

SERMON NOTES

Reason to Believe: It's Time

John 12:12-50

(Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44)

Our study in the Gospel of John now takes a significant turn. The public ministry of Jesus is concluding. After chapter 12, Jesus turns His attention to a private ministry with the disciples and then ultimately to His passion ministry. The cultural expectations of the Jews for the Messiah were clearly different than the reality. Jesus entered Jerusalem as King, but not the kind of king the Jews were wanting. He came to conquer sin, death, and hell. He was determined to fulfill His purpose and to glorify His Father.

As we walk through this significant passage, don't miss the message. Reading John 12, we are watching God's plan unfold, but we are also seeing a pattern for each of us to follow. Every day we must live determined to fulfill God's purpose for our lives and to bring Him glory.

THE WAY REVEALED (vs. 12-19)

- God's ways are not man's ways
- God weeps over us (Luke 19:41)

When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it. *Luke 19:41*

THE WAY EXPLAINED (vs. 20-36)

- The provision for salvation
- The pattern for a saved life

And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me." *Luke 9:23*

THE WARNING (vs. 37-50)

Take Away: Exalt Christ daily by fulfilling God's purpose for your life and living to bring Him glory.

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." *John 12:32*

We must lift Him up...

- Exclusively – lift Him up victoriously - "If I and I alone"
- Redemptively – lift Him up verbally (preach the gospel)
- Magnetically – lift Him up visibly