



CrossRoads Notes:

Turn your Bibles to John 12:1-13

Title: Personally Anointing Christ as King

Theme: Examining Truths in the Triumphal Entry

Series: Easter Season Messages

Read John 12:1-13

Introduction: *In Jerusalem the chief priests were making plans to kill Jesus and anyone who God was using to draw people to Christ. (John 12:10-11) There are many truths worth grasping as we take time to take a Biblical examination of the “Triumphal Entry” into Jerusalem and the day just preceding Palm Sunday. Those sad days brought sorrow upon Mary and those who loved the Lord Jesus Christ. We see Lazarus enjoying fellowship with Christ after being raised from the dead. We see Mary sitting at Jesus’ feet, growing in grace and knowledge of the Son of God as well as Martha serving, exercising her gift of hospitality. This Biblical account gives us some essentials for the Body of Christ. They are walking in victory over sin and death, worshipping and giving adoration to the Lord, and service to the King of kings.*

Proposition: *I would propose to you that when Christians grasp the truth of Jesus Christ being King as well as Savior they want to live a life that says, “I care about Jesus’ Kingship in my life.”*

Interrogative Sentence: *Just what are the steps to proclaiming Jesus Christ as the King to whom everyone someday will bow their knee and every tongue will confess that He is the Lord? (Philippians 2:9-10)*

Transitional Sentence: *The first step to truly proclaiming a life that says “Hosanna!” “Blessed is the King of Israel, blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord” is to know Jesus as God’s Messiah. John 1:41 says, “The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ)...”*

Andrew’s actions reflect a Holy Spirit illuminated heart about Jesus Christ being not only Savior, but God’s anointed faithful High Priest (Psalm 110:4), Prophet of God (Deuteronomy 18:15-19) and I purposely repeat, “Anointed King” (2 Samuel 7:12-13). These three officials in the Old Testament were always anointed with oil, a symbol of the Holy Spirit who perfectly anointed the Christ, the Messiah. (Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-33) It is imperative that Christians understand that “Messiah” (*Hebrew - masiyah*) and “Christ” (*Christos*) mean “Anointed one.”

Anointed as “Priest,” Jesus intercedes for us. (Hebrews 7:21-25) As anointed “Prophet” He leads in all truth. (John 14:6) Matthew 22:16 says, “‘Teacher,’ they said,

‘we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.’” As anointed King He reigns over all to whom they will give an accounting. Philippians 2:9-11 says “Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the Name that is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

“The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. Unrolling it, [Jesus] found the place where it is written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because [God] has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’ Then [Jesus] rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him, and He began by saying to them, ‘Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.’” (Luke 17-20)

Humanity groans under the headings, “poverty,” “broken-heartedness,” “bondage” and “blindness.” In a sense Jesus says, “He was anointed to set those in the bondage of sin free and give spiritual eye sight to those who were blinded to the light of the gospel.”

Jesus Christ, God’s anointed, purchased for Christians first, a once-for-all experience of salvation. This free gift is initiated when a person bound by sin recognizes his standing with God, acknowledges the separation, then trusts in Christ as Savior and Lord. This not only brings deliverance from sin but the assurance that Christians will not be separated from God’s presence now and in eternity.

In Luke we read of another time when Jesus received a personal anointing. It was when Jesus was having dinner at a Pharisee’s house. While having dinner an unnamed woman, deep in humiliation for her sins comes and wets His feet with her tears. She wipes them with her hair, kisses His feet and pours perfume on them. It is very possible she had become convicted of her past sins while Jesus taught somewhere and at this time she longed to be in His presence to show the Lord her affection. Jesus said she loved much and He told Simon, “...her many sins have been forgiven...” Jesus told the woman, “...your sins are forgiven.” (Luke 7:47) He also told her “Your faith has saved you, go in peace.” (Luke 7:50)

As we read the Biblical account of the sinful woman anointing Jesus, we see a repentant sinner entirely devoting this task to the Lord’s honor owning Him to be the “Messiah,” “the Christ,” “the Anointed.” Thus showing us the truly repentant have a dear love for Christ and personally anoint Him as their Prophet, Priest and King.

The veil was certainly taken away from Mary’s heart. She was able to behold Jesus Christ as she personally anointed Him in Bethany during a dinner that was given to honor Christ. Our key text today says, “Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.” (John 12:3)

In our key text today there are character traits that are worthy of the attention of the child of God who wants to live a life that says, "I care about Jesus' Kingship in my life." The character of Mary is worth grasping today.

Mary's love was extravagant. She took the most precious thing she possessed and spent it on Christ. Extravagant love has no nicely laid out cost. It gives its all and the only regret is that there is not more to give. It is sacrificial giving, just as God did for us when He gave His only Son and when Jesus gave His own life for us. William Barclay shared the story of "The Gift of the Magi." This story is about Della and Jim, who were very poor, yet much in love. Della had long beautiful hair, Jim had a watch that at one time belonged to his father. When Christmas time came around they both were short of funds. Della sold her hair to buy a platinum fob for Jim's watch. Jim sold his watch to get a set of expensive combs with jeweled edges for Della's hair. The sacrifice of what was dear to them was only an expression of their love for each other. Christians who express a life that says, "I am anointing Christ as King," give extravagantly unto Him.

