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Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm  
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## WHAT HAPPENED ON PALM SUNDAY?

One of the highlights before the death of Christ was the victorious entry of our Lord into Jerusalem at the beginning of the Passion week.

In the order of the holy week, today is supposed to be the noteworthy entry of our Lord Jesus into Jerusalem which took place on the Sunday before the crucifixion (Jn 12:1, 12). This account in the life of Jesus appears in all four Gospel accounts (Matt 21:1-17; Mk 11:1-11; Lk 19:29-40; Jn 12:12-19). This triumphal entry was a significant event, not only to the people of Jesus' day, but to Christians throughout history.

On that day, our Lord Jesus called his disciple to get a donkey for him. He rode into Jerusalem on the back of this borrowed donkey's colt; one that had never been ridden before. The disciples spread their cloaks on the donkey for Jesus to sit on, and the multitudes came out to welcome Him, and they laid in respect before Him their cloaks and the branches of palm trees. The people shouted and praised Him as the "King who comes in the name of the Lord" as He rode to the temple. He was the one who taught the people, healed them, and cleansed the temple (Mk 11:17).



It is noteworthy that Jesus' purpose in riding into Jerusalem was to make public His claim to be their Messiah and King of Israel in fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy. Matthew says that the King coming on the foal of a donkey was an exact fulfilment of a prophecy in Zech 9:9, "*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: Behold thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.*" Jesus arrived as a conquering King and was hailed by the people, recognising His deity. The streets of Jerusalem, the royal city, were open to Him, and like a king He ascended to His palace, but His is a spiritual kingdom. He received the worship and praise of the people because only He deserves it. His disciples openly did that as there was no need to be quiet about Him (Matt 12:16; 16:20) but to publicly shout His praises and worship Him for who He is. They were not ashamed of their King. The spreading of cloaks was an act of homage for royalty (see 2 Kgs 9:13). Jesus was openly declaring to the people that He was their King and the Messiah they had been waiting for and hopefully they could understand and accept that. **Is Christ the King of your life too as you submit to Him?**

The praises the people lavished on Jesus was not because they recognized Him as their Savior from their sinfulness. They welcomed Him out of their desire for a real political deliverer, someone who would



lead them in a revolt against Rome. There were many who, though they did not believe in Christ as Savior, nevertheless hoped that perhaps He would be to them a great temporal deliverer. These were the ones who hailed Him as King with their many hosannas, recognizing Him as the Son of David who came in the name of the Lord. But when He failed in their expectations, when He refused to lead them in a massive revolt against the Roman occupiers, the crowds

quickly turned on Him. Within just a few days, their hosannas changed to cries of “Crucify Him!” (Lk 23:20-21). Those who hailed Him as a hero soon rejected and abandoned Him.

There are practical applications to us as believers today. The King of kings and Lord of lords came as a lowly servant on a donkey, not in royal robes but on the simple clothes of the poor and humble. Jesus Christ came not to conquer by force as earthly kings but by love, grace, mercy, and His own sacrifice for His people. His is not a kingdom of just strong armies and physical might but of lowliness and servanthood. He conquers nations, (even pestilences) not by swords and spears but by their hearts and minds. His message is one of peace with God, not of temporal peace. **Does Jesus also have a triumphal entry into your hearts, and reign in you with peace and love?** As His followers, we must submit to the King living and reigning in us, giving us the power over sin in this depraved world

On that Palm Sunday, when the two disciples found the unbroken colt of a donkey, just as Jesus had said they would (Lk 19: 29–30), the owners began to question them. The disciples responded with the answer Jesus had provided: “The Lord needs it” (Luke 19:31–34). **Do we go swiftly to fulfil the Master’s command? Are we obedient to His call?** The owners did and let the disciples go. “They brought [the donkey] to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it” (Lk 19:35).

As Jesus ascended towards Jerusalem, a large multitude gathered around Him. This crowd understood that Jesus was the Messiah; what they did not understand was that it was not time to set up the kingdom yet—although Jesus had taught them clearly (Lk 19:11–12). The crowd’s actions along the road to Jerusalem with palm leaves give rise to the name “Palm Sunday”: “A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road” (Matt 21:8). In strewing their cloaks on the road, the people were giving Jesus the royal treatment. In the Old Testament, King Jehu was given a similar honor at his coronation (2 Kgs 9:13). John records the details that the branches they cut were from palm trees (Jn 12:13).

On that first Palm Sunday, the people also honored Jesus verbally: “The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.’” (Matt 21:9). In their praise of Jesus, the Jewish crowds were quoting Psalm 118:25–26, an acknowledged prophecy of the Christ. The allusion to a Messianic psalm drew resentment from the religious leaders present: “And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, ‘Master, rebuke thy disciples.’” (Lk 19:39). However, Jesus saw no need to rebuke those who told the truth. He replied, “I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.” (Lk 19:40).



Some 450 years prior to Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem, the prophet Zechariah had prophesied the event where their King of kings would come to them lowly and riding humbly on a donkey (Zech 9:9). It is important to note that the prophecy was fulfilled in every detail, and it was indeed a time of rejoicing, as Jerusalem welcomed their King. But the celebration was not to last. The crowds looked for a Messiah who would rescue them politically and free them nationally, but **Jesus had come to save their souls spiritually from their sins. First things first; mankind’s primary need is spiritual salvation in Christ alone for atonement of their sins unto everlasting life.**

Even as the multitudes waved the palm branches and shouted for joy, they missed the true reason for Jesus’ presence. They could neither see nor understand the cross. That was why as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it and said that if they had only known the days that would come upon them when their enemies “shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation”. (Lk 19:41–47). It was a tragic thing to see the Savior but not recognize Him for who He was and missed the Deliverer of their souls. Are we still doing the same today? The crowds who were crying out “Hosanna!” on Palm Sunday also cried “Crucify Him!” later that week (Matt 27:22–23). How totally depraved and unreliable is man’s fallen nature void of the transforming power of the Holy Spirit!

