as he allows freedom of choice to each and every one. Contemplate the balance of God's sovereignty and human choice.

For further study:

Luke for Everyone - Tom Wright. In his "New Testament For Everyone" series

Surprised by Hope: Rethinking heaven, the resurrection and the mission of the Church, Tom Wright.

The Bible Project: Luke/Acts series 4

bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-luke-4/

With thanks to Sharon from Gold Coast Central

Connect

Take time to pray together as you consider Jesus and your expectations as we approach Easter

Grow

40 days deeper devotional - resource ideas

crossequalslove.com

Serve

CityCare