Mary's love showed humility. She came to her Lord as a servant, meeting His need in humble servant-hood fashion. Christians who anoint Christ as their King serve in a way that keeps Him on the throne of the heart, not in a way that exalts them.

Mary's love was expressed unashamedly. Her expression of love brought rebuke from Judah Iscariot and placed her in danger of the chief priest. The priest not only wanted to kill Jesus but Lazarus as well because people were going over to Christ and putting faith in Him. (John 12:10-11)

Mary gave her own gift to the Lord. She applied the gift with her own hands. A love like hers does not spare charges and does not spare pain in honoring Jesus Christ. Mary's love was exercised by faith that Jesus was without a doubt God's Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed who is Prophet, Priest and King.

The Holy Spirit's prompting is to go and do likewise, anoint Christ King by expressing your love for Christ extravagantly, in humility and unashamedly. The Holy Spirit has another truth to grasp for the child of God who wants to personally anoint Christ as King. Jesus said this about the anointing of Mary upon Him, "...It was attended that she would save this perfume for the day of My burial." (John 12:7)

The child of God who personally anoints Christ as Mary did will take to heart what the Holy Spirit moved Paul to write in answering the question "Shall we continue in sin?" He writes, "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Romans 6:11)

Transitional Sentence: *Understanding that Messiah and Christ mean God's Anointed encourages repentant sinners and enables Christians to personally anoint Christ as King.* This births forth a natural response that shouts "Hosanna!" John 12:13 says, "They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting, 'Hosanna!'"

There are three groups in the great crowd. One, the Passover visitors from outside of Judea, (John 12:12,18); two, the local people who had witness or at least heard about the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 12:19); and three, the religious leaders who were greatly concerned about what the world was doing with Jesus. (John 12:19)

The crowd was singing a chant from Psalm 118:25-26 which was often connected with the Festivals of Tabernacles, at Dedications, and at the beginning of Passover. This victory chant says, “O Lord save us; O Lord, grant us success. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.”

I believe through God’s absolute sovereignty He was speaking through the great crowd to proclaim a truth they could have heard then if they would have taken in the whole counsel of the Old Testament and a truth that those illuminated with the Holy Spirit will grasp today. They were singing “Hosanna” which in Hebrew means “save us now we pray” Those singing wanted to be saved from Roman oppression and God was speaking through them saying that the Christ was coming now to save them from their worst enemy, the sinful nature and the lies of the devil. Jesus had come to save them from the penalty of sin and death.

The way Christians enjoy Palm Sunday today is not to be focused on the time Christ will return on a white horse to conquer the kingdoms of this world and their armies, but by anointing Christ as their Prophet, Priest and King or rather Lord and Master. Seeing Jesus as He is, the One who died upon the Cross for our sins so we can be saved **NOW** from the bondages of sin and spiritual death, for this is why He came in the first place.

Transitional Sentence: *Christians personally anoint Christ as King when they let Jesus set them free from the bondages of sin.* Christians honor His kingship by acts of obedience. Romans 6:16-18 says, “Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.” Verse 22 says, “...the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the results is eternal life.”

A contemporary commentator observed that every person obeys some person or something. The whole of Scripture teaches that everyone is a bond-servant to someone or something. It may be the flesh, the world or the devil. Hopefully you are a bond-servant to God, Christ and the Holy Spirit. Your master is easily determined by what or who you are obedient to.

Dr. Jay Vernon McGee was serving as pastor in a church in Los Angeles. Across the street from the church was a swanky club that was attended by some very rich men.

The people who belonged to that club spent thousands of dollars to be a part of that society and they usually owned chauffeur driven Cadillacs.

One day Pastor McGee notice several cars in front of club with about fifteen chauffeurs standing around. In a little while a very nice-looking wealthy young man came out of the club; he made a motion and spoke out. One chauffeur responded, he went to the car and opened the door, then went and got in the drivers door and drove off. As Pastor McGee watched, he discovered that it was easy to see that the other fourteen chauffeurs were not employed by the rich young man because they did not respond to his call. The one who responded was obedient to his employer or master.

Christians who personally anoint Christ as king live a life that says, *"I care about Jesus' kingship in my life."* It is through their obedience that they reveal just how much they love Him.

In Closing: *Personally anointing Christ as King begins with understanding that Jesus is "Messiah," "the Christ," "God's Anointed."* Christians anoint Him by having Godly sorrow over sin, not responding to regret of the consequences of sin. They anoint Him by loving Him extravagantly, unashamedly, and with humility. They live a life that says, "Hosanna," O Lord save me now from any sin that would destroy our relationship and bring you to public disgrace. (Hebrews 6:6) Christians anoint Him as king by a life of obedience. They know that who or what they obey reveals their master, or in context to this message, King.