## Conclusion

The day will come when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil 2:10–11). The worship of God will be universal then. John writes of this eternal celebration of the risen Lord: “*After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.*” (Rev 7:9). These palm-bearing saints will shout, “*Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb*” (Rev 7:10). Is Jesus the true King in our hearts today? Something to ponder soberly during this week on the wonderful power of Christ even in the midst of a threatening fast spreading pandemic that is affecting the whole world.

## Jack Sin

*(Consulted and expanded from The Wilmington Guide to the Bible, Tyndale House Publishers, 1983 ,328-336 by Dr Harold Wilmington and Gotquestions.org)*

### Message Summary

#### “A Final Charge from a Veteran Soldier of God” by Jack Sin 29 March 2020 (Live Streaming Worship Service)

Text: Joshua 24:1-24

1. A Time of **Contemplation** of God's
  - Power: He will Deliver us
  - Presence: He will Be with us
  - Protection: He will Preserve us
  - Provision: He will Supply our needs
2. A Time of **Challenge** to the People of God
  - Joshua’s personal example of family commitment to God
3. A Time of **Consecration** to Serve God
  - With godly fear and in sincerity and truth
  - With spiritual leadership in the home: "For me & my house, we will serve the LORD. "
  - With the 4Hs:
    - HEAD: Knowledge of His word
    - HEART: Love for God
    - HANDS: with our talents
    - HOME: as a family

#### Conclusion

To obey, trust, love and reverentially fear God.  
Fix our eyes on God and not on circumstances!  
In adversity, will we pass the test?

Sis Kin Kheng

Good Friday

# Four Persons and the deadly Victory of the Cross

10 April 2020, Friday  
8pm

Speaker: Rev (Dr) Jack Sin  
Live Streaming Worship Service

Sovereign Hope BP Church  
160 Paya Lebar Road,  
#04-06 Orion@Paya Lebar S(409022)

Easter Service

# Why we fear no more

12 April 2020, Sunday  
10am

The Christian faith is founded and rooted in the death and resurrection of Christ. Come and find out why.

Speaker: Rev (Dr) Jack Sin  
Live Streaming Worship Service

Sovereign Hope BP Church  
160 Paya Lebar Road,  
#04-06 Orion@Paya Lebar S(409022)

- APRIL 2020 -

- 5th Christian Scholar Conquering Compromise (Dan 1:1-21)
- 10th\* **Good Friday Night Service (8pm):** 4 Persons and the Deadly Victory of the Cross (Matthew 27:20-54)
- 12th **Resurrection Sunday (10am):** Why We Fear Death No More (1 Corinthians 15:1-21, 51-58)
- 19th Lessons from a Royal Dream (Daniel 2:17-49)
- 26th Fighting Fire - God's Way (Daniel 3:1-30)

- MAY 2020 -

- 3rd An Earthly King exalts the Heavenly King (Dan 4:19-37)
- 10th\* Handwritings on the Wall Explained (Dan 5:11-31)
- 17th The Prayerful Prime Minister (Dan 6:1-28)
- 24th The interpretation of a revelation from God (Dan 7:1-28)
- 31st A Vision of the Past, Present and Future (Dan 8:1-27)

- JUNE 2020 -

- 7th The Supplication of a Godly Saint (Dan 9:1-24)
- 14th\* Deep Eschatological Insights (Dan 10:1-21)
- 21st The End Times Revealed (Dan 12:1-13)
- 28th **Gospel Sunday:** The God I cannot ignore (Rom 1:1-16)

SOVEREIGNHOPE  
bible-presbyterian ministry

APR - JUN 2020  
WORSHIP PROGRAMME

- THEME -  
EXPLORING AND APPLYING  
PROPHETIC LESSONS  
IN OUR LIVES  
(STUDIES IN THE  
BOOK OF DANIEL)

- EVERY SUNDAY -  
WORSHIP  
SERVICES  
AT 10AM

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## Memory Verse

*Dan 1:8* But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

## Announcements

1. We thank God for 55 people who participated in the live streaming worship last Sunday (29 Mar 2020). Worship service is via live streaming till early May or as otherwise informed.
2. Rev Jack Sin speaks today on "A Christian Scholar Conquering Compromise" (Daniel 1: 1 - 21)
3. Rev Jack Sin speaks on Good Friday night "4 Persons and the Deadly Victory of the Cross (Matthew 27:20-54)
4. Rev Jack Sin speaks on next Sunday (Resurrection Sunday) "Why We Fear Death No More" (1 Corinthians 15:1-21, 51-58)
5. Synchronized prayer meeting continues on Wed at 8pm.
6. The Christian Perspective of the COVID 19 virus article is being translated into 7 languages (ie Chinese, Tamil, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Spanish, Kannada, Korean). Those who are interested may request from Pastor.
7. Those who would like to serve the Lord in any area in the church, please see the Pastor or the Deacons.
8. Those who have a testimony to share may submit to Pastor for the weekly.
9. Pastor is still available for counselling via WhatsApp, Email or Mobile.
10. Love gifts to the church by cheque can be made payable to: **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church**. For direct bank transfer to the church account, please contact the treasurer, Dn Lim Choo Siang.



*Bro Poh Huat chairing the 1<sup>st</sup> live streaming worship service of Sovereign Hope BPC.*

*Thank God for individuals and families from 5 countries who joined our Facebook Live Worship Service on last Sunday.*

