

The Only Adult in the Room

Luke: All Things New



Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Luke 19:28-35



Big Idea

In our text, Jesus is attempting to help us navigate the tension, we often experience when what God says and does seems to collide with what we would have otherwise expected and wanted—when things from God’s end don’t “feel” good and loving to us. In these moments, too often we become like a toddler trying to tell his daddy how to run the house. We think we know better. Instead, we ought to recall all the wisdom, strength, and goodness God has already shown us, and determine to trust Him even in the midst of current confusion, even on the near side of comprehension.

(1) Signals of Sovereignty

Yes, the narrative here is redundant, but upon closer evaluation, we come to realize that therein lies the point. We are supposed to see in this, I think, the sovereignty of our Savior. He says: “This is where you must go, this is what you will find, this is what they will say,” and so forth . . . and that is precisely what takes place. The emphasis for us in all of this is found there in v. 32: “So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them.” Jesus knew. Jesus foretold. Jesus flexed for His disciples here just a wee little bit of His sovereignty. He said it would be so . . . and it was so. That’s not vain repetition. That’s profoundly significant.

(2) Shadows of Calvary

Shadow #1: “A Colt”—Jesus is preparing to enter the city not on a warhorse, as would be typical of a king, but on a beast of burden, a donkey. It is symbolic of a man who’s come not in armament ready for battle, but in humility looking to make peace. And, of course, we know how He will make this peace, don’t we? As Paul tells us in Col 1:20: “[He will make] peace by the blood of his cross.” The fact that He comes into Jerusalem riding on this colt is, in many ways, a foreshadowing of what’s to come at Calvary.

Shadow #2: “On Which No One Has Ever Sat”—All the commentators point out that such a note is meant to mark this animal out as suitable for sacred purposes. There is something pure, unsullied, unblemished about it (cf. Num 19:2; Deut 21:3).

(3) Stones of Memory

Why on the front end of His entrance to Jerusalem, why a few days out from His run in with the cross, is He taking the time to impress upon them His sovereignty over all things, so that even the minutest details about this colt are shown to be under His Kingly control? What is the point in all of this?! I think He’s trying to give them something to hold onto when things get confusing and seem hopeless. I think He’s trying to give them a little window into what He’s capable of so that when they see Him hanging lifeless there on the cross they can know: “This may seem bad, I may not get it, but do you remember that colt? Do you remember how He knew just where it would be and what they would say and what we should say and all that? He’s bigger than this. He’s got a plan. He’s in control. I know it. I may not see it with my eyes yet. I might not feel how this is good yet. But I know it is. He’s going to come through.”

Reflection Questions



- Which biblical doctrines that are harder for you to accept? Why? What do you do with them—gloss over them, interpret them away, reject them entirely, or accept them . . . because God is God and you are not? Explain. What helps you in the fight for faith?
- Why do you think Jesus does what He does in this text? How would this be encouraging to His disciples? How has He done this sort of thing for you? What memorial stones do you come back to when current situations seem hard or confusing?
- Read Psa 131 again. What stands out to you? What do you think it means? Have you been subjecting God to your own reason and will or are you, in humility, like a weaned child, resting and hoping in His?